

# Why Israeli hospitals are like no others in the world

**S**haare Zedek Medical Center in Jerusalem is one of three major hospitals serving the city's 900,000 (62% Jewish, 32% Arab, 6% Christian and other) residents. It is a world-class medical research center with numerous world-renowned physicians.

It is also a frontline emergency trauma center. Mass terror attacks nationwide in past years forced Israeli hospitals to develop comprehensive quick-response plans unlike any others worldwide for treating mass casualties.

Several times each year, **LEMA'AN ZION** sends significant contributions to support Shaare Zedek.

Israel's top military experts predict with dire certainty the next major war for Israel will be like no other in terms of civilian casualties and widespread destruction. This is due to the amassing of rockets by Israel's enemies on all fronts: *Hamas* in Gaza, *Hizbullah* in Lebanon and, of course, their sponsor Iran.

Together, these allied genocidal forces can easily unleash barrages of *thousands* of rockets that will overwhelm Israel's vaunted Iron Dome, David's Sling and Arrow anti-rocket and anti-missile defenses. Rambam Medical Center in Haifa has the world's most advanced emergency medical hospital housed in a missile-proof underground facility.

**S**ome will ask, "What about your faith? Don't you believe God will protect Israel?" Absolutely. I believe Israel is indestructible, not due to our military defenses, but due to divine assurances that Israel is as eternal as the sun, moon and stars (Jer. 31:35-36 [Hebr. 34-35]) and more.

Most of our readers believe Israel's existence today, after a two-thousand-year dispersion, is a miracle of God. The victories of 1948, 1967 and other wars forced upon Israel were often battles against overwhelming odds, proof God still guards His people (Ps. 121:4). Despite the miracles, however, there were still substantial losses.

In the "miracle year" of 1948, Israel not

only lost control of the Old City of Jerusalem, Hebron and other areas to enemy forces, but additionally *six thousand* Israelis, one-third of them civilians, were killed. That was one per cent of the population of Israel at the time!

The miracles of 1967 and 1973 were also accompanied by many heart-rending losses. That does not even include the thousands killed and tens of thousands injured in terror attacks. Even with faith in God, this reality motivates us to train doctors and equip our hospitals the best we can.

## Apartheid? Visit a hospital

**S**ome people accuse Israel of practicing *Apartheid*: Uninformed leftist politicians, journalists, clerics, self-important social elitists, but most frequently pro-Palestinian activists, charge Israel with engaging in racist policies reminiscent of South Africa decades ago.

Israel's hospitals are my first argument in response. Accusers should visit any Israeli hospital. They will quickly become immunized(!) against that canard:

- Arab patients are treated by Jewish doctors and nurses. Jewish patients are treated by Arab doctors and nurses, or any combination of the foregoing.
- In multi-patient rooms, Arab patients lie next to Jewish patients. Arab families visit their sick, just like Jewish families. Often, an injured Palestinian terrorist has found himself recovering next door to his injured Jewish victim. Israeli hospitals regularly treat the sick of Gaza on humanitarian grounds. These have even included Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh's daughter, his granddaughter and his cancer-stricken mother-in-law. Palestinian Authority ambulances deliver emergency patients to Israeli hospitals. There are no separate wards for Arabs and Jews. All receive the same level of treatment.

- Arab doctors head medical departments, just like their Jewish counterparts. Arabs



are directors of hospitals, as are Jews.

- It is often claimed the higher birthrate among Arabs, and a faster-growing Arab population, is an important factor affecting the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. Still, the fertility wards of Israeli hospitals are filled with Arab and Jewish patients. The government-funded health services pay for IVF treatments for *all* couples to have two children.

As with other segments of Israeli society, the hospitals, serving all without regard to religion or ethnicity, refute the false claims made by the critics. Shaare Zedek's trauma unit is a major facet of home-front preparedness for the next war our neighbors promise us.

**B**esides the hospital, **LEMA'AN ZION** continues sponsorship of two soup kitchens, support for thousands of needy, elderly, Holocaust survivors, Jewish refugees and more, every case verified.

Your participation is a blessed act of love for God and for Israel. Thank you from our heart.

Since the last report, we have distributed aid amounting to **NIS270,240 (US\$76,710/CAN\$100,740/€68,840)**.

—Gabriel A. Goldberg

**PLEASE HELP US BRING** Jewish people from the ends of the earth back to their homeland—the land of their forefathers. We have been directly engaged in absorption projects in Israel for 35 years, helping Jews from Ethiopia, India, Mexico, Peru, Russia, the Ukraine and other countries overcome the financial obstacles they face.

**WITH YOUR HELP**, we supply food, clothing, blankets, stoves, furniture, medical treatment and more for hundreds of terror victims, orphans and poverty-stricken families. You can still bless Israel while you receive your reward in Heaven by remembering **LEMA'AN ZION, Inc.**, in your will. God will bless you for your sacrificial giving.