

Maoz Israel Prayer Letter - July 3, 2019

Dear Maoz Partner,

On Sunday evening, a young off-duty police officer shot and killed a 17-year-old Ethiopian boy, Solomon Takah, who was hanging out with friends. The officer, the boys, and a few other people gave contradicting accounts of what happened. The officer claims he fired the shot - in self-defense - toward the ground, and the bullet must have ricocheted into Solomon's chest. The boys say he was aiming right at them, and are not sure why the officer pulled his weapon out in the first place. The officer was released to a home arrest, and for the last two days, thousands of Ethiopian Jews - young and old - have been protesting in the streets. Yesterday they blocked major junctions and highways, keeping tens of thousands of Israelis stranded for over five hours. At first the protests were peaceful and the police did not intervene. However, at some point, they began to burn tires, trash cans, and even cars, provoking the police with throwing stones and even Molotov cocktails. Violence erupted in several cities and the police had to use force and make arrests. The violence continued way past midnight and is expected to resume this afternoon.

This week many Israelis are doing some soul-searching on what our society has become and where it is headed. God has always held this nation to a higher moral standard, commanding us to not only treat our brothers well, but also the strangers among us. It seems this moral code has disintegrated, and we, as a nation, must come together in order to mend the wounds and become ONE PEOPLE once again.

We continue to daily pray for Israel's salvation. Please also join us in prayer this week:

For the Ethiopian community and their protests. As a democratic country, Israel has the right to protest. However, most Israelis would agree that disrupting traffic for hours at a time, physical violence, vandalism and anarchy should not be part of that right. Pray for all violence to stop and for the protests to be peaceful. Pray for protection for all sides during the protests. Pray for comfort for Solomon's family. Pray for an untainted investigation of the shooting. Pray against racial discrimination, which, sadly, does exist in Israel.

For the September elections. It looks like these elections are going to happen after all. The biggest political news of the week is that Ehud Barak, Israel's former Prime Minister who offered at least part of the Golan Heights to Syria during his term, has announced he is forming a new left-wing political party. Please pray for the Lord's will for these elections. Pray for wisdom for believers on how to vote, and how to pray.

For safety on Israel's borders. The balloon terror continues despite an announcement of an agreement reached between Israel and Hamas in Gaza. Earlier this week the Israeli Air Force executed an extensive attack against Iranian targets in Syria... again. Pray for the Lord's protection for Israel! May His angels and hosts guard this land and all of us residing here according to God's promise.

For Ari, Shira, Kobi, Shani, and the Maoz team around the world. Pray for inspiration and anointing for Shira as she works on the next issue of the Maoz Israel Report.

Pray for Ari, who is at the MJAA's Messiah Conference this week. Pray for the Lord to give them the message the Messianic community in the U.S. and other countries need to hear.

Kobi, Shani, and their five children are also in the U.S. for the next few weeks. Pray for safety and health as they travel - especially for the children! Pray for divine appointments and open doors wherever they go. Pray for this trip to be a catalyst for strengthening ties between Israeli and American believers.

Also please continue to pray for wisdom in every decision and every project of Maoz. May each step be ordained by the Lord!

For the Lord to expand the reach of Maoz here in Israel and around the world.

For the "Narrated Bible in Chronological Order" project.

For our media and music projects.

For the Music Making For Kids program. Pray for all preparations and arrangements for the next school year.

For the Hebrew Books department.

For all children's and youth camps for believers this summer. May the Lord ignite His fire in their hearts, and raise up a strong generation of future leaders.

For the body of believers in Israel. Pray especially for grown-up children from families of believers. Many of them are not currently walking with the Lord. Pray for Him to bring them back, revealing to them His love and mercy, and His truth, will, and way. Pray for godly wisdom for believing parents on how to raise their children in our faith.

For Beit Hallel Congregation in Ashdod and other persecuted believers in the Land.

For our Arab brothers and sisters in Messiah.

For a project involving international TV programs. Pray for godly wisdom, anointing and favor for everyone involved. Pray for the Lord's protection for the production process. Pray for open doors for the further distribution of these programs - ***several are opening!!!*** Pray for each program to bring revelation about Israel to viewers all around the world.

From Maoz Israel UK: Thank you for your prayers for our trustees meeting and Shira's visit last week. We had a fruitful time and Shira's two speaking engagements went very well. Thank you to those who were able to join us.

We in the UK office and our trustees invite you to consider joining us in prayer during the next couple of months that our Provider God will miraculously bring in financial gifts, so that His Kingdom can be built in Israel even more. We thank you for all your faithful prayer support - past, present and future.

This coming weekend Brian is speaking at Abertridwr Community Church, 2 Thomas St, Abertridwr, Caerphilly CF83 4AZ - at both their morning and evening service. Please pray for our visit, and join us if you are local.

Thank you for standing with us. Thank you for praying for us. Thank you for the time you're investing in intercession for Israel and Maoz. We bless you in the precious name of Messiah Yeshua.

Shalom from Tel Aviv!

Katy Smith For the Maoz Israel Ministries Team