

ACTION ALERT

from Greater Philadelphia ZOA

Shalom ZOA Members, Friends and Supporters of Israel,

This is a trying time for the Jewish People the world over. Nonetheless, we hope that you and your family are as well as can be given the circumstances. For those of you with dear ones in Israel, or who may yourself be in Israel now: We hope you and they are safe and secure. All of you are in our prayers and thoughts – and the focus of ZOA’s work locally and nationally.

This is a time for prayer – and many are engaged in prayer for Israel, her people and the IDF and other security services -- **and also a time for advocacy/activism** by the Jewish People and our friends and allies. There are many details below about advocacy. Also at the end of this action alert (as a graphic) are the English translations of the Prayer for the State of Israel and the Prayer for the Israel Defense Forces. In addition, please say appropriate Tehillim/Psalms. Consult your clergy.

Additional advocacy:

It is more important now than ever to engage in advocacy to help our brothers and sisters in Israel during this crisis, and to help all of the Jewish community – as the Arab and Muslim war against Jews is not limited to Israel. In fact, the Hamas charter makes clear that their war is to annihilate the Jewish People – as is Hez b’allah’s. The Palestinian Authority/PLO is no better, with its official “pay-to-slay” program. We hope that our many suggestions and action items plus fact sheets will have a positive impact.

There are four central areas where we can have impact in addition to prayer. They are: **news media, schools, elected officials** and **general information**.

It is important first that you be well-informed so that you can inform others and be an effective and credible advocate. Please see our “Sources of accurate news and information” list at: <https://philly.zoa.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/6/2023/01/web-internet-sites-updated-090120.pdf>

Also be sure to read our local and National ZOA’s emails.

It is important now to think local, where each of us can have the most impact, rather than at a diffused national level.

Where possible, it is **better to be pro-active** rather than constantly reacting to the latest media lie or statement by a politician or headline about a scourge at a university hundreds of miles away. Truthfully, we must be both pro-active and react as needed.

There is a battle for the hearts and minds of Americans. There is a tremendous amount of misinformation, biased information that favors the enemies of the Jewish People, lack of context and history, and outright lies. Closely follow local media; see/listen to/read their coverage. Call decision-makers or reporters to thank them for the positive/accurate coverage (mostly) thus far, and ask them to continue. The reason that the Palestinian-Arabs attacked the Jewish state, and the reason that the IDF must act to stop the genocidal entities will not change over time. These genocidal groups deliberately use human shields and have arsenals, rocket launchers and command centers within civilian population areas. When you read, see or hear falsehoods, mis-information, etc. – write and call as well. Be sure to write letters-to-the-editor and call-in to local talk radio to get the facts to the public.

Keep others informed with accurate information, details, facts and history – become your family’s, your friends’, your email lists’ and your social media contacts’ source of news and information.

Call local schools (K-12) – public, private, charter, religious. Ask what they are teaching about the

Arab war against the Jewish people; what materials are they using; where are they directing students to get more information – these are vitally important and impact the future as well as the present.

Call the offices of state representatives and senators, city and township leaders, etc. Try to get local resolutions passed in support of Israel; ask if they need information or more information. You can direct them to Greater Philadelphia ZOA. The same goes for those in education. Reach us at 610-660-9466, or office@zoaphilly.org.

Organize local “Buy Israel” campaigns and events to help Israel’s economy.

See more advocacy/activism strategies at the links below.

Very important to inform/remind everyone: Hamas and PA/PLO two sides of same coin. There are no “good guys.” The PA/PLO has an official “pay to slay” policy to incentivize/reward its people for murdering Jews. The PA/PLO has yet to condemn Hamas for its savagery and murders of Oct. 7.

It is important that we in America practice situational awareness, be up-to-date on self-defense training – and if you see or learn of any suspicious activity, call the police or FBI immediately.

Donate:

We ask that you help Greater Philadelphia ZOA with our advocacy efforts. Donate online at <https://zoa.org/donate/philly/> or by check to: PO Box 56, Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004.

There are tremendous on-the-ground needs in Israel for troops, civilians and medical needs. Below are some (not a comprehensive list) places where you can help directly (listing does not imply endorsement) (List provided by a source in Israel):

Friends of the IDF: fidf.org - they need helmets and Kevlar.

Magen David Adom: need armored ambulances - AFMDA.org

United Hatzala - IsraelRescue.org - needs protective vests and helmets, oxygen tanks, defibrillators, trauma bandages, and tourniquets.

One Israel Fund - OneIsraelFund.org - need armored vests, helmets, drones, communications equipment, searchlights and medical kits.

Ari Fuld Foundation - AriFuld.org - needs mission critical tactical equipment for soldiers

See below the Prayer for Israel

Fact Sheets:

<https://zoa.org/fact-sheets/>

<https://zoa.org/biblical-history/>

Facts about the U.S.-Israel relationship: <https://philly.zoa.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/6/2023/06/america-and-israel-allies-and-san-remo-updated-063023.pdf>

Advocacy resources:

Media Action Guide: <https://philly.zoa.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/6/2023/05/MEDIA-ACTION-GUIDE-march-2023-update-032123.pdf>

Contacting Congress: <https://philly.zoa.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/6/2023/07/contacting-congress-and-leaders-updated-032023.pdf>

For state officials:

<https://www.legis.state.pa.us/>

<https://www.njleg.state.nj.us/>

<https://legis.delaware.gov/>

Consult your city, municipality or township for local officials.

Sources of accurate news and information: <https://philly.zoa.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/6/2023/01/web-internet-sites-updated-090120.pdf>

Advocacy How-To information:

Advocacy how-to: <https://philly.zoa.org/join-zoa-philly/advocacyactivism-how-to/>

Advocacy Checklist: <https://philly.zoa.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/6/2023/10/advocacy-checklist.pdf>

Advocacy Pro-Active and Reactive: <https://philly.zoa.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/6/2023/10/advocacy-suggestions-strategy-flyer.pdf>

Advocacy/Activism Chart: <https://philly.zoa.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/6/2023/10/advocacy-activism-strategy-graphic-webinar.pdf>

PRAYER FOR THE STATE OF ISRAEL

Our Father Who art in Heaven, Protector and Redeemer of Israel, bless Thou the State of Israel which marks the dawn of our deliverance. Shield it beneath the wings of Thy love. Spread over it Thy canopy of peace; send Thy light and Thy truth to its leaders, officers, and counselors, and direct them with Thy good counsel.

O God, strengthen the defenders of our Holy Land; grant them salvation and crown them with victory. Establish peace in the land, and everlasting joy for its inhabitants.

Remember our brethren, the whole house of Israel, in all the lands of their dispersion. Speedily let them walk upright to Zion, the city, to Jerusalem Thy dwelling-place, as it is written in the Torah of Thy servant Moses: "Even if you are dispersed in the uttermost parts of the world, from there the Lord your God will gather and fetch you. The Lord your God will bring you into the land which your fathers possessed, and you shall possess it."

Unite our heart to love and revere Thy Name, and to observe all the precepts of Thy Torah. Shine forth in Thy glorious majesty over all the inhabitants of Thy world. Let everything that breathes proclaim: "The Lord God of Israel is King; His majesty rules over all." Amen.



PRAYER FOR THE ISRAEL DEFENSE FORCES

He Who blessed our forefathers Abraham, Isaac and Jacob -- may He bless the fighters of the Israel Defense Forces, who stand guard over our land and the cities of our God, from the border of the Lebanon to the desert of Egypt, and from the Great Sea unto the approach of the Aravah, on the land, in the air, and on the sea.

May the Almighty cause the enemies who rise up against us to be struck down before them. May the Holy One, Blessed is He, preserve and rescue our fighters from every trouble and distress and from every plague and illness, and may He send blessing and success in their every endeavor.

May He lead our enemies under our soldiers' sway and may He grant them salvation and crown them with victory. And may there be fulfilled for them the verse: For it is the Lord your God, Who goes with you to battle your enemies for you to save you.

Now let us respond: Amen.