

President Obama's Anti-Israelism Dissected



President Barack Obama and *Atlantic's* Jeffrey Goldberg in Oval Office

This past Memorial Day Weekend Jews observed the Festival of Shavuot (spring harvest festival) celebrating the giving of the law by Moses (Moshe rabbenu "Moses our teacher") to the assembly of ancient Hebrews and others in the exodus multitude gathered under the mountain. Just prior to Shavuot

President Obama gave his 'drash' (commentary) on relationships with Israel its existential enemies and the Jewish people in two pre-holiday events. The first was his [interview](#) with *Atlantic's* Jeffrey Goldberg on Israel, ISIS and Iran while the second was his appearance last Friday morning at Washington Conservative synagogue, [Adas Israel Congregation](#) ,where he spoke to a gathering 1,200 progressive Jews, including Goldberg. He suggested in his synagogue remarks that some in the progressive American Jewish community consider him perhaps the first "Jewish President". That would likely support the opinion of Obama by redoubtable NER colleague, Dr. Richard L. Rubenstein, noted theologian, scholar and author of *Jihad and Genocide* and other noted post Holocaust works. Rubenstein took the measure of Obama early on in our June 2010 NER interview posted on You Tube calling Obama, "the most radical President ever". [Watch](#) it here.

Both Vic Rosenthal's *Abu Yehuda* blog post, ["For Obama it's a Moral Crusade"](#) and Brett Stephens' Tuesday *Wall Street Journal* column, ["The Rational Ayatollah Hypothesis"](#) suggest that the President's comments sinuously convey anti-Israelism.

Rosenthal gives the following evidence:

Some of the reasons I and others find Obama anti-Israel are these:

1. His stubborn attempts to force Israel into a suicidal agreement with the Palestinians.
2. His acceptance (regardless of his words) of a nuclear-armed Iran, and his efforts to stop Israel from acting against it.
3. His open contempt for our Prime Minister.
4. His taking the Turkish president's side in the Mavi Marmara affair, and forcing PM Netanyahu to apologize to the Turks.
5. His acceptance of Hamas claims that the IDF acted 'disproportionally' in Gaza (as shown by his demand for an immediate cease-fire and imposition of an arms embargo during the recent war).
6. The aforementioned leaks about Israeli actions in Syria and elsewhere.
7. His acceptance of the anti-Israel narrative that Israel's right to exist rests on the Holocaust and that it must be balanced against the rights of the 'deserving' Palestinians (as expressed in his 2009 Cairo speech).
8. His attempts to interfere in Israeli politics, including trying to defeat Netanyahu at the polls. It's ironic that American money was used to help get out the presumably anti-Netanyahu Arab vote – and then Obama bitterly criticized Netanyahu for telling his supporters that they should get out and vote because the Arabs were!
9. The double standard he displays: compare his condemnation of the PM for his election-day remark with

his lack of response to the daily barrage of Israel-hatred and veneration of terrorists coming from the official Palestinian media. Or look at his expressed concern for Palestinians suffering the indignities of checkpoints against his failure to mention the almost daily Jewish victims of Palestinian terrorism.

I could go on, but this should be enough to show that the belief that Obama is anti-Israel is substantive, not simply a political reflex as he suggests.

Stephens provides additional evidence:

Can there be a rational, negotiable, relatively reasonable bigot? [Barack Obama](#) thinks so.

So we learn from the president's