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# Middle East News & Views

מרכז משה דיין ללימודי המזרח התיכון ואפריקה  
The Moshe Dayan Center for Middle Eastern and African Studies  
מركز موشيه ديان لدراسات الشرق الأوسط وإفريقيا

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**No 060**  
April 29, 2010

A weekly sample of news and opinions on current events from around the Middle East collected and brought to you by the Dayan Center.

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## [Israel's New Game Plan / Abdul Rahman Al-Rashed](#)

Many American ambassadors in our region know the new Israeli game and have alerted the White House about it. All observers agree with Lebanese Prime Minister Saad Hariri's rejection of speculations that Syria has supplied Scud missiles to Hezbollah. It was Israeli President Shimon Peres who first alleged that Hezbollah had received Scud missiles from Syria and the Western corporate media picked it and implicitly presented the charge as accurate and truthful.  
Source: **The Jordan Times (Amman), April 25, 2010**

## [Israel Seeking Pretext for War on Hezbollah / Sami Moubayed](#)

Israeli President Shimon Peres claims that Syria has provided Hezbollah with medium-range Scud missiles, a claim strongly denied by both Syria and Lebanon. Regardless of the veracity of Israel's claims that Hezbollah has acquired Scuds — or whether or not the international community accepts Israeli falsifications as fact — they will be used to justify a new war in the Middle East, some time in the foreseeable future.  
Source: **Gulf News (Dubai), April 27, 2010**

## [Obama vs. Netanyahu / Bilal Hassen](#)

The tactical diplomatic battle still is ablaze between US President Barack Obama and Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu. The battle started under two prominent headlines: Iran and the political settlement between Israel and the Arabs, with a difference in the assessment of which one of these two headlines ought to take priority.  
Source: **Al-Sharq Al-Awsat (London), April 27, 2010**

## [PM Fayyad's Plan: Development as Leverage for Independence / Walid Salem](#)

Much has been written about the plan proposed by the 13th Palestinian Government headed by Prime Minister Salam Fayyad for establishing the Palestinian state within two years. However, little has been written about one of the most significant implications of this plan, namely the fact that it brings together, for the first time ever, development and political goals in Palestinian politics. How did this come about?  
Source: **Common Ground News Service (Washington), April 22, 2010**

## [Hijacking El-Baradei / Abdel-Moneim Said](#)

Mohamed El-Baradei is an international luminary beyond a doubt. So what happened when El-Baradei returned to Egypt, bearing with him all that experience acquired from a long career in turning practical realities to the service of noble ends? Such pragmatism is not to be scoffed at as it realizes worthy aims without destroying the system. Yet it seems he suddenly changed tack upon arriving home.  
Source: **Al-Ahram Weekly (Cairo), Issue No 995, 22 - 28 April 2010**

## [Egypt Needs a New Social Contract / Waheed Abd elMaged](#)

The social components of the patriarchal state of Egypt are eroding, but the Muslim Brotherhood's Supreme Guide still does not see an alternative, as if those who accepted this type of state more than half a century ago are still children. Patriarchal authority is something of the past. The social contracts of today are between equal parties, a democratic state and a free society.  
Source: **Al-Masry Al-Youm (Cairo), April 24, 2010**

## [President Obama Is Right in Avoiding the Word 'Genocide' / Sahin Alpaly](#)

President Obama, in his statement commemorating the start of forced deportation of Armenians by the Ottoman government on April 24, 1915, avoided the use of the word "genocide". He did the right thing, for two reasons. Firstly, because "genocide" declarations by leaders do not help the people of Turkey face the question of what happened to the Ottoman Armenians. Secondly, in present day Middle East, cooperation between Turkey and the US is essential.  
Source: **Today's Zaman (Istanbul), April 26, 2010**