

# Kingdom Report

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## Israel's Future Dependent on Three Mega-Projects

For those who do not believe in eschatological Zionism the "realpolitic" of Israel's future as a nation state depends on 3 major projects planned by the Israeli "deep state". Gaza and the West Bank prevent all three. My suggestion on how to solve the Middle East crisis.

For evangelical Zionists who equate modern day Israel with the prophecies of Ezekiel 37-39 and therefore try to figure out "end times" enemies or friends of Israel this is a confusing time. However they all are agreed on Iran and Russia, The problem is Russia is very "iffy" and so are most of the other purported enemies list like the coming Antichrist out of the European Union.

As one who does not believe in or hold to evangelical Zionism and its associated "end times" prophecies, but does believe in the right of Israel to exist as a nation state and also hopes and prays that the Jews accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour (along with the Arab Muslim population).....let me instead give you a "realpolitic" analysis of Israel and the geopolitical moves now taking place. And that need to be taken.

My point: As a viable nation state Israel under current conditions especially after the Gaza invasion and international furor and the economic consequences from all this, Israel cannot maintain a viable united society, and a growing economy. The majority of Israeli's are non-believers and don't buy into a "Biblical Greater Israel" neither do the vast Jewish community in America that support Israel. And the Orthodox Jewish population is not big enough or rich enough to maintain a military necessary for "greater Israel" expansion or even Israeli deterrence.

In the world of "Real Politics" (Kissinger, Mearsheimer, Bismarck, Nixon et.al.) nations do not have permanent friends or enemies, they have permanent interests and therefore act according to national interests.

Israel deep state planners know this. They need to change facts on the ground to re-align the national interests of nations around them from confrontation to cooperation. Especially now that the "Abrahamic Accords" are dead and world sentiment is turning against Israel.

The long term strategic plans of Israel revolve around three mega projects to secure Israel's economy and re-align its friend and enemy relations. I will list the three with brief description but if you are interested in further information it is available with a Google search. I want to concentrate on the implications for Israel and its interests:

The three are:

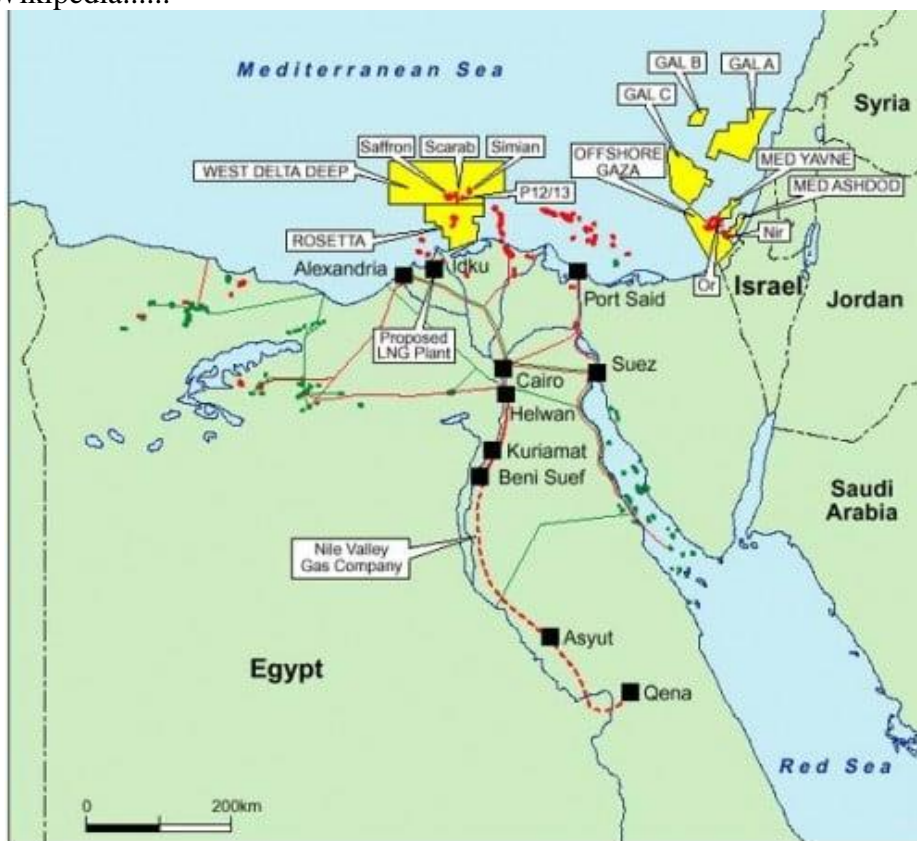
- 1) The Gaza offshore oil and gas major energy fields.
- 2) The Iraq Haifa Oil Pipeline
- 3) The Ben Gurion Canal linking the Red Sea and the Mediterranean Sea.

All three of these major economic and strategic projects for Israel's future are prevented by the existence and blockage of Gaza and the West Bank Palestinian state. Meaning Israel has one of two options:

- 1) Remove the Palestinian people out of the way.
- 2) Cooperate with the Palestinians to jointly develop these projects either in a two state solution or a one state made up of both Jews and Arab citizens.

## 1) The Gaza Offshore Oil and Gas Bonanza

From Wikipedia.....



*Discovered in 2000, there are extensive gas reserves off the Gaza coastline.*

*British Gas (BG Group) and its partner, the Athens based Consolidated Contractors International Company (CCC) owned by Lebanon's Sabbagh and Koury families, were granted oil and gas exploration rights in a 25 year agreement signed in November 1999 with the Palestinian Authority.*

*The rights to the offshore gas field are respectively British Gas (60 percent); Consolidated Contractors (CCC) (30 percent); and the Investment Fund of the Palestinian Authority (10 percent). (Haaretz, October 21, 2007).*

*The PA-BG-CCC agreement includes field development and the construction of a gas pipeline. (Middle East Economic Digest, Jan 5, 2001).*

*The BG licence covers the entire Gazan offshore marine area, which is contiguous to several Israeli offshore gas facilities. (See Map above). It should be noted that 60 percent of the gas reserves along the Gaza-Israel coastline belong to Palestine.*

*The BG Group drilled two wells in 2000: Gaza Marine-1 and Gaza Marine-2. Reserves are estimated by British Gas to be of the order of 1.4 trillion cubic feet and 1,2 billion barrels of oil.. These are the figures made public by British Gas. The size of Palestine's gas reserves could be much larger.*

As you can see from this article it happens that the 25 year exclusive agreement with the Palestine Authority over these gas and oil fields signed in 1999 expire in 2024. Gaza war coincidence? If Israel had allowed the Palestinian authority to develop these fields they would have been very wealthy.

## 2) The Iraq Haifa Oil Pipeline

The Iraq to Haifa oil pipeline was a historical project that aimed to transport crude oil from the Kirkuk oil fields in northern Iraq to the port of Haifa in Palestine (now Israel). The pipeline was built and operated by the Iraq Petroleum Company between 1932 and 1948, when it was shut down due to the Arab-Israeli conflict. The pipeline was about 942 km long and had a capacity of 30 million barrels per year. The pipeline was strategically important for the British and American forces during World War II, but also a target of attacks by Arab and Jewish groups.



If the Iraq-Haifa pipeline project were to be revived, along with a parallel railway line and highway, the entire region would see a fundamental change in its political and economic conditions.

Assuming a relaxation of political tensions, extension of this Iraq-Haifa pipeline and parallel roads and railways connecting Baghdad to Haifa would bring mutual benefits for all parties. Iraq would gain shorter and easier trading access to ports on the Mediterranean Sea, with a pipeline just 760km and railway just 910km long, providing more direct routes to European and American markets and reducing

transportation cost of imports. Both projects would allow Iraqi imports to arrive directly at Haifa Port from Europe and the Americas, bypassing the current route involving three seas and politically fraught chokepoints in the Bab al-Mandab Strait and the Strait of Hormuz.

If you are wondering why America still has 8 military bases in Iraq and most of them on the border with Syria, its because they want to see a new larger pipeline built moving Iraqi oil through Jordan and Israel to Europe and America and away from threats by Iran at the Straits of Hormuz of interdiction. Jordan supports Israel and America on this project.

Now you also know why Russia controls the sea port of Syria and has stationed its airforce and navy there. They and Syria want an Iraq to Syria oil pipeline.

### **3) The Ben Gurion Canal Project**

The idea of Ben Gurion canal, although proposed many years ago, surfaced again at a time when the Abraham Accords had radically changed the political landscape of the sensitive region. On 20th October 2020, the unthinkable happened when the Israeli state-owned Europe Asia Pipeline Company (EAPC) and the UAE-based MED-RED Land Bridge inked an arrangement to use the Eilat-Ashkelon pipeline to move oil from the Red Sea to the Mediterranean.

On 2 April 2021, Israel announced that work on the Ben Gurion Canal is expected to begin by June 2021. The initial reference to the Ben Gurion Canal was published about two years back in Hebrew language publications. As per the sources, Israel will build the canal from Eilat on the Red Sea to the Mediterranean. Unlike the Suez Canal, the Israeli canal would handle ships going in both directions. This will be achieved by the creation of two canals. Unlike the Suez Canal which is along the sandy shores, the Israeli canal will have rocky walls which means that it scarcely requires maintenance. Israel plans to build small cities, hotels, restaurants and nightclubs along the canal. Each proposed canal is about 50 meters in depth and about 200 meters in width. They will be 10 meters deeper than the Suez Canal. A ship with a length of 300 meters and a width of 110 meters, which is the largest size of ships in the world, will be able to pass through the canal

The canal construction will take about 5 odd years involving about and 300,000 engineers and technicians who will be recruited from around the world. Israel has projected an income of about USD 6 billion a year or more from the canal. This is in addition to the fact that Israel will have the largest artery connecting the Mediterranean with the Red Sea. The cost of making this canal is estimated to be between \$16 billion to \$55 billion depending upon sources.

Connecting the port of Eilat in the Red Sea with the Mediterranean to allow not only ships but an oil pipeline for Kuwait, and Saudi oil to bypass Hormuz and into the UK and American markets, plus rail tracks for goods shipment would be a strategic of international importance for Israel.

However here is the problem. The only possible connecting port for Israel on the Mediterranean sea would have to be the Port of Gaza. For Israel to complete this project they would need to clear out Gaza City and any possible Hamas threats to the shipping and pipeline.

Now do you wonder why the present Israeli bombing of the northern Gaza strip seems to be a mass leveling of all buildings making any return of Palestinians impossible. This is all absolutely necessary if you want to build a huge double canal, a rail way, an oil pipeline and a new sea port to handle all this economic traffic.

Now for some of my geo-political speculation based on "Real Politic":

Besides Israel who else would clearly benefit from the success of these three Israeli projects and thereby become the new friends of Israel and who would not be for it?

Iraq basically does not care whether their pipeline and rail connection to the Mediterranean goes through Syria or Israel. They would prefer Syria but they can't get America to pack up their military bases and go home. So if it must be through Jordan and Israel, fine just get it done.

Jordan desperately needs this pipeline for energy independence and a secure trade corridor to the Mediterranean sea.

Saudi Arabia is building the mega city of NEOM where Saudi and Iraq and Israel meet at Eilat. This is to be their "Dubai" like commercial and international business center. A separation of "Mosque and State" with Mullahs running Jeddah but commercial interest and young people drawn to NEOM. If Israel can pull off this Ben Gurion canal then the Saudi NEOM city project will be right there to greatly benefit in both shipping, commerce, tourism and oil movements.

Kuwait as well gets a better exit point for their oil shipments to Europe.

Egypt will have to just accept they have competition with a new canal. However they and Israel are partnering together on the exploitation of the vast gas deposits along the coastline and are joining their productions in a joint pipeline project of gas to Europe. Israel intends developing the Gaza gas fields along with their own and connect both to Egypt.

Europe is all in on all three projects and see major opportunities for secure energy supplies as well as new secure trade corridors.

### **My Suggested Solution: Palestinians/Hezbollah and Lebanon**

Jesus said blessed are the peacemakers. So instead of bombing Iran and starting Armageddon hoping and praying for Jesus to appear and save Israel I suggest the following keeping the following in mind:

Israel needs to eliminate Hamas as a threat on their borders.  
The Palestinians of Gaza need a home and be separated from the destruction of

Hamas.

There is no two state solution to Israel's security needs...not after this Gaza war. Israel is going to level the Gaza strip and basically make it unlivable for the refugees. Israel is well on its way to making the West Bank non-viable for both a Palestinian state as well as a place where the Palestinians can have a secure and prosperous future.

Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia and all other Arab states have said no to permanently housing the Palestinians.

What to do with the Palestinians? And how can Israel secure her borders and secure her security and economic future?

### **My suggestion: What about permanent home in Lebanon?**

Hezbollah in Lebanon were a Palestinian refugee people living in Jordan until this faction tried to topple the king of Jordan and make Jordan into a Palestinian state. They lost the war with Jordan and had to flee to settle in southern Lebanon. However through the years attacking Israel is getting less priority. Instead they dug in permanently in Lebanon as citizens and became politically active there to where today they are part of the governing coalitions of Lebanon.

The situation in Lebanon's economy is beyond critical. The Lebanese political and economic have for decades absolutely looted the finances of the nation until all the international reserves of their central bank are gone. Gone also are most of the corrupt elite to where they have hidden their loot overseas. Then someone blew up Beirut's harbor complex. Today Lebanon is a non-functioning narco-state. And Hezbollah is now the most powerful military force in Lebanon. Meaning if they simply want to take over the nation they can anytime.

Now consider the following : The Hezbollah leader in his recent announcement on the Gaza war was purposely vague. Yes they support Hamas but they had nothing to do with the attack and they are not going to invade Israel he says. Keep in mind that Hamas and Hezbollah are religious and ideological enemies. They have fought each other. Hamas is aligned with Turkey and the Muslim Brotherhood and Hezbollah is Shiite and supported by Iran. But Iran wants to pursue profit and economics and I think Hezbollah is in no mood to commit suicide by invading Israel. Instead I believe they have their eyes on Lebanon as their future Palestinian state.

I would not be surprised if the many nations that want to profit by the Israeli infrastructure developments will make a deal with Hezbollah and promise them billions in finance if they take in the Gaza and West Bank Palestinians and in the next elections in Lebanon overwhelm the ballot box, elect a Palestinian national leadership and declare a Palestinian state.

And the Lebanese Druze and Christian people? The world would far rather deal with Lebanese refugees for resettlement than Palestinian refugees by the millions.

Nobody actually wants to see the Middle East blow up in a regional war. China has stepped in to all the Muslim states and said enough....we want peace and trade, get your ancient battles settled with treaties and lets all make money. They got Iran and Saudi's around the table, everyone else is following.

What could destroy this whole scenario of new economic interest partnerships between Israel and neighbors? If American religious Zionists join with Israeli religious Zionists and say among themselves...."We are Israel God's chosen people, God is with us....we must bomb and destroy Iran?".

This is how king Zedekiah got Jerusalem and the kingdom of Judah destroyed by Babylon in 586 BC. (We have the temple and the ark, and God will defend Jerusalem)

This is now the greatest revival king of Israel, Josiah got killed starting a war with Egypt in 604 BC (When the Pharaoh warned him leave us alone we have no war with you!)

This is how over a million Jews were slaughtered in Jerusalem in 70 AD by Rome (The Messiah, son of David will appear to save us, for we are Israel and God is with us).

And now I increasingly hear out of America how politicians and evangelicals are all calling for war with Iran....bomb Iran because God is with Israel we will prevail!

There is a political and economic solution to bring all the factions in the Middle East together and find new alliances for economic prosperity. There is a place for everyone and if we can get secure borders for Israel, a permanent home for the Palestinians (i.e. Lebanon) then a prosperous secure Israel can be the catalyst for a great economic resurgence for the whole Middle East.

We evangelicals need to be the peacemakers. We need to help with solutions based on "real politic" of everyone's interests....not judgments made on our preferred eschatology.

There is disaster ahead if we persist in this direction.