



## Keshet Solidarity Mission to Israel

August 31-September 4, 2014

October 26-30, 2014

### Sunday Departure from U.S.

- Depart the US

### Monday Political Seminar

- Arrive in Israel
- Opening with Yitzhak Sokoloff, Keshet Founder and Director
- **Understanding the neighborhood we live in. Lecture by Reuven Paz Ph.D**, scholar specializing in Islam and Islamic movements in the Arab and Muslim world, the Arab minority in Israel and Islamic Fundamentalism. Previously head of the research department for the Israeli General Security Service
- Lunch at the hotel
- **Israel - Egypt - Saudi Arabia: Shifting dynamics in the Middle East, lecture by Smadar Peri**, editor for Middle East affairs and the Arab world at *Yedioth Achronot* daily newspaper. She writes on Middle East affairs, the peace process, the Arab-Israeli conflict and social, economic and cultural events in the Muslim world. She is also a frequent contributor to TV and radio programs on the Middle East.  
**OR**  
**Guy Bechor, Ph.D**, Head of the Middle East Division at the Lauder School of Government, served as a lecturer and consultant to the IDF, Israel Police and Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Dr. Bechor helped establish the Arabic website of the *Yedioth Aharonot* daily newspaper and has been an Arab affairs commentator for leading newspapers and TV stations, including CNN, Al-Jazeera and the BBC.
- **Shifting Paradigms? Lecture by Colonel Eran Lerman**, Deputy National Security Council for foreign policy and international affairs in Israel. Colonel Lerman was the Director of the American Jewish Committee Israel/Middle East Office and previously served as the Assistant for Analyses to the Deputy Director for Intelligence Production at the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) Directorate of Military Intelligence.  
**OR**  
**Dore Gold** a world renowned expert on Middle Eastern affairs, former Israeli ambassador to the

UN, is currently the president of the Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs and serves as an external advisor to the office of the Prime Minister of Israel.

- Dinner with a **soldier who fought at Operation Protective Edge**

**Overnight:** Carlton Tel Aviv Hotel

## Tuesday      The South of Israel

- Breakfast at the hotel
- **The long way home:** Meet with soldiers at the Beit Levenstein rehabilitation center in Ra'anana
- Drive South to Rehovot
- Meet with the engineers at **Elbit security systems' electro-optic division** or **with the people behind the Iron Dome**, whose goal is to make sure that Israel always has the technological edge
- Lunch in Rehovot, then drive to Ashkelon
- Tour of the **Ashkelon** shelters with **Lev Echad** an Emergency Civilian Aid national volunteer organization that has operated over 15,000 civilian volunteers.
- **How do you treat the wounded under fire?** A visit to the Barzilai hospital in Ashkelon and meeting with local psychologists and social workers.
- Dinner in Ashkelon with **Rabbi Bill Berk Wrestling with Tohar Haneshek (the ethical use of weapons) From the Bible to the IDF in Gaza**

**Overnight:** Holiday Inn Ashkelon Hotel

## Wednesday      IDF and Security

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Drive to **Moshav Netiv Ha'asara**, located in the Hof Ashkelon Regional Council, which took a huge amount of rocket hits from before the ground operation and throughout the Protective Edge Operation
- Meet with moshav resident and IDF Gaza soldier **Barak Benjamin** to hear about his personal experiences in the war and feelings about living on a moshav where one of the major terror tunnels was exposed.
- **Tour of Sderot** with **Col. (res.) Bentzi Gruber** and meeting with the **local Iron Dome base's commander**

- Lunch in Sderot- empower local businesses!
- Drive to the **Tze'elim IDF Base**
- Lecture by **Col. (res.) Bentzi Gruber: Ethics in the Field** in Tze'elim
- Walking tour through **IDF's training area** at the base, simulating a densely populated town, to encounter first-hand the challenges of battle in a civilian setting
- Give out gifts to soldiers who fought in the **Operation Protection Edge**
- Dinner at the base with the soldiers

**Overnight:** Holiday Inn Ashkelon Hotel

**Thursday**

**Gush Etzion**

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Drive to **Nof Ayalon** to meet with **Rachel Frankel**, mother of **Naftali Frankel**- one of the three teenagers who were kidnapped and murdered by Hamas terrorists
- Drive to **Efrat** in Gush Etzion to pay condolences to parents of **Second Lieutenant Yuval Heiman who fell during Operation Protective Edge**
- Lunch in **Gush Etzion**
- Visit the **Makor Chaim Yeshiva** where **Naftali** and **Gilad** studied and meet with the head of the Yeshiva.
- Drive to Jerusalem to meet **with an MK** for a discussion on Israel's strategy looking forward, and what we all can do to help.
- Summary discussion with **Yitzhak Sokoloff** and *farewell dinner in Jerusalem*

- Listed activities and speakers are subject to confirmation.
- Program will be staffed by a Keshet Israel Tour Educator
- All breakfasts and dinners are included in the package price.
- This itinerary is proprietary to Keshet and is intended for the promotion of and to inform those considering joining this Keshet trip. It is not to be transmitted to any other party without prior authorization from Keshet



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