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'Access Islam' introduced for millions US public school children

August 3, 2017 Arutz Sheva 7 reported: ""A program called 'Access Islam' is being introduced as an educational religious program for millions of children in public schools across America, reports Creeping Sharia. The initial phase of the program involves the basic tenets of Islam, called the five pillars of Islam. According to the Access Islam syllabus, 'students explore and understand the basic beliefs of Islam as well as the Five Pillars that guide Muslims in their daily life.'..."



Iran's Rouhani vows to end isolation as he starts second term

August 3, 2017 The Times of Israel reports: "Iran's President Hassan Rouhani vowed to continue his efforts to end the country's isolation as he was sworn in for a second term on Thursday by supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.

'We will never accept isolation,' Rouhani told a packed audience of Iranian political and military officials in Tehran.

'The nuclear deal is a sign of Iran's goodwill on the international stage,' he said, referring to the 2015 agreement with world powers to curb its atomic program in exchange for an easing of sanctions..."

US, Europeans push UN for action over Iran rocket launch

August 2, 2017 spacedaily.com reported: "The United States, backed by France, Britain and Germany, on Wednesday pushed for action at the UN Security Council following Iran's launch of a satellite that all four countries described as a threatening and provocative step.

US Ambassador Nikki Haley argued in a letter to the Security Council that the Simorgh space launch vehicle system, "if configured as a ballistic missile," would have a range and enough payload capacity to carry a nuclear warhead.

"This launch therefore represents a threatening and provocative step by Iran," said the letter from Haley on behalf of the four countries.

Iran launched the rocket on July 27, prompting the United States to impose sanctions on six companies that Washington said were linked to Iran's missile program.

"Iran's longstanding program to develop ballistic missiles continues to be inconsistent with UN Security Council Resolution 2231 and has a destabilizing effect in the region," said the letter seen by AFP. Resolution 2231 was passed two years ago to endorse a landmark 2015 nuclear deal between Iran, Britain, China, France, Germany, Russia and the United States.

Under that resolution which lifted sanctions in exchange for curbs on Iran's nuclear program, Tehran is "called upon" to refrain from carrying out launches of missiles capable of delivering nuclear weapons. Iran has repeatedly said that it is not seeking to develop nuclear weapons and is not in violation of the resolution.

President Donald Trump has threatened to scrap the nuclear agreement, but Britain, France and Germany have defended it and argued to the US administration that it should be salvaged."..."

173-man ISIS team headed to Europe

August 2, 2017 Arutz Sheva 7 reported: "A report released two weeks ago by Interpol publicized identifying information of 173 Islamic State operatives suspected to be headed towards – or already in – Europe, according to PJ Media.

The report warns that it's easier for non-European operatives to slip into the continent than for European members of the terror group.

Today, a new report from Belgian media outlet HLN provides additional details on these ISIS operatives, and on one known Belgian operative in particular.

On the list of 173 ISIS terrorists on their way to Europe to commit suicide bombings there is also a Belgian. He is a 24-year-old with Moroccan roots who is called 'Abu Omar Al-Belgiki.' The dual-nationality Belgian remained until recently in Mosul, the Iraqi bulwark from which ISIS was recently expelled. He has never appeared in public before..."



August 2, 2017 dailymail.co.uk reported: "A pioneering technique to 'fix' an embryo's faulty DNA was unveiled by scientists last night. In a world first, they used gene-editing to cut out DNA from a fertilised egg.

The embryo then repaired itself, replacing the mutated material with healthy cells. The technique worked on three quarters of the 58 embryos it was tried on. It has the potential to revolutionise medicine and could lead to the eradication of inherited diseases such as cystic fibrosis and breast cancer.

Campaigners warned however that it might also open the door to 'superior designer babies', with genes modified to improve physical appearance, strength or even intelligence."..."

Baghdad churches close as Iraq's Christians continue to leave

August 1, 2017 ChristianToday.com reported: "Eight churches in Baghdad have closed their doors permanently due to the mass exodus of believers from Iraq. The decision, made by the Vatican earlier this year, comes after seven years of falling or no attendance and is symbolic of the wholesale emigration of Christians from the Middle East.



Amounting to nearly 10 per cent of Iraq's population at the start of the 21st century, Christians made up 40 per cent of those fleeing from the start of the Iraq War in 2003 to 2007, leaving just a handful behind.

International Christian Concern, a persecution charity, has documented this decline and points to three stages of Christians fleeing Iraq, the first from 2005-2007, the second in 2010 when extremists attacked a church during Sunday mass and the third stage in 2014 when ISIS attacked the Nineveh Plain.

As Iraq descended into sectarian conflict between Sunni and Shia groups after the removal of Saddam Hussein, Christians became an easy target for both sides, ICC says..."

'Everyone here tonight proved that they want a Third Temple'

August 1, 2017 Arutz Sheva 7 reported: "Thousands of Israelis converged on Jerusalem's Old City Monday night, marching around the walls of Jerusalem to commemorate the destruction of the Temple. The event has taken place every year since 1994, but was almost canceled by the police due to fears of Arab violence.

Despite information received by the police of calls on Facebook to 'Stop the settlers from walking to the Western Wall', Jerusalem Police District Commander Yoram Halevi decided not to prevent the traditional event from taking place, and gave the go-ahead...

MK Glick, a noted Temple Mount activist, focused his speech on the recent terror attacks that rocked Israel. 'This past year, the police have paid a very high price. Five policemen were killed here' he said. 'We've gotten to the root of everything, the Temple Mount'

Glick noted the sharp increase of Jewish visitors on the Temple Mount. calling it a miracle, along with the re-settlement of Judea and Samaria saying that 'The IDF can defeat its enemies in battle, but those who give them the power to win are the people tonight, mothers and children who are putting facts on the ground.'

Deputy Defense Minister Eli Ben Dahan echoed Glick's remarks, saying that 'everyone who came here tonight proved with his feet that we want the Temple back – and quickly.'..."

Thousands of Anti-Israel Islamists in Turkey Protest: 'Hit, Hit Zionists'

August 1, 2017 Breitbart.com reported: "Thousands of Turkish anti-Israel Islamists took to the streets in Istanbul Sunday to protest Israel's since-removed security measures on the Temple Mount, while a jingle blasting from loudspeakers declared, 'Hit, hit Zionists.'

The protestors, supporters of the religiously conservative Muslim party Saadat, waved Turkish and Palestinian flags at what was billed the 'Great Jerusalem Meeting' under the slogan 'Israel understands a show of strength.' They also chanted 'Istanbul and Jerusalem are arm-in-arm.'

The Islamist party's leader, Temel Karamollaoglu, told the crowd that Muslims would not give up on Jerusalem, AFP reported. One protestor said he hoped 'Israel will get the message.'..."

Iranian leader calls on Hajj pilgrims to support Palestine

July 31, 2017 The Jerusalem Post reported: "Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei has called on Muslims to take the opportunity of the Hajj rituals to take a united stance against 'Israeli efforts to control the Aksa Mosque.'

The Iranian leader described Hajj rituals as the best opportunity for Muslims to speak up about the Aksa and Palestine issue, Iranian media reported.

'Where can the Islamic Ummah find a better venue than Hajj to comment on the Aksa Mosque?' he said addressing a group of Iranian organizers of Hajj on Sunday. He further accused the US of meddling in the issues of Muslim countries and creating terrorist groups in the region..."

More than half the continental US is within range of latest North Korean missile test, defense experts say

July 31, 2017 CNBC.com reported: "North Korea tested an intercontinental ballistic missile Friday, which defense experts say could reach as far as New York or other U.S. East Coast cities. The most recent test lofted the North Korean missile on a very high trajectory, bringing it down in the Sea of Japan. Preliminary data from the launch reveals that half, if not most, of the continental U.S. would be in range of the missile tested Friday.

'Looks like it pretty much can get to New York, Boston and probably falls just short of Washington,' David Wright, co-director and senior scientist for the Global Security Program at the Union of Concerned Scientists, told CNBC..."

Xi Calls for Strong Army, Tells China Troops 'World Isn't Safe'

July 31, 2017 Bloomberg.com reported: "President Xi Jinping said China needs to speed up the modernization of its military to fend off threats in increasingly dangerous times.

'The world isn't safe at this moment' Xi, wearing a camouflauge military uniform, said on Sunday after riding in an open jeep at an army parade in Inner Mongolia. 'A strong army is needed now more than ever.'

The speech came just hours after U.S. President Donald Trump lambasted China for failing to do more to stop North Korea's nuclear program, saying 'we will no longer allow this to continue.'

North Korea, which relies on ally China for food and fuel, test-fired a second intercontinental ballistic missile late on Friday night..."