

THE JEWISH ADVOCATE®

Established 1902

Vol. 199 No. 24 ■ 10 SIVAN 5768 — JUNE 13 2008 ■ www.TheJewishAdvocate.com ■ \$1.25



'Farewell Israel' debuts

The documentary on Islamic extremism will be shown in Newton June 19. Page 17

FAREWELL ISRAEL

BUSH, IRAN AND
THE REVOLT OF ISLAM



A fatalistic look into the future

'Farewell Israel' will frighten you

A frank conversation with director Joel Gilbert

By Molly Ritvo
Advocate Staff

In his film "Farewell Israel: Bush, Iran and the Revolt of Islam," Joel Gilbert declares forbidding thoughts about the future of the Jewish homeland. The documentary, which was written and directed by Gilbert, investigates the history of Islam, the development of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the aftermath of 9/11, which culminates in the filmmaker's assertion that the future of the state of Israel is in jeopardy.

"I made this film to share an understanding of the Islamic world view, from the point of view of the Muslims," Gilbert said. "In the West, there is a huge



Joel Gilbert

gap in understanding Islam. Only by gaining an understanding of Islam's world view can the West begin to deal with the real issues."

Those real issues, according to Gilbert, are how Islam's power poses a threat to Israel's existence.

"Israel's lack of understanding of Islam has led to a policy of surrender of territory, based on the belief that it will achieve peace in Western terms," explained Gilbert. "Peace between Israel and Islam is unattainable. Peace can only be achieved in Islamic terms which require the elimination of Israel as a Jewish state."

"Farewell Israel" takes the viewer on a historical journey from the birth of Islam to its decline and to

the current day. Gilbert also explores the rise of Zionism, the birth of Israel, and the effects of the Israeli military victory over the Arab state, which leads to the rising revolt of Islam and Iran.

"Iran is acquiring strategic weapons in order to shift the balance of power with Israel, which it believes will precipitate Israel's destruction and Islam's revival," he said. "With Israeli missiles neutralized, Muslim countries could overwhelm Israel with their superior numbers, conventional armor and short range missiles."

Charles Jacobs, president of The David for Jewish Leadership, believes that every Jew needs to see the film and echoes Gilbert's sentiments.

FAREWELL ISRAEL

BUSH, IRAN AND THE REVOLT OF ISLAM

SPECIAL MOVIE SCREENING FOLLOWED BY
CONVERSATION WITH DIRECTOR JOEL GILBERT

Thursday, June 19, 2008 at 6:45 pm
West Newton Cinema, 296 Washington Street, West Newton, MA

Advance registration suggested - \$10 per ticket by June 15th
Mail check to P.O. Box 52390 Boston, MA 02205
617-428-0012 x1146 - mg@davidproject.org
www.davidproject.org/events
or \$12 (cash only) at door

PRESENTED BY



The
David
Project

CENTER FOR JEWISH LEADERSHIP
BOSTON • NEW YORK • CALIFORNIA • ISRAEL

Film captures evolving threat of radical Islam

A frank conversation with director Joel Gilbert *continued*

"Jews need to know what Muslim history, tradition, law and practice is towards Judaism," he said. "And they need to learn where Islamic anti-Jewish sentiment comes from so it can be combated. Apart from the nuclear threat, Iran controls Hezbollah and is gaining control of Hamas. There is an Iranian noose tightening about the Jewish state."

Gilbert, who based his film on a book which he converted into the narration for the film, additionally claimed that the attacks of 9/11 are also misunderstood in the West.

"9/11 was only a provocation by a small group of Islamists, hoping to use the West's response to inspire the masses in Islam's internal struggle," he said. "The 9/11 attacks were successful only because George Bush played into the hands of the Al-Qaeda by adopting Al-Qaeda's agenda for helping to pave the way for Islamist parties to come to power."

Gilbert additionally claims the 1993 Oslo Accords and Egypt's Camp David Agreement of 1979 failed to foster peace between Jews and Muslims.

"These agreements were simply part of what I call 'The Diplomatic Strategy against Israel,' with the same goal as a military Jihad: the transformation of Israel from a Jewish state into a Muslim state," the director wrote on his film's website. "In the Islamic world, Israel's existence is an injustice, and must be eliminated on the path to successful Islamic revival."

Gilbert's film also compares and contrasts the strategies of President Bush and Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad.

"Bush expresses common Western misconceptions of Islamist values, such as 'they are against freedom,' 'they want women to be prisoners in their homes,' and so on," claimed Gilbert. "Ahmadinejad's [ant-Semitic] statements are actually

honest opinions that reflect long-held Islamic views regarding Israel and the Jews."

Jacobs agreed: "Ahmadinejad wants us dead and Bush failed to wean us from Arab oil and the petro-Jihad."

And for those hopeful viewers who think peace is possible in the homeland, Gilbert offers little optimism.

"Open your eyes to the realities that exist vis-à-vis the Islamic world view and the Iranian Islamist agenda," he said. "Today, Islamists are preparing for a fateful coming war for Islam and Israel is the number-one target. For Muslims, Israel embodies 'injustice,' and is the ultimate symbol of Iran's decline – a Western, secular society imposed by the West on former Islamic lands."

And at the film's conclusion, Gilbert offers a warning that Jews and Israel will be the victims of Islamic revival. He said that he hopes his film will educate all those about the impending doom.

"Islam must reacquire Pales-

tine to redeem itself from Westernization and the humiliation of a Jewish state. After years of diplomacy and withdrawals, Israel is no longer a strategic asset for the United States, but instead of security burden," he added. "Bush or Peres will say that peace is the Middle East is at hand between Israel and moderates, but anyone who believes that just doesn't understand the reality or is in denial. Islamism is on the march."

Farewell Israel will be screened on Thursday, June 19 at 6:45 p.m. at the West Newton Cinema followed by a conversation with Joel Gilbert. For more information, call 617-428-0012 ext. 1146.