

I have offered formulations on the Haram Ash-Shareef, and the area holy to the Jewish people, an area which for 2,000 years, as I said at Camp David, has been the focus of Jewish yearning, that I believed fairly addressed the concerns of both sides.

Fifth, and finally, any agreement will have to mark the decision to end the conflict, for neither side can afford to make these painful compromises, only to be subjected to further demands.

Temple Mount Nuts Threaten Israeli State

by Michele Steinberg

A report released on Jan. 3 by Keshev, the Center for the Protection of Democracy in Israel, warns that messianic Jewish sects “are extremely likely to take violent action against the Temple Mount,” where the holiest of Palestine’s Islamic religious sites are located. Jerusalem’s Temple Mount was seized by the Israeli Army in the 1967 Arab-Israeli war, and today, that seizure has taken on almost mystical significance. In recent years it has been used to build up Ariel Sharon, an officer in that war, as the “savior” of Biblical Israel. With heavy support from the Temple Mount crazies, and from the overlapping paramilitary movement of Israeli settlers on Palestinian land, Sharon, the Likud candidate for Prime Minister, is being projected to win the Israeli election.

The 20-page Keshev memorandum, entitled “Objective Temple Mount: A Current Look at Threats to the Temple Mount by Extremist and Messianic Groups,” warns that “the Temple Mount is analogous to a smoldering volcano that is bubbling and threatening to erupt—a threat that is liable to endanger Israel’s existence.” Not only does the report warn of an imminent threat to the Islamic holy sites, but demands that Prime Minister Ehud Barak, and other Israeli leaders, take immediate action to protect the sites of the Temple Mount, take pre-emptive action to stop a possible Jewish “suicide” terrorist from carrying out the attacks, and act to protect the Temple Mount with an international UN, or multilateral force. The report also profiles more than a dozen organizations that are part of the “Temple Lovers” (Shocharey HaMi-dash) plot.

With this call for immediate action, the Keshev report goes further than any other public Israeli document in identifying this internal Jewish threat, which not only kills Muslims, but also pro-peace leaders, including former Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. It is the first institution inside Israel to publicly address the truth raised in the new *EIR* Special Report, “Who Is Sparking Religious War in the Middle East?” which expo-

ses the Temple Mount fanatics inside Israel and their international supporters among British-based Freemasonic lodges and U.S. Protestant Armageddon cults.

The Keshev report identifies that the “Temple Lovers” are in full mobilization to prepare for the rebuilding of the “Third Temple of Jerusalem,” and with the Dec. 31 assassination of one of their leaders, Binyamin Zeev Kahane, son of slain terrorist Meir Kahane, there is a high likelihood that these groups will take revenge. In the belief-structure of the Temple Lovers, says the report, what is necessary to rebuild the Third Temple, is that all the Islamic mosques be blown-up, levelled, and eliminated, because they are located where the old Second Temple of the Jews had stood. (The Old Testament Book of Lamentations says that God destroyed the Second Temple because of a breach of faith.)

International Force Called For

According to a letter to Prime Minister Barak from Dr. Yuval Karniel, Chairman of the Executive Committee of Keshev, and Yizhar Be’er, the group’s Executive Director, “The threats against the Temple Mount have reached a critical stage. More than ten *boides* of Temple lovers, comprising tens of thousands of people, are acting to reinstitute Temple practices and rituals [including animal sacrifice]. There has been dramatic growth in the number of activists and supporters and increasing ideological and public support for the idea of destroying the mosques.

“In the event of harm to the holy sites, all the blame will be placed on Israel [and] destructive forces of apocalyptic power will likely be unleashed. Therefore, regardless of the nature of the political settlement regarding the Temple Mount, it is in Israel’s vital interest to have international figures and bodies share responsibility over the holy sites . . . even if it is impossible to sign a peace agreement at this time. Thus, we believe that the government of Israel should take immediate steps to invite international bodies (the UN or a multilateral force) to share responsibility for security of the holy sites on the Temple Mount.”

Of particular concern to Keshev is the Shuvu Banim yeshiva, located in the Old City’s Muslim Quarter in Jerusalem, just *ten meters* away from the Temple Mount. The Shuvu Banim is described as a “dangerous extremist group composed of [members] with criminal backgrounds, and . . . army veterans with military operational capabilities. Most of the students come from depressed communities with high unemployment, and have anarchistic mentalities and no fear of law or government.” In addition, the “extremist and charismatic personality” of the yeshiva’s head, Rabbi Eliezer Berland, “mark this group likely to take violent action regarding the Temple Mount.”

By identifying some 20 groups and their leaders by name, the Keshev report may be one of the most important contributions to peace that the international community has seen, and may serve to avert another tragedy, like the murder of Rabin by one of the Temple Mount fanatics in 1995.