

Prepared for the
**Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish
Organizations**
by the **Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs**

www.dailyalert.org

DAILY ALERT

**Friday,
December 25,
2009**

<http://www.dailyalert.org/archive/2009-12/2009-12-25.html>

In-Depth Issues:

Israel Seeks to Restore Deterrence – Isabel Kershner (*New York Times*)

Gazans Suffer, and Israel Is Not the Reason - Joel Brinkley (*McClatchy*)

Hamas Arming for New Fight - Nidal al-Mughrabi (*Reuters*)

154,500 Christians Live in Israel - (*Ynet News*)

Wild and Wacky Israeli Tales from '09 - Daniella Ashkenazy (*JTA*)

The award for the strangest Supreme Court case goes to an Israeli named Shlomo Avni, who petitioned the high court for the right to be eaten by wild animals after his death, saying he was only repaying a debt to nature as a lifetime consumer in the food chain. In their decision, three Supreme Court judges wished the 80-year-old plaintiff a long life and unanimously rejected his petition.

Residents of a north Tel Aviv apartment building found themselves paying huge water bills that were 10 to 100 times those of similar dwellings. After investigation, it was discovered that an underground connection from the apartment house was watering an adjacent municipal park.

These and other snippets of daily life as reported in the Israeli press are found in the author's column [Chelm-on-the-Med](#).