



Shirat Hasticker- "The Sticker Song" Lyrics by David Grossman, Translated by Gabe Salgado, Part I

<p>A Whole Generation Demands Peace Let the IDF Win A Strong Nation Makes Peace Let the IDF Mow Down There's No Peace with Arabs Don't Give Them Weapons Battle Ready is The Most, Brother Draft Everyone, Exempt Everyone There's No Desperation in the World Yesha is Here Na-Nachman Me'uman No Fear, The Messiah's Here No Arabs, No Terrorist Attacks The Supreme Court Endangers Jews The Nation is with the Golan The Nation is with Transfer Smog Test in Yarka Friend, You Are Missed The Holy One Blessed Be He, We Elect You Direct Elections are Bad <i>The Holy One Blessed Be He, We are Zealots to You</i> Death to the Zealots</p> <p>How Much Evil (How much evil, Evil) Can we Swallow? (Can we swallow, swallow?) Daddy Show Mercy, Daddy Show Mercy My Name is Nachman and I stu-stutter How Much Evil (How much evil, Evil) Can we Swallow? (Can we swallow, swallow?) Daddy Show Mercy, Daddy Show Mercy <i>Baruch Hashem, I am breathing, and therefore...</i></p> <p>Halachic State- The State is Gone Whoever Was Born, Scored Long Live King Messiah I Have Confidence (also: Security) in Sharon's Peace Hevron- Always and Forever And Whoever Wasn't Born, Missed Out</p>	<p>דור שלם דורש שלום תנו לצה"ל לנצח עם חזק עושה שלום תנו לצה"ל לכסח אין שלום עם ערבים אל תתנו להם רובים קרבי זה הכי אחי גיוס לכולם, פטור לכולם אין שום ייאוש בעולם יה יש"ע זה כאן נ נחמן מאומן NO FEAR משיח בעיר אין ערבים אין פיגועים בג"ץ מסכן יהודים העם עם הגולן העם עם הטרנספר טסט בירכא חבר, אתה חסר הקדוש ברוך הוא אנחנו בוחרים בך בחירה ישירה זה רע הקדוש ברוך הוא אנחנו קנאים לך ימותו הקנאים</p> <p>כמה רוע (כמה רוע רוע) אפשר לבלוע (אפשר לבלוע לוע) אבא תרחם אבא תרחם קוראים לי נחמן ואני מגמ מגמגם כמה רוע (כמה רוע רוע) אפשר לבלוע (אפשר לבלוע לוע) אבא תרחם אבא תרחם ברוך השם אני נושם ולכן...</p> <p>מדינת הלכה - הלכה המדינה מי שנולד הרוויח יחי המלך המשיח יש לי בטחון בשלום של שרון חברון מאז ולתמיד ומי שלא נולד הפסיד</p>
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Continued....

Discussion: Shirat Hasticker

- **Why do you think political bumper stickers are so common in Israel? Why do you think so many Israelis feel the urge to express their politics through brief slogans?**
- **What are the advantages of expression through slogans? How is this good for society?**
- **What are the drawbacks of expression through slogans? How can this negatively affect dialogue on important issues?**
- **Why do you think that politically charged music is so popular in Israel?**
- **Which sticker do you most agree with? Which sticker do you least agree with?**
- **Why do you think that politically charged music is so rare in the American mainstream, while Israeli popular music is likely to be highly political?**
- **What does this song say about Israel's social conscience?**
- **Kama Roa Efshar Livloa ("How much evil can we swallow") is not from a bumper sticker. Is it the chorus (and arguably centerpiece of the song). Why do you think this line was given such prominence? What are its possible meanings and interpretations?**



עם חזק עושה שלום

Transliteration: *Am Chazak Oseh Shalom*

Literal Translation: "A Strong Nation Makes Peace"

Actual Bumper Sticker Reads: Same

Play on Words: None

Category: Left Wing/Peace Camp

Meaning/Origin: Another slogan in favor of peace treaties with and territorial concessions to the Palestinians and Arab states, also from the Oslo era. This sticker appeals to the sense of affinity for Zionism and the land of Israel shared from left to right, as conceptualized in the phrase "strong nation". Right wing movements tend to characterize territorial concessions in exchange for peace as a display of "weakness". This slogan in support of the Peace Process was meant to counter those charges by characterizing the act of concessions as stemming from strength rather than weakness.

תנו לצה"ל לכסח

Transliteration: *T'nu L'tzahal L'chaseach*

Literal Translation: "Let the IDF Mow Down"

Actual Bumper Sticker Reads: See #2

Play on Words: This is a take-off of #3, invented for the song. It rhymes with the original sticker. *L'chaseach* literally means "to mow", as in to "mow grass". Figuratively, it is slang for, "to trounce" or "to wallop". This is "Let the IDF Win" brought to an absurd extreme for artistic effect.

אין שלום עם ערבים

Transliteration: *Ayn Shalom Im Aravim*

Literal Translation: "There's No Peace With Arabs "

Actual Bumper Sticker Reads: Same

Play on Words: Implies "there's no making peace with Arabs", or "there's no such thing as peace with Arabs".

Category: Right Wing/Nationalist Camp

Meaning/Origin: This bumper sticker states an unequivocal position: true peace with the Arabs is impossible, and the pursuit of peace with Arab states and representatives is futile. Implicit is the suggestion that Arabs can only be dealt with through military force.



21]

בחירה ישירה זה רע

Transliteration: *B'chira Y'shira Zeh Ra*

Literal Translation: "Direct Elections are Bad"

Actual Bumper Sticker Reads: Same

Play on Words: A very rhythmic triple rhyme.

Category: Political

Meaning/Origin: In 1992, the Knesset passed a law mandating Direct Election of the Prime Minister. From 1948 to 1992, Israelis would only vote for the political party of their choice in elections. The chairman of the party that won the majority of seats in the Knesset would become the Prime Minister (PM) and form the government. The Direct Elections Law changed the electoral process so that Israelis could also vote for Prime Minister- similar to presidential elections in the United States. This was an attempt to improve the functioning of the Knesset. However, after the first direct election in 1996, the Knesset suffered unprecedented gridlock. This deadlock continued with the Knesset formed as a result of the next direct election in 1999. Opposition to Direct Elections was quickly galvanized, and the law was repealed in 2001. Ariel Sharon was the last PM to be chosen by Direct Elections. In the song, this revived slogan ties in nicely with the preceding line.

22]

הקדוש ברוך הוא, אנחנו קנאים לך

Transliteration: *Hakadosh Baruch Hu, Anachnu Kana'im L'cha*

Literal Translation: "The Holy One Blessed Be He, We Are Zealots to You"

Actual Bumper Sticker Reads: Is this one real?

Play on Words: Could be a take-off of #20. The Hebrew word *Kanai* refers to the ancient Zealots, but also means "Fundamentalist" or "Extremist". Please contact Gabe if you know more about this sticker.

23]

ימותו הקנאים

Transliteration: *Yamutu Hakana'im*

Literal Translation: "Death to the Zealots" or "Death to the Jealous"

Actual Bumper Sticker Reads: Same

Play on Words: The word *Kana'i* is derived from the Hebrew root meaning "jealous".

Category: Humorous/Uplifting

Meaning/Origin: This sticker is meant to be placed on the bumpers of visibly run-down, broken cars. Think about it. This line also serves as a thought-provoking follow-up to the previous line in the song. It also goes well with the "Yarka smog test" sticker.



24]

כמה רוע אפשר לבלוע

Transliteration: *Kama Roa Efshar Livloa*

Literal Translation: "How Much Evil Can We Swallow"

Actual Bumper Sticker Reads: כמה אכזריות אפשר לבלוע? / *Kama Achazariut Efshar Livloa?* / "How Much Cruelty Can We Swallow?"

Play on Words: "Reworking" of the sticker for the song's chorus rhymes.



Category: Animal Rights

Meaning/Origin: The forced feeding of animals such as geese for increased profits was common practice for many Israeli meat companies until an animal rights movement that adopted this slogan sprung up. This movement was successful in abolishing force feeding in Israel. In the context of the song and in thinking about Israel, this slogan has many different possible meanings and connotations. *Why do you think this quote became a centerpiece of the song?*

25]

אבא תרחם

Transliteration: *Aba, T'rachem*

Literal Translation: "Father, Have Mercy"

Actual Bumper Sticker Reads: Unknown

Play on Words: None

Category: Unknown???

Meaning/Origin: Unknown??? Please contact Gabe if you know!

26]

קוראים לי נחמן ואני מגמגם

Transliteration: *Kor'im Li Nachman Va'ani Megamgem*

Literal Translation: "My Name is Nachman and I Stutter"

Actual Bumper Sticker Reads: Same

Play on Words: Take-off of #15

Category: Humorous/Uplifting

Meaning/Origin: Making fun of the letter-by-letter progression (Na-Nach) sticker is a parody of the *Na-Nach-Nachma-Nachman Me'uman* sticker/graffiti disseminated by the Breslov Jews (see sticker #12).

27]

ברוך השם, אני נושם, ולכן...

Transliteration: *Baruch Hashem, Ani Noshem, V'lachen...*

Literal Translation: "Thank God, I'm breathing, and therefore..."

Actual Bumper Sticker Reads: ברוך השם, אני נושם. / *Baruch Hashem, Ani Noshem* / "Thank God, I'm Breathing"

Play on Words: Rhymes

Category: Religious, Humorous/Uplifting

Meaning/Origin: Unknown- please contact Gabe if you know more about this sticker.



28]

מדינת הלכה, הלכה המדינה

Transliteration: *Medinat Halacha, Halcha Hamedina*

Literal Translation: "Halachic State, The State is Gone"

Actual Bumper Sticker Reads: Same

Play on Words: The word *Halacha* is spelled the same way as *Halcha*- the feminine form of "gone". The word *Medina* or "State" (as in "State of Israel") happens to be feminine. Therefore, the last two words are composed of the first two words, in reverse order, giving the phrase a certain reflexive ring.

Category: Secular

Meaning/Origin: A cautionary political bumper sticker that protests the mixing of church and state, or *Knesset* and *Beit Knesset*. It is probably based on the conventional wisdom among secular Jews that restrictive religious laws threaten the democratic nature of the State of Israel.

29]

מי שנולד הרוויח

Transliteration: *Mi Sh'nolad Hirviach*

Literal Translation: "Whoever Was Born, Scored"

Actual Bumper Sticker Reads: Same

Play on Words: None

Category: Humorous/Uplifting

Meaning/Origin: Another "happy" sticker. The phrase is rather catchy-sounding in Hebrew.

30]

יחי מלך המשיח

Transliteration: *Yechi Melech Hamashiach*

Literal Translation: "Long Live King Messiah"

Actual Bumper Sticker Reads: Same

Play on Words: None

Category: Religious

Meaning/Origin: Another Orthodox announcement informing Israel that the coming of the Messiah is nigh.



34]

חברון אבות

Transliteration: *Chevron Avot*

Literal Translation: "Hebron of Forefathers"

Actual Bumper Sticker Reads: Same

Play on Words: None

Category: Right Wing/Nationalist Camp

Meaning/Origin: This is another proclamation of support for an Israeli civilian and military presence in Hebron.

35]

שלום, טרנספר

Transliteration: *Shalom, Transfer*

Literal Translation: "Goodbye, Transfer"

Actual Bumper Sticker Reads: Same

Play on Words: This is a take-off of the original *Shalom, Chaver* sticker.

Category: Left-Wing/Peace Camp

Meaning/Origin: A sticker denouncing the idea of Transfer (see #17) while referring to the Rabin memorial stickers.

36]

כהנא צדק

Transliteration: *Kahane Tzadak*

Literal Translation: "Kahane Was Right"

Actual Bumper Sticker Reads: היום כולם יודעים- כהנא צדק / *Hayom Kulam Yod'im- Kahane Tzadak* / "Now Everyone Knows- Kahane Was Right"

Play on Words: None



Category: Right Wing/Nationalist Camp

Meaning/Origin: Meir Kahane was an extreme right-wing Israeli leader, who was born in the United States and moved to Jerusalem in 1971. He founded a political party called "Kach", based on the platform of forceful Transfer (see #18) of the entire Palestinian population out of the West Bank and Gaza. In 1984, he was elected to the Knesset. Before the 1988 elections, the Kach party was outlawed as a genocidal, racist, terrorist-supporting party, and Kahane was banned from being elected to the next Knesset. His following remained small but fanatical and highly activist. In 1990, Kahane was assassinated by a Palestinian who was later discovered to be linked to an early incarnation of Al-Qaeda. Immediately, a movement called *Kahane Chai* (Kahane Lives) sprung up, and in death, he continues to have a radical following that advocates Transfer and/or death for Arabs as a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict. This bumper sticker was distributed following the outbreak of the second Intifadah, which his followers saw as proof positive that his views were correct.



11

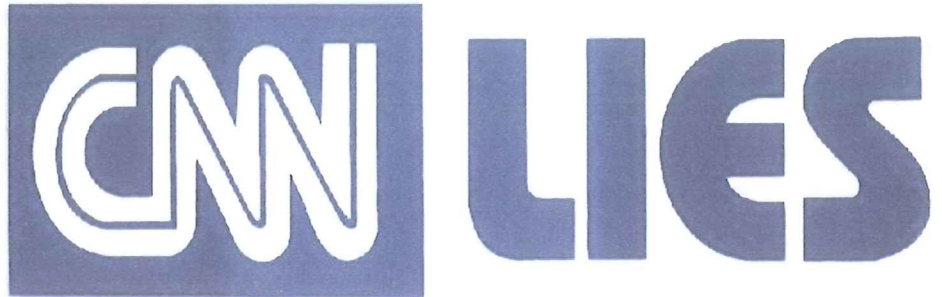
CNN משקר

Transliteration: CNN Meshaker

Literal Translation: "CNN Lies"

Actual Bumper Sticker Reads: CNN Lies
(in English)

Play on Words: Uses English; the word "Lies" appears in a font resembling that of the CNN logo



Category: Zionist

Meaning/Origin: Conventional wisdom among some Israelis, especially many on the political right, holds that CNN International is blatantly antisemitic and that it bashes Israel daily while ignoring Palestinian terrorism and Arab human rights abuses. After the outbreak of the second Intifadah, many cases in which CNN reported on Palestinian suicide bombings by visiting the Palestinian victims and showing only their side of the story occurred. Israeli broadcast authorities then threatened to boycott CNN and replace it with the Fox News Channel. CNN responded with a documentary on the Israeli victims of suicide bombings, and the boycott was averted. However, anti-CNN sentiment remains strong in Israel. (An interesting irony is that in the US and internationally, many leftist groups condemn CNN as being overly "pro-Israel", or simply right wing propaganda. An internet search for the term "CNN Lies" will turn up various denunciations of CNN from a wide spectrum of very different political positions.)

11

צריך מנהיג חזק

Transliteration: Tzarich Manhig Chazak

Literal Translation: "We Need a Strong Leader"

Actual Bumper Sticker Reads: ???

Play on Words: None

Category:

Meaning/Origin: ???

11

סחתין על השלום, תודה על הבטחון

Transliteration: Sachtein Al Hashalom, Todah Al Habitachon

Literal Translation: "Nice Job on the Peace, Thanks for the Security"

Actual Bumper Sticker Reads: Same

Play on Words: Uses two "buzzwords" from political campaign stickers popular since the mid '90s- *Shalom* (peace) and *Bitachon* (Security).

Category: Humorous

Meaning/Origin: This sticker was a cynical response to Netanyahu's perceived failure to bring peace and security, both of which he had promised through his campaign slogan, "Making a Secure Peace".



42]

ביבי טוב ליהודים

Transliteration: *Bibi Tov L'yehudim*

Literal Translation: "Bibi is Good for Jews"

Actual Bumper Sticker Reads: **ביבי טוב ליהודים** / *Netanyahu- Zeh Tov L'yehudim* / "Netanyahu- It's Good for Jews"

Play on Words: None



Category: Right Wing/Nationalist Camp

Meaning/Origin: In the months leading up to the 1996 election in Israel, incumbent Labor Prime Minister Shim'on Peres held a clear lead in the polls over the right-wing Likud challenger, Binyamin Netanyahu. Netanyahu was known affectionately by his supporters (and not so affectionately by his detractors) as "Bibi". At no point was Netanyahu ahead of Peres in surveys, even on the day before the election. But the gap in the polls between the two candidates was narrow, and it was narrowing more every day. In the last days before the election, a new slogan was unveiled in favor of Netanyahu- "It's Good for Jews", implying that Peres was bad for Jews. The Likud campaign claimed to have no part in the creation and dissemination of the bumper stickers and posters bearing this slogan, and it seemed that this effort was on the part of a small right wing grassroots movement. The new slogan swept the nation, despite Netanyahu's vocal distance from the slogan. Netanyahu ended up beating Peres in the election by the narrowest margin in Israeli electoral history.



45]

אחים לא מפקירים

Transliteration: *Achim Lo Mafkirim*

Literal Translation: "Brother's Don't Abandon"

Actual Bumper Sticker Reads: Same

Play on Words: Double meaning- it also means "one does not abandon brothers".

Category: Right Wing/Nationalist Camp

Meaning/Origin: The peace process with the Palestinians was pushed forward by left wing leaders and dreaded by many on the right, with the knowledge that in its logical conclusion some or most Israeli settlements would have to be dismantled and handed over to Palestinian control. Over 200,000 Jewish settlers live in settlements on land seized in the 1967 Six-Day-War, and this land is now at the heart of the dispute over the final agreement between Israelis and Palestinians. Right Wing advocates tend to support the settlers and their right to live in the West Bank and Gaza, and this sticker expresses the view that dismantlement of Israeli settlements would constitute criminal abandonment of Jewish brothers (and presumably sisters as well).

46]

עקירת ישובים מפלגת את העם

Transliteration: *Akirat Yeshuvim Mefaleget Et Ha'am*

Literal Translation: "Uprooting Settlements Divides the Nation"

Actual Bumper Sticker Reads: העם קורעת את הישובים / *Akirat Yeshuvim Kora'at Et Ha'am* / "Uprooting Settlements Tears Up the Nation"

Play on Words: The three root letters of the word *Akira* (uprooting) are the same as in *Kora'at* (tears up), only in a different order.



Category: Right Wing/Nationalist Camp

Meaning/Origin: See #45 for a detailed explanation of the issues in this sticker. This slogan is actually much more common and innovative, and has been seen in billboard and advertisement form as well. It became a common sight in Israel during the Camp David peace talks of 2000, during which the Israeli and Palestinian negotiating teams were reportedly very close to agreeing on a formula for peace that would involve a massive withdrawal from the West Bank and the dismantlement of possibly hundreds of settlements.



47]

מוות לבוגדים

Transliteration: *Mavet L'bogdim*

Literal Translation: "Death to Traitors"

Actual Bumper Sticker Reads: None

Play on Words: None

Category: Right Wing/Nationalist Camp

Meaning/Origin: This statement was often shouted, graffitied, or otherwise expressed in illicit ways and was most likely to be heard shortly before Rabin's assassination- when an Israeli leader who was perceived by many as a traitor was killed because his actions on behalf of peace clashed with far right wing ideology.

48]

תנו לחיות לחיות

Transliteration: *T'nu Lachayot Lichyot*

Literal Translation: "Let Animals Live"

Actual Bumper Sticker Reads: Same

Play on Words: The last two words are spelled exactly the same and their pronunciations are similar.

Category: Animal Rights

Meaning/Origin: This is a standard animal rights advocacy sticker, and is still in use.

49]

מוות לערכים

Transliteration: *Mavet L'arachim*

Literal Translation: "Death to Values"

Actual Bumper Sticker Reads: ???

Play on Words: Sounds like "Death to Arabs" in Hebrew

Category: Left Wing/Peace Camp

Meaning/Origin: The phrase *Mavet L'aravim* has unfortunately become common in Israel. You don't have to walk far in Jerusalem before you see it spray painted on a wall or scratched into glass. Following Palestinian suicide attacks, crowds often gather for spontaneous demonstrations of rage, during which this appalling slogan is often chanted with fury. This response, "death to values", suggests that the use of the anti-Arab statement reflects a clear lack of values.

50]

הכל בגללך, חבר

Transliteration: *Hakol Biglalcha, Chaver*

Literal Translation: "It's All Because of You, Friend"

Actual Bumper Sticker Reads: Same

Play on Words: Take-off of *Shalom, Chaver* (see #19)

Category: Right Wing/Nationalist Camp

Meaning/Origin: In an accusation similar to that made by slogan #19, this sticker puts the blame for the current violence squarely on Yitzhak Rabin and the architects and proponents of the Oslo accords.



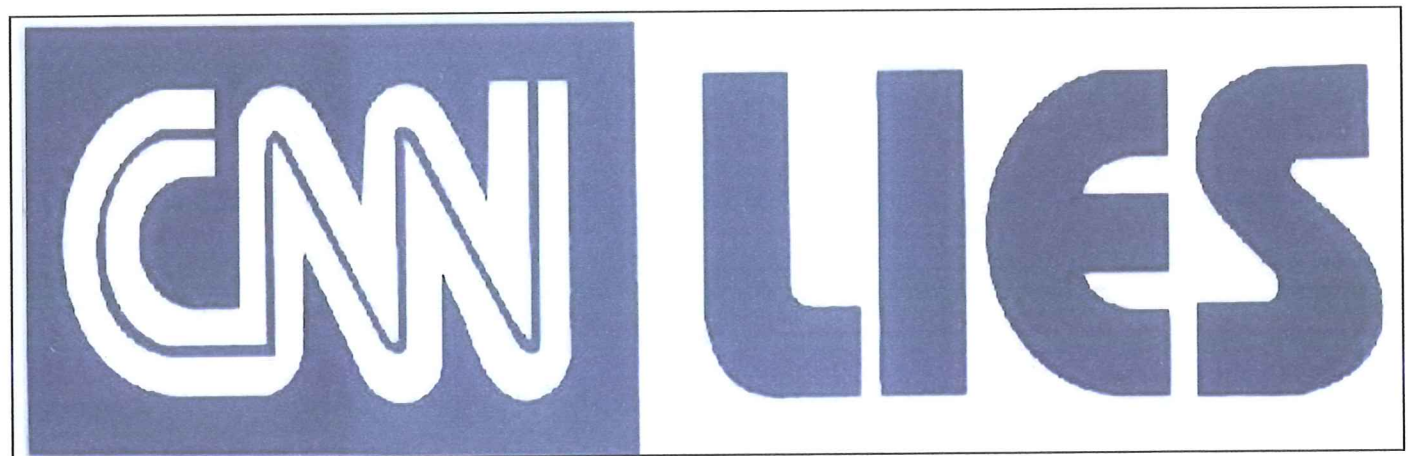
Uprooting Settlements Tears Up the Nation:



Netanyahu- It's Good for Jews:

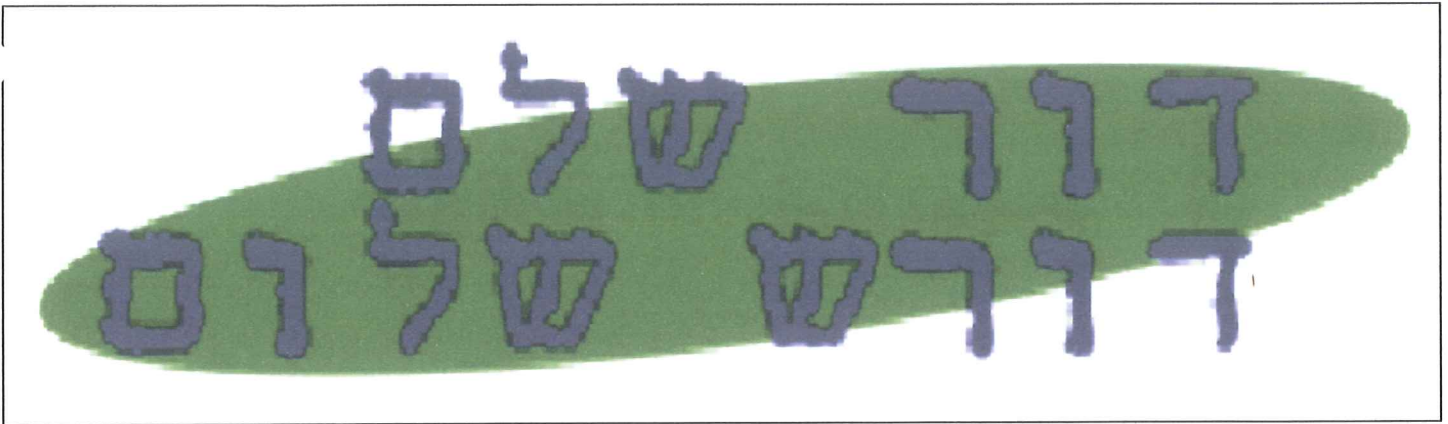


CNN Lies:





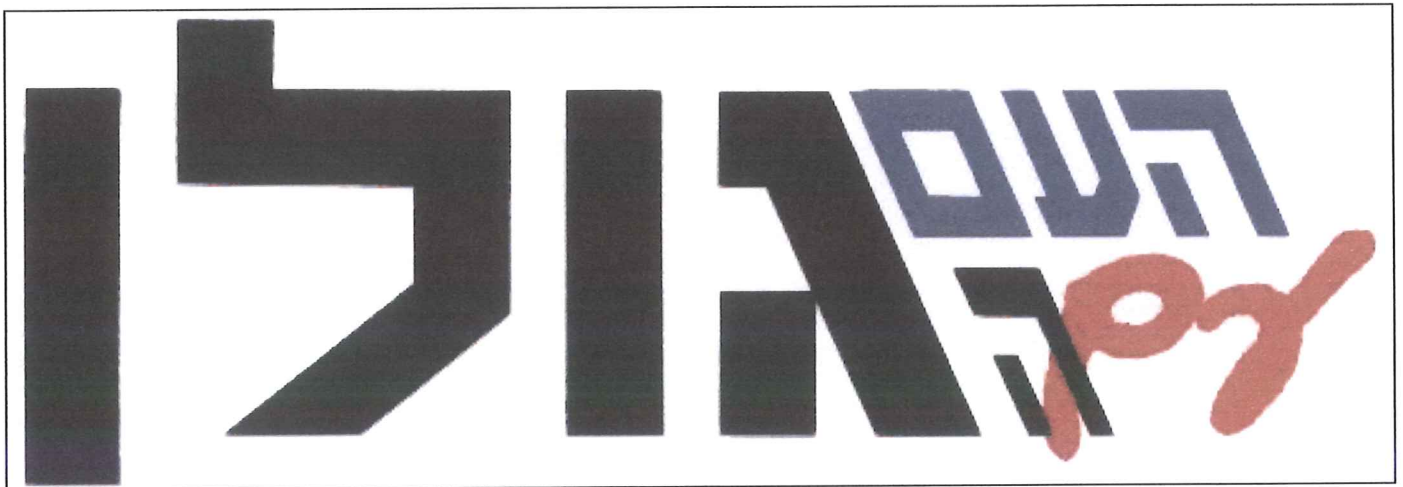
An Entire Generation Demands Peace:



The Smog Test in Yarka:



The Nation is With the Golan:





Yesha (West Bank/Gaza Strip) Is Here:



Hebron- Always and Forever:



Na-Nach- Nachma- Nachman Meuman:





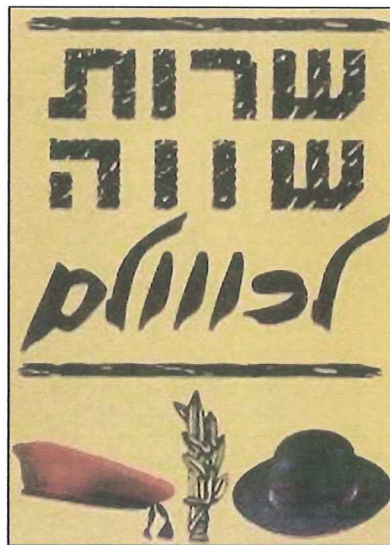
Oslo Criminals to Trial:



Shalom, Chaver (with date of Rabin assassination- 11 November 1995):



Equal (Military) Service for Everyone:



How Much Cruelty Can We Swallow?:



Now Everyone Knows, Kahane Was Right!:



Why Did You Give Them Weapons?:





Uprooting Settlements Tears Up the Nation:



Netanyahu- It's Good for Jews:



CNN Lies:

