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Subject: AICE Update: Does the Pope Consider Abbas an 'Angel of Peace'?

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The American-Israeli Cooperative Enterprise

Our 20th Year E-Newsletter



May 20, 2015

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THIS WEEK IN JEWISH HISTORY

[Birthday of Israeli War
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[U.S. Senate Passes
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\(2012\)](#)

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History Events](#)

AICE PROJECTS



Myths & Facts: Online Exclusive

Does the Pope Consider Mahmoud Abbas an 'Angel of Peace' ?

A furor erupted after a number of news agencies reported that during an audience with Mahmoud Abbas, Pope Francis referred to him as "an angel of peace." As a man whose life is devoted to forgiveness, it was not entirely shocking that the Pope would make such a statement.

Nevertheless, people familiar with Abbas's history as a Holocaust denier, PLO leader during the height of the organization's terrorist activities, and a continuing inciter and glorifier of violence were taken aback. The fact that Abbas has shown no inclination to make peace, or even to negotiate, for the last six years, has ruthlessly suppressed his opponents, and abused his own people by his dictatorial rule has made him a more appropriate candidate for the angel of death.

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[Myths &
Facts: 2012](#)

Mitchell Bard in the Times of Israel

Israel Closer to the Arabs than the West

Since it became an independent state, Israel has been at war with all or most of the Arab world and allied with the West. The reasons are that Israel shares the same values and similar interests with the West. Today, however, the West, led by the United States, has lost its way and seems unclear of its interests, whereas the moderate Arab states suddenly find their interests are in sync.

Certain realities have not changed. Israel's democratic and ethical values remain alien to the Arab world. Similarly, the West has not shifted its principal interest in securing oil supplies and expanding trade in the Middle East. Another constant is that the West remains largely clueless about the dynamics of the region while the Israelis and Arabs share an intimate knowledge of who they are and who threatens them.

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Fact of the Week

Netanyahu Reveals the Cabinet Ministers for the 34th Government of Israel

The Knesset narrowly approved Prime Minister [Benjamin Netanyahu](#)'s new government in a 61-59 vote. Netanyahu's own [Likud](#) party formed a center-right governing coalition with [Shas](#), [Kulanu](#), [United Torah Judaism](#), and [HaBayit HaYehudi](#).

[Read More about the 34th Knesset at the Jewish Virtual Library](#)

Jerusalem Day 2015

[Western Wall](#)

[Happy Birthday Jerusalem](#)

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Sincerely,



Mitchell Bard
AICE Executive Director



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