

## Israel Advocacy Club Update

Nomenclature as the “Third Intifada,” a wave of violence has devastated Israel for the past three weeks. The primary source for this Palestinian uprising is the ongoing dispute about whether Jews should be allowed to visit and pray at the Temple Mount, a site holy to both Jews and Muslims.

This past Monday, we marked the assassination of former Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. In 1995, two years after signing the Oslo Accords with PLO leader Yasser Arafat to end the First Intifada, he was murdered at a peace rally by an Orthodox Jew. This sparked sudden controversy as to whether or not the Israelis truly hoped for peace. Ironically, 20 years later, we have yet to come to a real agreement with the Palestinians and are in the midst of yet another uprising. Education Minister Bennett said, "Especially now, in these times of intolerance and incitement, the message stemming from Rabin's assassination is as relevant as ever: 'No violence – ever.'"

(See last week's Bulldog Print for a more detailed report on the recent wave of violence)



In other news, 15,000 Israeli homes in the cities of Kfar Saba, Raanana, and Hertzliya are living without power due to the recent flooding damaging the electrical lines, interrupting the daily routines of many.

Did you know?

- The owner of the “Hummus Bar” near Netanya is offering discounts for Jews and Arabs who sit together.
- To attract tourists in the midst of chaos, Israel has begun offering discounted eight-day vacations as low as \$999 via Groupon.
- Relative to its population, Israel is the largest immigrant-absorbing nation on earth. Immigrants come in search of democracy, religious freedom, and economic opportunity.
- 20,000 Israeli citizens have sued Facebook, saying it is intentionally disregarding the widespread provocation and calls for the encouragement of the murder of Jews being posted on its web pages by Palestinians that Facebook refuses to take down. They are asking the social media site to self-monitor and block all incitement.
- Walmart removed a pro-Israel IDF-themed costume from their website because activists deemed it to be “problematic”, but is continuing to sell a keffiyah head wrap. In response, the Israel Project has accused Walmart of being supportive of the Jewish state.

Here is a poem that reflects on the recent violence: <http://www.haaretz.com/israel-news/culture/poem-of-the-week/1.679841>