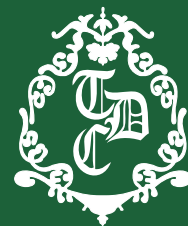


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Dear friends,

This issue was composed in the atmosphere of the Ramadan celebration, Shavuot preparing and President Trump's visit. As Muslim holidays are not officially part of the Israeli national calendar the observers of these holidays can take personal days off work and Muslim owned businesses can choose to close or close early. You can best feel the Muslim holidays in East Jerusalem and Arab villages, towns and cities where there is a large Muslim population. In Jerusalem's Old City the Muslim Quarter and the Temple Mount are the focus of Muslim holiday celebrations.

During the month long period where Muslims faste during sunlight hours the visiting times at Muslim sites in Israel are often shorter. In Jerusalem the beginning of Ramadan and each sundown during the month is signaled by cannons being fired from the Eastern Jerusalem Armory. The gates of the Old City are strung with festive lights. This is a great time to visit certain Arab villages in the evening after sundown. At Umm al-Fahem the streets come alive at night with people strolling through the streets and eating delicacies from the bakeries

which sell traditional sweets and deserts. Ramadan, the ninth month on the Islamic calendar, is marked by obligatory fasting during daylight hours for adult Muslims. It is also a time of religious reflection, charity

and prayer.

In greeting marking the Muslim holy month, PM Benjamin Netanyahu extends hope "for much needed brotherhood, mutual respect & peace." According to the Foreign Ministry, Israel's Muslim citizens numbered nearly 1.5 million people - or 16.9% of the country's population - as of summer 2016.

The Diplomatic Club join greetings and extend a warmest wishes to all those observing the month of fasting and celebrating Shavuot. Shavuot, one of Judaism's three pilgrimage festivals (along with Passover and Sukkot), will take place this year between sunset on Tuesday, May 30, and nightfall on Wednesday, May 31. The Government Press Office would like to offer the following as a brief summary:

Shavuot marks the giving of the Torah (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy; Judaism's most basic scripture) at Mt. Sinai, seven weeks after the exodus of the Jewish people from Egypt. Indeed, Shavuot literally means "weeks" and is celebrated exactly seven weeks after the first day of Passover, which marks the exodus itself.

The celebration of Shavuot is specified in Exodus 34:22 and Deuteronomy 16:10. On Tuesday night, May 30, after festive evening prayers and a festive meal, many people will follow the custom of staying awake all night and studying religious texts, and then saying morning prayers at the earliest permitted time – thus expressing the enthusiasm of the Jewish people to receive the Torah. Most synagogues and yeshivot will organize special classes and lectures throughout the night of Shavuot. In Jerusalem, there is a widespread custom of going to the Western Wall – which will be exceptionally crowded – for Shavuot morning (Wednesday) prayers, often accompanied by dancing and singing.

The Shavuot morning prayers are marked by special hymns and scriptural readings, including the Book of Ruth. Special memorial prayers for the departed are also said. Some communities maintain the custom of decorating their synagogues with green plants and flowers; this is in keeping with traditions that Mt. Sinai was a green mountain and that Shavuot is a day of judgment

for fruit trees. On Shavuot, some hold the custom of eating dairy dishes; there are many explanations for this custom.

In ancient times, Shavuot marked the end of the barley harvest, and the beginning of the wheat harvest. Jewish farmers brought their first fruits to the Temple in Jerusalem (Deuteronomy 26:1-11), where special offerings were brought (Numbers 28:26-31). In honor of Shavuot's status as the "Day of First Fruits" and the "Harvest Festival" (as it is referred to in Numbers 28:26 and Exodus 23:16, respectively), many kibbutzim and moshavim also organize special celebrations revolving around these themes, including ceremonies in which new produce from the kibbutz or moshav is highlighted. Shavuot is a legal holiday. There will be no public transportation; schools, shops and offices will be closed; and newspapers will not be published.

President Donald Trump visited Israel for two days and makes Jerusalem totally close for this period.

No sitting US president has ever visited the Western Wall as US policy maintains that the final status of Jerusalem has yet to be resolved in Israeli-Palestinian negotiations.

Julia Verdel
Publisher
And the Editorial Team

Interview H.E. Mr. ZHAN Yongxin Chinese Ambassador to Israel



Chinese Ambassador ZHAN Yongxin

Chinese 'miracle'

We'd like to usher in the year of celebration of the 25 years of diplomatic ties with Israel with an interview with the Chinese Ambassador. The interview will cover three areas: China-Israel relations, China's policy on the Middle East issues, and

Ambassador's personal experience and feeling in Israel.

PART 1: EL RELATIONS

1. Israelis and international readers of our magazine might be more familiar with other countries relationship with Israel.

How would you describe the history between the two countries and how do you see it evolving?

I prefer to describe the relationship between China and Israel by two words: friendly and mutually-beneficial.

Chinese people and Jewish people are two of the most ancient nations in the world. The river of friendship of us dates back to more than 1000 years. According to the latest archaeological findings, Jewish people first came to China during the Tang Dynasty in the 7th century. From then on, many of them moved to Kaifeng, the capital of China during North Song Dynasty (10th-12th century), enjoying the same rights and treatments as the local Chinese people. In the 1840s, some Sephardi Jews came to China from Middle East and other parts of Asia for business, living and working in southeast of China. In the 1880s, thousands of Ashkenazi Jews moved to Harbin of China after the rising anti-Semitism in East Europe, forming the largest Jewish community in the Far East. During World War II, China opened her gate and saved thousands of Jewish lives from Nazi tyranny. At the same time, many Jews, such

as Dr. Jacob Rosenfeld, Dr. Wilhelm Mainzer, Hans Müller, Sidney Shapiro, Hans Shippe, etc., were devoted to the Chinese anti-fascist war and contributed their share to the Chinese course. The friendship between our two nations had been formed and reinforced through all those hardships.

Since the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1992, China and Israel developed mutually-beneficial relations as well as practical cooperation in various fields, which is now in its best shape. Besides the frequent high level exchanges, economic and trade relations develop rapidly and people-to-people exchange is in full bloom.

This year is the 25th Anniversary of the establishment of China-Israel diplomatic relations. This March witnessed a further upgrade of the bilateral relations as Prime Minister Netanyahu paid a successful visit to China. During the visit, President XI Jinping, Premier LI Keqiang and Chairman of Standing Committee of the National People's Congress ZHANG Dejiang exchanged views with Prime Minister Netanyahu on a wide range of issues and cooperation in different areas. Chinese vice Premier Madam LIU Yandong and Prime Minister Netanyahu co-chaired the Third Meeting of China-Israel Joint Committee on Innovation Cooperation.

Both of us decided to establish an Innovative Comprehensive Partnership. This partnership embodies the diversity, strength and importance of the relationship, and makes clear the goals and trajectory of its future growth.

2. How much trade is going back and forth between China and Israel? Can you site any specific products that have been success stories from Israel to China and from China to Israel?

In 1992 when our two countries established diplomatic relations, the bilateral trade volume was merely 50 million



Shaolin Monks' Martial Art performance in Israel



Ambassador enjoys happy hour together with Israeli friends

US dollars, but now it has surged to 11.3 billion US dollars. China is Israel's largest Asian trading partner and third largest trading partner in the world. Trade items of our two countries continuously optimize from food, diamonds, chemicals and other traditional products to electronics, new energy, biotechnology, software, pharmaceuticals. China's total investment in Israel has exceeded 6 billion US dollars. Infrastructure construction is also an important field of bilateral cooperation now. Chinese companies built the Carmel Tunnel, and now are building the Ashdod port, Tel Aviv Light Rail. For better improving and strengthening the

cooperation, our two sides established China-Israel Intergovernmental Mechanism of Economic and Technological Cooperation in 2013 and China-Israel Joint Committee on Innovation Cooperation in 2014. Both mechanisms are working smoothly and effectively. We are strongly complementary to each other in economy, and hence enjoy huge potential and prospective for cooperation.

3. What kind of potential is there for Israel and China to improve relations, trade, and tourism? What do you think China has to offer Israel that it hasn't yet tapped into and what

can Israel do for China. What other areas do you see where Israel and China can improve from they are today?

Before talking about potential, I would like to make a brief introduction of the development of China's economy, which possesses huge potential. China's GDP achieved a 6.9 percent growth in the first quarter of 2017. China's economic structure continues to be optimized. New industries, new types of business and new models are vigorously rising. In the next five years, China will import goods worth more than 8 trillion US dollars, attract 600 billion dollars of foreign investment, and

its outbound invest will be 750 billion dollars. Chinese tourists will make 700 million overseas visits.

As Israel is rich in advanced technologies and strong in innovation which China values a lot, I believe our two countries enjoy economic complementarity in comparative advantage, high degree of converging interests and broad prospects for cooperation. Firstly, as I mentioned, China is Israel's important trading partner and market, and both governments have decided to accelerate the negotiation on Free Trade Agreement, which would further promote bilateral trade and bring more benefits to our people in the years to come. Secondly, China is in the process of upgrading its industry for sustainable development, so the demand for Israeli technology and experience on green agriculture, desalination, water resource development and medical science will continue to rise. There will be more and more opportunities for us to do business with each other or explore third-party markets jointly in the context of China's "Belt and Road" initiative. Thirdly, our people-to-people exchanges will further grow. There are more than 30 direct flights between our two countries every week. Last November, we started to issue each other's citizens 10 year multi-entry visas, which definitely promote further exchanges between our two

countries. Nearly 80,000 Chinese tourists came to Israel last year and more will come this year, which will help boost Israeli tourism and related industries. We also warmly welcome more Israeli friends to travel to China, to see China with their own eyes, and to know more about China. I do believe there is a lot of potential to be tapped.

I would like to also share you some good news for cooperation. In this May, the "Belt and Road" Forum will be held in Beijing. Chinese President Xi Jinping will attend the opening ceremony and chair the leaders' round-table conference. This forum is the highest level of international conference held by China since the initiative of the "Belt and Road" was put forward by President Xi Jinping in 2013. The theme of the forum is "Strengthening International Cooperation and Co-building the 'Belt and Road' for Win-win Development". The forum will focus on four goals: pooling more consensus, identifying cooperation directions, pushing forward the implementation of projects and then improving supporting system. Israeli representatives are also invited and expected to attend the forum. I believe that the "Belt and Road" initiative will bring more opportunities to our bilateral cooperation.

PART 2: CHINA'S VIEW ON REGIONAL ISSUES

4. Israel is at the crossroads of three continents (Asia, Europe & Africa). Couldn't Israel be a strategic military partner for China?

China engages foreign countries mainly on economic, cultural and people-to-people exchanges. China and Israel have decided to establish an Innovative Comprehensive Partnership. In my opinion, this kind of Partnership, as its name manifests, is very much innovation-oriented, which is best for our two countries.

I would like to take this opportunity to say something about China's policy on Middle East issues. China has always played a positive and constructive role to make more contributions to the stability, peace and development of the region for years. China has no geopolitical intentions in the region, nor do we vie to occupy "power vacuum". We always propose historical justice and uphold international righteousness in the regional issue. On dealing with international disputes between countries, China consistently adheres to the principle of solving the disputes through negotiation. We never believe that military force

can solve all the problems fundamentally.

5. How does China view the peace process between Israel and the Palestinians? What has China done for promoting this process?

The issue of Palestine is a long-standing hot issue in the Middle East. As a permanent member of the UN Security Council, China has never turned its eyes away from it. China shares the view with the international community

that the two-state solution is the only viable way-out that serves the fundamental interest of both peoples. China supports the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people. At the same time, we fully respect Israel's right to exist and concerns on security. But all in all, the key to open the door to peace is in the hands of Israelis and Palestinians.

China has been playing a constructive role in building peace together with the international community.

China appointed its Middle East Special Envoy 15 years ago, committing to promoting peace talks between Israel and Palestine. Just a few days ago, China proposed and co-chaired with India the meeting of BRICS Special Envoys on the Middle East Issue. In a word, China will not be absent in any occasion that is conducive to achieve a just and lasting solution to the Israel-Palestine issue.

6. How does China see its role in battling

world terrorism and piracy today? Will the expansion of China's navy mean it will independently help battle piracy in the Indian Ocean and South Chinese Sea?

Terrorism and Piracy are two different issues. Terrorism is a common enemy of all human-beings. China opposes all forms of terrorism and will continue to enhance counter-terrorism cooperation with the international community and safeguard world peace and stability. With due efforts, China's security is guaranteed and we are capable of addressing any terrorist challenges in China.

China is also facing non-traditional threats, such as piracy. In accordance with UN Security Council resolution 1846, the People's Liberation Army Navy of China has joined the international efforts and carried out missions since 2008 in the Gulf of Aden against pirates. The Chinese navy, while promoting the mutually beneficial cooperation between China and other countries, is also actively conveying the sincere willingness of Chinese people on peace, friendship and cooperation.

I know many people are interested in so called 'Chinese Expansion' in the Indian Ocean, especially for establishing a 'Military Base' in Djibouti. I would like to make it clear that through

friendly consultations between China and Djibouti, the two sides have reached consensus for China to build support facilities in Djibouti. The facilities will mainly be used for logistical support and personnel recuperation of the Chinese armed forces conducting such missions as maritime escort in the Gulf of Aden and waters off the Somali coast, peacekeeping and humanitarian assistance.

Let's turn to the South China Sea. Freedom of navigation and security in the South China Sea have never been a problem, both within and outside the country are the beneficiaries of freedom and security, which is also the consensus of the parties concerned. Since last year, with joint efforts of China and ASEAN countries, the situation in the South China Sea has been stable overall and moving in a positive direction.

PART 3: LIFE IN CHINA AND AMBASSADOR'S PERSONAL EXPERIENCE IN ISRAEL

7. China has dozens of cities and urban administrative districts which have comparable or larger populations as the whole of Israel. How much different is life here for you and your family here in Israel compared to China?

Differing from Israel, lifestyle in China and Israel may vary due to different climates, cultures, and demographics. China is a very diversified country with 56 ethnic groups, with densely-populated metropolitan centers and also small villages, with developed area and developing area. Take weather and food for example: The weather in China is distinctive among different areas, and you could find four seasons at the same time from South to North and from East to West. And Chinese food can be roughly divided into eight major regional cuisines. Certainly, there are many other local cuisines that are also famous.

By contrast, Israel is much smaller than China in terms of land and population, so the difference of weather and lifestyle among regions is not as huge as in China. I found that Israel is livable with its beautiful beach and comfortable weather. The pace of lives here seems relaxing and happy.

8. How is the Chinese New Year celebrated today in China in contrast to the past and how does the Chinese calendar play into the life of your citizens? How is the Year of the Rooster supposed to differ from other years?

Both Chinese and Jewish people have splendid culture. One of the



interesting common points is that both of us have our own lunar calendars. The Chinese Lunar New Year, which we call Spring Festival, like Rosh Hashanah, falls on different dates each year. It was first celebrated in Han Dynasty (3rd Century B.C-3rd Century A.C.) and has become the most important traditional festival in China. Nowadays, on the eve of the Spring Festival, people, no matter in which corner of the planet, will go back home to reunite with their families and prepare to welcome the New Year. They will have family dinner together, and set off firecrackers. On the first day of the Chinese New Year, many Chinese people post couplets (two line poems) at their main gates, perform dragon and lion dances and display lanterns. The Chinese New Year is a significant cultural event, manifesting Chinese national cohesion and harmony. Now, it is celebrated around the world by Chinese people at home and abroad.

This year is The Year of Rooster, which indicates trustworthy, brightness and good fortune. I think it is a good symbol of China-Israel relations' future.

9. Have you been able to travel Israel? What sites have particularly caught your attention as being memorable? How would and do you describe Israel to your government and citizens back home?

In the last two years in this country, my life has been fully occupied since relations between China and Israel kept moving forward, with cooperation in various field deepening continuously. I had the opportunity to make my own contribution by visiting almost all major cities and regions of Israel and some kibbutzims and moshavims. I am so touched by the unique history, appealing scenery, cultural diversity, etc. One thing impressed me most is about the Israeli people. They share so many similarities with the Chinese people, like diligence and kindness, to name but a few. All of them are good basis for both promoting innovative comprehensive cooperation and strengthening friendship.

Seeing is believing. I always advise my nationals to visit Israel and feel how fascinating this country is by themselves.



President Rivlin receives diplomatic credentials

At a ceremony at the President's Residence in Jerusalem, President Reuven Rivlin this morning (Tuesday), received the diplomatic credentials of the new United States Ambassador to Israel, David Friedman. Ambassador Friedman arrived at the

national anthem, 'Hatikva'. After presenting his credentials to the President, President Rivlin congratulated the new Ambassador and said, "I am happy to welcome you and your dear wife to Israel, to Jerusalem. I know you



President Rivlin welcoming H.E Mr. David Friedman, Ambassador of United States to Israel

President Rivlin: "It is time for the whole world to recognize Jerusalem as the official capital of the State of Israel."

Ambassador Friedman: "The President has chosen Israel as the site for his first international visit this coming week. His love for and commitment to the State of Israel is rock-solid and it enjoys his highest priority."

President's Residence accompanied by his wife Tammy, and daughter Talia. The ceremony began with the playing of the US national anthem, and after the new Ambassador presented his credentials to the President, both men gave brief statements to the media. After a brief meeting the new Ambassador then signed the official guest book, and was joined by the President at the entrance to the residence for the Israeli

have been here many times before, but this time you are an Ambassador representing the USA, Israel's greatest, and most important ally."

The President continued, "We are looking forward to welcoming President Trump in less than a week. His visit is very important. It is a sign of the unbreakable bond between Israel and the USA. We look forward to working with the new Administration to find new ways and to

think of new ideas, of how to move forward and build trust between Israelis and Palestinians.”

The President stressed, “I want to also express my appreciation for the strong example America set in taking action against the terrible crimes being committed in Syria, and added, “You showed that red lines cannot be crossed. The whole free world has a duty to the Syrian people, to end the humanitarian nightmare. Israel is proud of all the medical care we give to the injured. As long as there is a need, we will continue.”

President Rivlin went on to note, “Next week, we will celebrate 50 years since Jerusalem was united, and the Jewish people were able to once again pray at the Western Wall. But Jewish Jerusalem is not 50 years old. Since the days of King David, this city has been our capital. It is time for the whole world to recognize Jerusalem as the official

capital of the State of Israel. De Facto, not just De Jure.” The President concluded his words by wishing the Ambassador much success in his new role, and said he was looking forward to working together with him to further strengthen the relationship between the two countries.

Ambassador Friedman thanked the President for his warm welcome and for receiving his credentials. He told the President that, “As a seventh generation Jerusalemite, you continue the connection to Jerusalem that began with King David some 3000 years ago.”

He continued, “Serving the US as its Ambassador to the State of Israel, is the greatest honor of my life, and I pledge to you to do all that I can to strengthen and enhance the relations between our two great nations – that you accurately described as unbreakable and, I would add, without limits.” He stressed, “I am so

grateful to President Trump for giving me the opportunity, for having confidence in my abilities, and most importantly for sending me off this past week with the unequivocal and unambiguous mandate to support the State of Israel in every way, and in all ways. As you know, the President has chosen Israel as the site for his first international visit this coming week. His love for and commitment to the State of Israel is rock-solid and enjoys his highest priority.”

The Ambassador added “I look forward to working with you and a the people of Israel to do even more to bring together the United States and Israel – in every field, from culture to education, life sciences, high technology, commerce, trade, and of course military and strategic cooperation and so many other things.”

President Reuven Rivlin this month at a ceremony at the President’s Residence in Jerusalem, received the diplomatic credentials of the new Ambassadors to Israel, from Thailand, and Spain. Each ceremony began with the raising of the flag and the playing of the national anthem of the visiting country, and - after the presentation of the credentials - the signing of the guest book, before the playing of Israel's national anthem 'Hatikva'.

First to present her credentials was the new

Ambassador of Thailand, Ms. Penprapa Vongkovit. The President congratulated her on her appointment and spoke of the warm relations between the countries, and noted that more than 150,000 Israel tourists visited Thailand annually. “The whole world can learn from you about how to welcome tourism, and developing that industry,” said the President. He added that Israel had a large community of Thai people who were working in Israel, and said, “We appreciate all they do for our economy and for our agriculture. I hope they feel very much at home in Israel.” The President concluded by expressing his hope that the relations between the two countries would continue to grow.

Ambassador Vongkovit thanked the President for his welcome, and for his condolences over the passing of the county’s late King. She added that she brought with the warm wishes of the new King Vajiralongkorn. The Ambassador told the President, “I want to thank the Israeli Government for welcoming the Thai workers, so they can come here and enjoy the excellent labor practices in Israel and also learn best practices for their benefit when they return to their own communities.” She stressed that Thailand was keen to expand the cooperation with Israel, especially, “as the crossroads between China and India”.



President Rivlin received the credentials of Ambassador of Spain, H.E. Mr. Manuel Gomez-Acebo.

Nest, President Rivlin received the credentials of Ambassador of Spain, H.E. Mr. Manuel Gomez-Acebo. President Rivlin told him “Our history goes back hundreds of years,” and added, “We appreciate the law you passed in 2015. It is not a matter of citizenship but it shows the appreciation and the connection between the two people.”

The President praised the strong cooperation between the two countries and said, “We appreciate what you are doing and what the King has done against BDS. We know as friends we can disagree sometimes but BDS goes against the idea of relationships between people.” The President added that Israel was working to the best of its ability to build confidence with the Palestinians, despite the many challenges. He said, “Many Palestinians are not ready to accept the existence of Israel as a

Jewish state or as a state at all. We have to try to explain to everyone that we must learn to live together. Spain can be a great help in building the necessary confidence measures between Israel and the Palestinians.”

Ambassador Gomez-Acebo thanked the President and stated that he was looking forward to seeing the President visit Spain during the course of the year, and added, “the historic links between us are indeed strong as you described”. He spoke of the wide-ranging links between the countries in the fields of trade, commerce, and more, and said, “Israel is a valuable partner.” He told the President that, “The way you are committed to dialogue between communities is something which is admired.” He concluded, “I will work with all my heart and effort to further the relations between our two peoples.”



First to present her credentials was the new Ambassador of Thailand, Ms. Penprapa Vongkovit.



President Rivlin welcoming H.E. Ms. Maria Gabriels Troya Rodriguez, Ambassador of Ecuador to Israel

President Reuven Rivlin on February 2017 at his residence received the diplomatic credentials of new ambassadors to Israel from Ecuador, Ethiopia, Togo, Fiji, and Turkmenistan. Each ceremony began with the raising of the flag and the playing of the national anthem of the visiting country, included an honor guard, and - after the presentation of the credentials - the signing of the guest book, before the playing of Israel's national anthem 'Hatikva'.

President Rivlin first welcomed Ambassador of Ecuador, H.E. Ms. Maria Gabriels Troya Rodriguez and said, "It is a real pleasure to welcome you here in Jerusalem, the capital of Israel, with the history between our two peoples. Both the long and the short history. I know the people of Ecuador admire the Bible and the language of the Bible. In recent times, we

have been proud to welcome around 2,500 students from Ecuador to study here with Mashav, and we are proud of the cooperation between us in agriculture. We are proud to have worked to help your people following the earthquake that struck your country last year, and we are doing all we can to extend our relationship. I know that from time to time we may have differences of opinion as there are between friends. I know that your President is

an admirer of Israel. We are of course prepared to hear criticism sometimes, as long as there is an understanding of the need of our people to protect ourselves and carry the burden of security." Ambassador Troya thanked the President and said, "I am greatly honored. This is my first appointment as an ambassador and I am looking forward to do my best. President Correa is an admirer of Israel, something he has mentioned two weeks ago on a radio broadcast. He said specifically Israel is a country we admire and we should cooperate closely, in agriculture, in science and technology and also in trade - I would like to see more Ecuadorian products available here." She added, "We do have differences of opinion but that does not mean we don't talk and share the things that bring us closer. That is what I am here to do."

Ambassador of Ethiopia, H.E. Mr. Tsegay Berha



President Rivlin welcoming H.E. Mr. Tsegay Berha Hadera, Ambassador of Ethiopia to Israel

Hadera then presented the President with his credentials. President Rivlin welcomed him and said, "When I meet with ambassadors of other countries, we can talk about diplomatic relations that are maybe 20, 30, even 50 years old. But our peoples have shared history of thousands of years. We can talk about the visit of the Queen of Sheba to the wise King Solomon." He added, "In Israel today, we are so proud of our Ethiopian Jewish community. They are proud to be Jews, they are proud to be Israeli, and they are proud to be Ethiopian."

The President went on to say, "I want to congratulate you on Ethiopia's election as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council. I hope that Ethiopia will be able to help Israel too."

Ambassador Hadera thanked the President and said, "Thank you for the warm welcome. I am very proud to be the Ambassador of Ethiopia in Israel. I have visited many times." He spoke of the great respect for Israel as the Holy Land, and the city of Jerusalem, and said, "We are natural brothers and we stand for the right of the people."

He spoke of the importance of the cooperation and support Israel offered Ethiopia in the field of innovation and added, "Please accept the warmest wishes of my President, and



President Rivlin welcoming H.E. Mr. Calixte Batossie Madjoulba, Ambassador of Togo to Israel

I am pleased to convey to you an invitation to visit our country."

Ambassador of Togo, H.E. Mr. Calixte Batossie Madjoulba was next to present his credentials. President Rivlin welcomed him to Jerusalem and noted the important 30th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the two countries. He said, "We enjoy warm relations. Israel sees Africa the future, and the importance of our ties there are clear to all, and no less important is the fact that your country initiated together with Israel the upcoming Africa Summit." The President thanked the Ambassador for the participation of the President of Togo in the funeral of the late Shimon Peres. He added, "We are aware that you understand the challenge of dealing with the threat of terror, and that you yourselves are dealing with this challenge,

something which is forced upon us. Also in this area, we are cooperating and I would see this expanded."

The President concluded, "We are looking forward to October to the planned African Israeli summit, which Togo initiated. And we are pleased to receive you here as representative of your country, in order to strengthen our cooperation even further."

Ambassador Madjoulba thanked the President for the warm welcome, said that he was moved to be appointed ambassador to Israel, and conveyed the warm wishes of the President of Togo. He said, "My country is very pleased with the welcome initiative, the summit between Israel and Togo in Africa. Terror, as you mentioned, is truly the greatest challenge for the whole world, and of course Africa. I want to thank you again for the security



President Rivlin welcoming H.E. Mr. Mosese Tikoitoga , Ambassador of Fiji to Israel

cooperation, and your assistance in learning how Togo can face the threat of terror. The planned summit, during which you will share with us your knowledge on issues relating to preserving security, will help Africa to become safer, and allow our peoples to develop the continent, and to bring prosperity for the benefit of the peoples of Africa. For this I thank you.”

Ambassador of Fiji, H.E. Mr. Mosese Tikoitoga then presented the President with his credentials. President Rivlin welcomed him and said, “Many talk about battling for peace, but you are one of the true fighters for peace, and fought not just in our region but all over the world with the United Nations, to keep peace. We know the meaning of fighting for peace.”

He added, “I was sad to be unable to meet with your President after his trip was hampered by bad weather, but we spoke on the phone, and discussed the important ties between our peoples. Please send him my best regards, I am looking

forward to meeting him. We know the connection between Israel and Fiji, especially in the area of water and agriculture.” The Ambassador thanked the President and said, “We thank you very much, and we appreciate your help over the years.” He added, “Many Fijians want to come and visit Israel, our Christian beliefs tell us we must come and visit the Holy Land.” He told the President that “I served in UNIFIL on four different occasions, so this is almost like coming back home, just in a different capacity.”

Ambassador of Turkmenistan, H.E. Mr.



President Rivlin welcoming H.E. Mr. Berdymurat Redjepov , Ambassador of Turkmenistan to Israel

Berdymurat Redjepov then presented his credentials to the President, who said to him “We appreciate greatly the good relations between our countries, and see your arrival as an opportunity to develop these even further.” He added, “It is a pleasure to welcome you here, and express my appreciation for the position of your country in declaring and maintaining neutrality.” The President added that Israel had much respect for Turkmenistan, and extended an invitation for the President of Turkmenistan to visit Israel.

Ambassador Redjepov thanked the President for the warm welcome and said, “I have been tasked with the important mission to deepen the relations between us, and the cooperation between our countries. My family and I have dreamed of coming to Israel, and yesterday we visited the historic sites, holy to the three religions.”

Photo credit: Mark Neiman (GPO)



FINLAND CELEBRATES 100 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCY



Photo: Suvi-Tuuli Kankaanpää/ Finland 100

The Finns achieved independence on December 6, 1917. The nation celebrates its 100th year with numerous events throughout 2017 in Finland and all around the world.

The theme for the celebratory year is “Together,” showing that everyone – Finns and friends of Finns – is welcome to take part, just as creating and building the nation were joint efforts.

While the centenary forms the perfect opportunity for a great big party, it’s also an

occasion for contemplation and insight. The 100-year mark offers a chance for people to look back to understand the way the nation emerged, but also to gaze ahead to the future to see what Finland can still become.

Starting in 1809 and up to independence, Finland formed an autonomous grand duchy in the Russian Empire. This proved to be an important time for laying the societal and administrative groundwork that allowed the Finns to break with Russia in 1917.

Before 1809, the area that is now Finland had been under Swedish rule since at least the 13th century.

What cannot be said will be drawn.

On 19 of May at Architects Gallery in Yafo was open an exhibition

"FINNISH DESIGN IN ISRAELI HOMES".

This is an exhibition that explores the relationship between everyday life and design. All exhibited items are generously on loan

from homes of Finns and friends of Finland in Israel.

The fame of Finnish design lies in its combination of functionality and aesthetics, original styling and high-quality manufacturing. In Finland, design is not considered a luxury but an integral part of everyday life. It solves problems and makes lives better. Design is intertwined with every aspect of society, from urban and industrial planning to social innovations.

A selection of objects such as furniture, lamps, glass, ceramics and textiles are brought together at the exhibition. The items manifest the co-existence of man and nature in Finland's timeless design. A series of lectures on Finnish design will complement the exhibition on 25.5., 8.6. and 15.6.

Thu 25.5. 19:00 - 20:00
Finnish Design - design for the everyday.
Paula Toppila, Curator and Executive Director of IHME Contemporary Art, Helsinki, Finland

Thu 8.6. 19:00 - 20:00
Finnish Integrative Design.
Architect Gaby Nussbaum

Thu 15.6. 19:00 - 20:00
Gallery talk.
Curator Ruth Apter-Gabriel

Collected or inherited, these beloved objects

include items by some of the classic Finnish design icons, i.e Alvar Aalto, Kaj Franck, Tapio Wirkkala and Timo Sarpaneva. The items show the exploration of materials, playfulness of form and sustainability, which are all part of Finnish design. They also tell the story of the owner's connection to Finland and carry memories of life events.

Architect Alvar Aalto believed that good design can influence people's lives.

A special thank the numerous lenders and the incredible team of volunteers who made this exhibition possible.

The curatorial team: Ruth Apter-Gabriel, Susanne Millner, Gaby Nussbaum.
Design: Laura Laiho-Mizrachi

Architect's Gallery curator: Limor Yossifon-Goldman
Interviews and digital catalogue: Maria Tuomela, Embassy Intern.

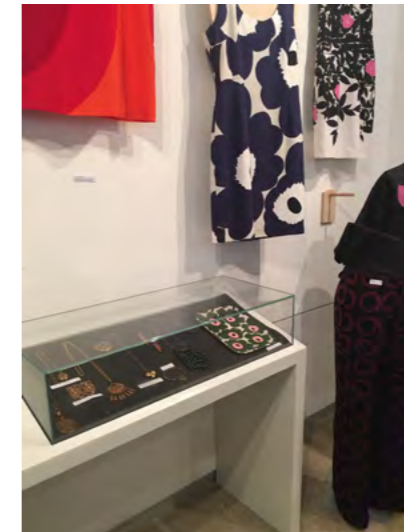
"Finnish Design in Israeli Homes"
19.5. – 18.6.2017
Architects Gallery
Ha-Migdalor St 15, Tel Aviv-Yafo, 03-518-8234

Opening hours:
Sun–Wed 11:00 - 16:00

Thu 18:00 - 21:00
(see lecture schedule)

Fri 10:00 - 13:00,

Sat 10:00 - 16:00



THE INDIVIDUALIST OF THE CENTURY

Professor Joseph Agassi celebrates his 90

The name of Josef Agassi stands in the same line with such names as John Hicks (1934), Fritz Machlup (1937), Friedrich Hayek (1942), Ludwig von Mises (1949), Karl Popper (1945) and many others.

He created and advocated the term 'institutional individualism' arguing that institutional structures exist and affect individual choices, while only individuals have aims and responsibilities. Individualism for Agassi is a way of life for good and for bad.

Joseph Agassi is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry and World Academy of Art & Science and a Professor Emeritus at Tel Aviv University and York University, Toronto. He was a student of Prof. Karl Popper at the University of London School of Economics and



has edited, authored, and co-authored many books in Philosophy, Science, Medicine and Education.

Joseph Agassi was born in Jerusalem on May 7, 1927 to an ultra-Orthodox (haredi) family. He left his family and became a communist. He was a parachute instructor in the Israeli Defense Force.

He is an Israeli academic with huge contributions in logic, scientific method, and philosophy. He studied under Karl Popper and taught at the London School of Economics. He later taught at the University of Hong Kong, the University of Illinois, Boston University, and York University in Canada. He had dual appointments

in his last positions with Tel Aviv University. He has been married to Judith Buber Agassi – Martin Buber's granddaughter – since 1949. Together they had two children, Aaron and Tirzah, who died of cancer in March 2008. They currently live in Herzliya, Israel. Tirzah's name, when she was a child, was often used by Popper in his dictum "Write it for Tirzah!" to explain his view that everyone has the duty to write in a clearly and easily understandable language.

Philosophy

Agassi's prime interest is science, metaphysics, and politics. He takes it that philosophy is nothing if not rationalist. For over fifty years he studied the rationality of science, metaphysics, and democratic politics.

An advocate of Popper's philosophy with variations, Agassi ignores many of the problems that concern some philosophers of science, chiefly that of theory choice. The problems of the philosophy of technology engage him, including the problem of choosing scientific theories and ideas worthy of application and implementation.

Political philosophy

Agassi suggests, in line with Popper's political philosophy, that all schools of thought have thus far neglected the one major practical problem of ethics, namely moral brakes: when should one apply them? We know this much: the more decent people are, the sooner they are ready to put their brakes on. For example, Agassi observes that the German nation lost its moral brakes as soon as its Nazi rulers showed their hand.

According to Agassi, democracy is so outstanding that, no matter what the agenda is, it is still best. He developed further the methodology of critical rationalism which he adopted from Popper. According to him, critical rationalism gives the possibility to rationalists to account for checks and balances and democracy within their rationalism. Bootstrapping is the expression he coined for the approach to problems with the methodology of critical rationalism: Solutions are offered and then improved upon according to the results obtained as a never ending process. He acknowledges that even democracy is not immune to errors, and that it may even lead to its own destruction as it happened in 1933 in Germany. Nevertheless, says Agassi, democracy has

a fair chance for success; in particular, in global politics due to its quick recovery procedure for confronting mistakes that find their way into the agenda of democratic institutions.

Global politics

Agassi has written widely on global politics and on the methodology to implement global politics. His methodology is consistently procedural, without having requests for systematic procedures. His demands from those that design global politics are minimalist: small methodological changes may lead to large scale achievements. Agassi also proposes to bring global problems to public agendas for discussions in different forums, in particular in workshops where discussions are held with an agreed upon agenda: the agenda, says Agassi should be discussed and set by the participants prior to the discussion.

Elyakim Military Base

Diplamts visited Elyakim



Elyakim Military Base - Between a collection of concrete buildings with Arabic graffiti that are designed to simulate a typical Lebanese village, dozens of Israeli officers are gearing up for their next battle with Hezbollah guerrillas.

It's a mission the Israeli military has focused on intensely in the



decade since it fought an inconclusive month-long

war with the Iranian-backed group. But this drill

“ I think that Israel is the one that wants to launch a war against Lebanon, and not Hezbollah. Israel does not want the Arabs to rest. Look at the daily Israeli violations of our airspace, land and territorial waters, he said. ”

at a base in northern Israel takes on added significance in the wake of rising tensions between the old adversaries. The friction

includes a rare clash along the Syrian border this month in which Israel shot down an anti-aircraft missile fired at its planes as they were carrying out an airstrike on a suspected Hezbollah weapons convoy from Syria to Lebanon.

In an interview with France 24 TV, Lebanese Prime



Minister, Saad Hariri dismissed that Hezbollah would provoke a war with Israel, and rather that Israel is showing signs that it wants a renewed conflict with the resistance group. The comments by the Prime Minister were spurred after Israel unveiled the “David’s Sling” missile system at Hatzor air force base in central occupied Palestinian territories.

Meanwhile, Israel is conducting a large-scale military drill at a base , in what commanders say could always be the “last training before the war” with Hezbollah.



“We are trying to give the commanders and the soldiers the environment that looks like the real war so that they can have the feeling, when they will have to go to war, they will feel that they did it before. This is the purpose of the training — to prepare for the real thing,” said Col. Kobi Valer, commander of the Elyakim Military Base. “The forces need to know that this could be their last training before the war.”

In the mock village in Elyakim, the reserve officers focused on the type of urban warfare that their comrades struggled with in 2006.

Using paintball pellets



to simulate battle, they raided structures featuring colorful murals of Nasrallah and other top Hezbollah figures and opened fire at fellow officers playing the roles of guerrillas. Moving in swift formations, commanders hollered orders as the troops ascended the various structures firing yellow paint pellets toward their supposed adversaries.

“All of this facility is meant to give us a more realistic feeling,” said Capt. Ofek Sinai, a 26-year-old reserve platoon commander. “Undoubtedly, doing this a few weeks every year makes people more confident about fighting in a real war.”



St. Patrick's day- the Irish National Day and the opening of the new embassy

On the evening of Thursday March 16th, the Irish Embassy in Tel Aviv celebrated St. Patrick's Day alongside the Opening of its new embassy. Diplomats, leading business and community leaders, and Irish emigrants were hosted by Irish Ambassador Alison Kelly at a festive event at the Amot Atrium building to mark Irish culture, Irish-Israeli ties, and Ireland's peacekeeping missions in the country. H.E. Ambassador Kelly opened the evening, welcoming the guests, and remarking on the great work done by many to make sure the new embassy could open and thanking the the Irish peacekeeping troops in Golan, as well as the people who had come to the evening and who had worked so hard on the diplomatic relations between Ireland and Israel. Ambassador Kelly also remarked on the great work of the first Irish woman to command an Irish peacekeeping mission, Lt Col Mary Carroll and her colleagues. On the evening of Thursday March 16th, the Irish Embassy in Tel Aviv



celebrated St. Patrick's Day alongside the Opening of its new embassy. Diplomats, leading business and community leaders, and Irish emigrants were hosted by Irish Ambassador Alison Kelly at a festive event at the Amot Atrium building to mark Irish culture, Irish-Israeli ties, and Ireland's peacekeeping missions in the country. H.E. Ambassador Kelly opened the evening, welcoming the guests, and remarking on the great work done by many to make sure the new embassy could open and thanking the the Irish peacekeeping troops in Golan, as well as the people who had come to the evening and who had worked so hard on the diplomatic relations between Ireland and Israel. Ambassador Kelly also remarked on the great work of the first Irish woman to command an Irish peacekeeping mission, Lt Col Mary Carroll and her colleagues. Following Ambassador Kelly, Minister of State Mr. Paul Kehoe addressed the guests. The minister's speech highlighted the strength of the Irish-Israeli friendship. Mr. Kehoe focused his remarks on the warm diplomatic and economic and peacekeeping

ties between the two nations, and cooperation in counterterrorism, while calling to strengthen these partnerships in the future. Israeli Knesset Member Ayoob Kara spoke next, congratulating the Irish people on their national day, and highlighting the similarities between the nations despite their distance. Mr. Kara especially mentioned their economic, political, and educational/ technological similarities. He also mentioned the jewish community in Ireland and the common respect and understanding there. All of the speakers called for increased cooperation between the countries going forward. Following the speeches, the anthems of Ireland and Israel were played, and guests were then free to continue enjoying the buffet and traditional Irish music and dance. Guests included Minister Kehoe, Minister Kara, Members of the Knesset, Tim Reilly, Pascale Chen (Women Wage Peace), Daria Carmon (from the U.S Embassy), and Zvi Gabi, Israel's first Ambassador to Ireland. Nooralhuda Hoji – co-director of the Debate for peace program

Photo Silvia Golan

Myanmar Celebrates 69th Independence Day

On Jan. 4, 1948, Burma (now officially the Republic of the Union of Myanmar) ended 60 years of colonial rule when it officially declared independence from Britain.

Burma or Myanmar?

Is it called Burma or Myanmar? In 1989, the SLORC government mandated that their country should henceforth be known in English as Myanmar instead of Burma. (In all, several hundred place names were changed; another prominent example was the renaming of Rangoon to Yangon). This name change has not been accepted by all members of the international community. Some, such as the United States and the United Kingdom, did not recognize the legitimacy of the military government, and therefore continued to refer to the country as Burma, a decision that provoked resentment in the Burmese government. Others, such as the UN and the ASEAN, avoided taking this step, and instead referred to the country as Myanmar.



This country profile endeavors to use the preferred term of the government, and therefore refers to the country as Burma before 1989 and as Myanmar from 1989 to the present day. The capital was Rangoon, now called Yangon. A decade ago, with no warning or consultation, the government moved the capital 300 kilometres north to Naypyidaw, halfway to Mandalay.

Myanmar is emerging, gingerly, from decades of harsh military rule. Last November's elections resulted in a landslide win for Nobel Peace Prize winner Aung San Suu Kyi, who spent 15 years under house arrest by order of the junta. The whole nation, it seems, is holding its breath about the upcoming scheduled handover of power. If it fails, it's feared the generals will be back.

But an overall sense of optimism prevails and tourism is up thanks to a new openness.

The sole constant in this complex, gentle land is religion, a profound Buddhism. The skyline of Yangon is dominated by the sumptuous, gold-dome Shwedagon Pagoda, the most sacred Buddhist site in the country and always packed with worshippers





who drop and pray pretty much anywhere along a tiled promenade of shrines and chapels.

Another stable institution can be found in Yangon's insanely cacophonous downtown neighbourhood of Pabedan, which is mainly Indian and Muslim. At number 85 on 26th Street, tucked between a paint store and an open-air shop bulging with rope and webbing, one finds the Musmeah Yeshua Synagogue, Myanmar's sole Jewish congregation.

Built by Baghdadi merchants who migrated here in the 19th century, later augmented by Cochin Jews from India who traded in teak, the small wooden structure burned down in 1854 and was re-opened in 1893 on this spot. After visiting over a dozen Buddhist monasteries, shrines and pagodas in various states of disrepair, it was a pleasure to walk into the spotless synagogue's sanctuary.

We were told that the caretaker, who was mopping the floor the day we visited,

and the guard at the door, are Muslim.

Judaism in Myanmar

Burma was once home to a thriving Jewish diaspora community, which at one point numbered over two thousand, and which was part of a much larger regional community stretching from India to China. The integration of Burma into the British Empire meant that it was governed by a common international law, the Pax Britannica, which facilitated regulated trade between members of the tightly knit and widespread Jewish community linked by family, language, and faith.

The Musmeah Yeshua, Rangoon's synagogue built in 1893, was the center of Jewish life in Myanmar until the mid-century. The community was primarily made up of Baghdadi Jews who had refined their mercantile skills in Baghdad, for centuries an important trade center. It also included Sephardic Jews who settled in the Ottoman

Empire after fleeing the Spanish Inquisition in 1391, and ethnically Indian Jews, the Bene Israel and Cochin Jews. In 1839, a confluence of factors including persecution under the Ottoman ruler Daud Pasha saw some Jews fleeing the Ottoman Empire for safety in South and Southeast Asia. While they may have stood out in the Ottoman Empire, Jews were but one of a great many religious and ethnic groups in British India, and this invisibility afforded them opportunities to develop strong social and economic ties throughout the region without pressure to conform to others' norms. Myanmar's Jews were not only successful businessmen, but worked in the civil service and military police, and serviced ships docked in the Rangoon harbor. Despite elite Jews' commercial success and their enculturation into a British worldview through the English mission schools (and subsequent weakening of their Baghdadi identity), the British never regarded them as peers.



WWII and the end of the colonial era effectively terminated Jewish social life in Myanmar. Most foreigners, Jews included, fled en masse to Calcutta in 1941 and 1942, many trekking across the brutal Indo-Burmese border. Roughly 1,500 Jews reached Calcutta from Myanmar, and were cared for by Baghdadi Jews there. Once recovered, the Burmese Jews found employment with the British or American military. A small group of Jews remained behind in Myanmar, many of whom had intermarried with Burmese who were barred from fleeing on European ships. They were regarded with suspicion by the Burmese nationalists, who associated them with the British. Around three to four hundred Jews returned to Myanmar after the war; despite the destruction of Rangoon, the Musmeah Yeshua had been unharmed. Several factors led to the subsequent disappearance

of the Burmese Jewish community: their loss of British citizenship following independence, the deterioration of communal religious life, the breakdown of trade networks and nationalization of many privately owned businesses, erosion of educational institutions, and general chaos prompted many of Burma's Jews to migrate.

Burma and Israel

Burma and Israel developed markedly friendly relations; both declared independence in 1948, Burma recognized Israeli statehood in 1949, and both David Ben-Gurion and Prime Minister U Nu shared a belief in socialism. U Nu was the first foreign leader to visit the State of Israel in 1955, and Ben-Gurion spent two weeks in Burma in 1961, during which time he studied Buddhism and was warmly welcomed by Burma's small Jewish community. This period of friendship ended with

the 1962 military coup, which imposed a policy of international isolationism. General Ne Win oversaw the nationalization of stores that had provided funding for the Musmeah Yeshua, which was attacked by an anti-Zionist mob in 1967. Burma's last rabbi left in 1969, and the remaining Jewish community was reduced to a few dozen Sephardic and Bene Israel families. The Musmeah Yeshua synagogue remains open and is cared for today by Baghdadi Burmese father and son, Moses and Sammy Samuels.



Offer Nissim, Gay Pride concert, in Tel Aviv, Israel. June 10, 2017

Israeli DJ and producer Offer Nissim is performing a 5 hour show in occasion of the Pride Parade in Tel Aviv, in June 2017. Offer Nissim is one of the top DJs in Israel, and has produced several official remixes of international stars such as Madonna and Christina Aguilera. The show will include classic hits and new songs. Offer Nissim will perform on June 10, 2017, at the Tel Aviv convention centre. Ticket information will be available soon



Mew's performance in Jerusalem, Israel. June 15, 2017

Danish alternative rock band Mew is coming to

Israel for a live performance in June 2016. The band is one of the most popular Scandivian bands, with

a progressive-indie rock style. The band formed in the '90s and has just released his seventh studio album: "Visuals". Mew will perform at the Jerusalem Theatre in Jerusalem, on June 15, 2017.

Daddy Yankee in Tel Aviv, Israel. June 29, 2017

Latin super star of reggaeton Daddy Yankee has

confirmed his first concert in Israel, this summer 2017. Daddy Yankee is a Puerto Rican rapper and singer who has released some of the biggest international hits of the past years, from "Gasolina", "Grito Mundial", "Ora por me" to the most recent "Despacito". Daddy has won several prestigious awards, especially in the Billboard Latin Chart. His collaborations include names as Will.I. Am, Akon and Arcangel. Daddy Yankee will perform at the Reggaeton Live Park in Tel Aviv on June 29, 2017.



TLVFest Film Festival. June 1-10, 2017

The TLVFest Film Festival is now in its 12th year and one of the most important cultural LGBT events in Israel. The Tel Aviv International LGBT Film Festival offers public screenings of films with no Israeli distribution, meetings with local and foreign filmmakers, panel discussions and special events. The 2017 TLVFest will take place during Pride Week, between June 1-10, 2017.

The impressive program includes many exciting films while aspiring to enrich and empower tolerance and pluralism in Israeli society. In addition to displaying worldwide cinema, the festival encourages Israeli original work, awarding Best Film in the competitive Israeli program and provides exposure and a public stage for local queer filmmakers. The 2017 Festival will include the screening of works by Filmmakers from Sundance, Berlinale & SWSX.



Enrico Macias in Tel Aviv, Israel. June 14, 2017

Heichal Hatarbut - Charles Bronfman Auditorium

Pet Shop Boys in Tel Aviv, Israel. June 10, 2017

British electronic duo the Pet Shop Boys will perform one concert in Tel Aviv, Israel this June. The most successful duo in British music history, the Pet Shop Boys have sold 50 million records worldwide, and are best known for their singles "West End Girls", "It's a Sin", "Always on My Mind" and "Heart". The Pet Shop Boys have performed in Israel before, and will return to Tel Aviv on June 10, 2017 for one concert in Park Hayarkon. Ticket information will be updated shortly.



Rod Stewart in Tel Aviv, Israel. June 14, 2017

Veteran British singer Rod Stewart has announced he is returning to Tel Aviv, Israel to give a concert in Tel Aviv in June 2017. This will be Rod Stewart's third concert in Israel. His previous two were held at the Ramat Gan Stadium in 1983 and 2010. Stewart, 72, is considered one of the most popular singers in the history of the British music industry. He has sold 300 million albums so far, making him one of the most successful singers in the world. Rod Stewart will perform at Tel Aviv's Park Hayarkon on June 14, 2017.



Tom Jones Concert in Tel Aviv, Israel. June 28, 2017

Tom Jones is set to return to Tel Aviv, Israel, in June 2017. It will not be his first visit to Israel – he has given concerts here before, notably in 1997 when he performed in Eilat and Tel Aviv, and in 2013 with two concerts in Tel Aviv. Sir Tom Jones is one of the most successful singers of his generation with thirty-six Top 40 hits in the UK and nineteen in the USA. He has sold over 100 million records in his career which stretches back to the 1960's. Tom Jones will perform at Tel Aviv's Menorah (Yad Eliyahu) Arena on June 28, 2017.



Armin van Buuren in Jerusalem, Israel. June 29, 2017

Legendary DJ, Armin van Buuren will perform in Israel in June 2017, after his concert in Jerusalem last year. Armin Van Buuren was ranked as the number one DJ in the world every year between 2007 and 2010, again in 2012. Aside from his big hit tracks, he is known for his weekly radio show which has 20 million weekly listeners from around the world. Armin van Buuren will perform at Tel Aviv Convention Centre on June 29, 2017.



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| 593-555, 593-550, 593-545, 593-540, 593-505 | E Avg (220,250,300,350d, 400) | 7 |
| 0573-0593 | AMG E43 | 7 |



| Model | *Average fuel consumption in liters per 100 km | Emission level |
|----------------|--|----------------|
| E200 | City 7.6-8.0 Intercity 4.9-5.3 | 5 |
| E220 d | City 4.3-4.7 Intercity 3.6-4.1 | 5 |
| E250 | City 7.6-8.0 Intercity 4.9-5.3 | 13 |
| E300 | City 8.2-8.8 Intercity 5.2-5.8 | 14 |
| E350 d | City 6.3-6.6 Intercity 4.4-4.9 | 14 |
| E400 4MATIC | City 10.5-10.8 Intercity 5.9-6.3 | 15 |
| AMG E43 4MATIC | City 10.9-11.0 Intercity 6.7-6.8 | 15 |

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