

Yeshiva High School Students Mourn The Murder Of Their Grandfather In The Istanbul Synagogue Massacre



Some 500 community activists gathered in the Simon Wiesenthal Center's Memorial Plaza for a community protest and memorial service for the 22 Jews massacred in the Neve Shalom synagogue in Istanbul, Turkey, on Saturday, September 6th. At the conclusion of the service, three students from Yeshiva University of Los Angeles' High School, (left to right) Ziba Bolour, Bijan Broukhin and Eleanor Broukhin lit the Wiesenthal Center's memorial flame in memory of their grandfather, Mizrah Babazadeh, an Iranian-born Israeli citizen who was one of the Jews murdered by Arab terrorists while praying. Also participating in the program were Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley, Israeli Consul General, Eitan Ben Tsur, as well as other leaders of the civic and religious community.

LOS ANGELES — Some 500 community activists came together for a community protest and memorial service for the 22 Jews massacred in the Neve Shalom synagogue in Istanbul, Turkey.

The event, which was co-sponsored by the Simon Wiesenthal Center and Yeshiva University of Los Angeles, heard Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley condemn the incident as "... a vicious, unprovoked and unwarranted massacre of people peacefully praying to their God." Bradley went on to say that, "... there is no ideology or cause which could ever justify such brutality."

"The carnage that transpired was nothing less than a reincarnation of Treblinka and Auschwitz," said Rabbi Abraham Cooper, Associate Dean of the Simon Wiesenthal Center. "Those who poured the gasoline on the martyred rabbis sought to resurrect the imagery and savagery of the Holocaust. To these Nazi butchers we say, it is 1986, not 1936. What we feel is anger, not fear. The State of Israel and the Jewish people will not stand idly by in the face of your barbarity. But what brought these killers to conjure up Hitler's ghost? Not any border dispute, not the Golan Heights or East Jerusalem or Taba - it was hatred of Jews and Judaism which has entered the mainstream of Arab and Islamic reality."

Cooper went on to denounce the recent upsurge of anti-Semitic books, newspaper articles and political cartoons throughout the Arab world which have endorsed the blood libel against the Jewish people and which has promoted such hateful tracts as the infamous Protocols of the Elders of Zion.

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Broukhin lit the Wiesenthal Center's memorial flame in memory of their grandfather, Mizrah Babazadeh, an Iranian-born Israeli businessman who was one of the 22 Jews murdered in the synagogue.

Also participating in the program were Israeli Consul General, Eitan Ben Tsur; Los Angeles City Councilman, Zev Yaroslavsky; Rabbi Sholom Tendler, Rosh Yeshiva of YULA; Rabbi Isaiah Zeldin, Stephen S. Wise Temple; and actor Jon Voight.

NEW YORK (WNS) — The Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany (Claims Conference) issued a reminder to Jewish victims of Nazi persecution who worked as forced laborers in factories of Dynamit-Nobel or Verwert-Chemie that the deadline for registration of claims is December 31, 1986. Claims are to be filed with Compensation Treuhand, Grunewegweg 119, 6000 Frankfurt, West Germany. They should contain factual information concerning the time, place, and circumstances surrounding forced labor for the two companies.

TEL AVIV (WNS) — El Al, Israel's national airline, may be sold to private investors, Israel Radio reported. According to the report, the sale is under consideration by the Ministers of Finance, Transport and Economic Affairs, who are discussing it with Los Angeles businessman William Belzberg. The government-owned air carrier had an accumulated debt estimated at \$340 million.

Happy New Year **Former Judge**
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