

- [Try Times Reader today](#)
- Welcome, [fabsqu](#)
- [Log Out](#)
- [Help](#)
- TimesPeople
- [Home Page](#)
- [Today's Paper](#)
- [Video](#)
- [Most Popular](#)
- [Times Topics](#)

ING DIRECT | ING DIRECT

Search All NYTimes.com

Go

The New York Times

Middle East

- [World](#)
 - [Africa](#)
 - [Americas](#)
 - [Asia Pacific](#)
 - [Europe](#)
 - [Middle East](#)
- [U.S.](#)
- [N.Y. / Region](#)
- [Business](#)
- [Technology](#)
- [Science](#)
- [Health](#)
- [Sports](#)
- [Opinion](#)
- [Arts](#)
- [Style](#)
- [Travel](#)
- [Jobs](#)
- [Real Estate](#)
- [Autos](#)

Advertise your small business on nytimes.com

Introducing Self-Service Advertising on NYTimes.com. An easy and affordable way to create your own online ads.

Get Started »

THE DNA ANCESTRY PROJECT

Travel back in time 150,000 years...

Trace your ancestry with DNA powered by **genebase**

[www.dnaancestryproject.com](#) [Advertise on NYTimes.com](#) Ads by Google

Netanyahu and Abbas to Begin Direct Mideast Peace Talks



Stephen Crowley/The New York Times

President Obama with President Mahmoud Abbas of the Palestinian Authority, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel, King Abdullah II of Jordan and President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt at the White House. [More Photos »](#)

By [HELENE COOPER](#) and [MARK LANDLER](#)

Published: September 2, 2010

Recommend

Twitter

- [E-Mail](#)
- [SEND TO PHONE](#)
- [Print](#)
- [Single Page](#)
- [Reprints](#)
- [Share](#)

- [Share](#)



WASHINGTON — The Israeli and [Palestinian](#) leaders were to open direct peace negotiations Thursday after committing to work to end the conflict that has endured for six decades.

Multimedia



[Slide Show](#)

[Leaders Gather for Mideast Talks](#)

Related

- [Israeli Peace Effort Rests on Netanyahu](#) (September 2, 2010)
- [Palestinians Hunt the Killers of 4 Israelis](#) (September 2, 2010)



[Negotiating With the Israeli Settlers](#)

Will Netanyahu ever be able to bring the settler movement on board in any peace process?

- [Join the Discussion](#)

The talks are to be held at the State Department, where they will take place under the eye of Secretary of State [Hillary Rodham Clinton](#). The negotiations follow a remarkable tableau at the White House Wednesday night, where [President Obama](#), flanked by Prime Minister [Benjamin Netanyahu](#) of [Israel](#) and President [Mahmoud Abbas](#) of the [Palestinian Authority](#), vowed to do everything within his power in the next year to achieve the comprehensive agreement that has eluded negotiators since Israel was established.

"We are but five men," Mr. Obama said Wednesday night. "But when we come together, we will not be alone. We will be joined by the generations of those who have gone before."

In somber, emotional tones at the White House Wednesday night, Mr. Netanyahu and Mr. Abbas expressed their own determination to make peace.

Mr. Netanyahu, turning toward to Mr. Abbas, called him his "partner in peace." He said he came to find a "historic compromise" but warned that any deal must be anchored in ensuring Israel's security.

Mr. Abbas, for his part, said he would push hard despite "the difficulties we're going to face tomorrow." But he quickly foreshadowed the biggest early sticking point in the talks, calling for Mr. Netanyahu to freeze settlement activity in the West Bank.

While the issues are daunting, some analysts also saw a reed of hope in the resolute response of Mr. Netanyahu and Mr. Abbas to the killing by [Hamas](#) gunmen of four Israeli settlers in the West Bank on the eve of the talks. Both men immediately said the attack should not be allowed to derail the negotiations, and the Palestinian Authority condemned the killings.

"Normally, it's been reliably easy to torpedo, or veto, any progress between Israelis and Palestinians," said Ziad J. Asali, the president of the American Task Force on Palestine. "This means an incredible loss of a weapon."

On Thursday, a Hamas spokesman said the group was responsible for another attack in which two settlers were shot and wounded just as Mr. Obama began his White House meetings.

The East Room gathering was a rare moment of diplomatic theater, endorsed by the attendance of President [Hosni Mubarak](#) of Egypt and [King Abdullah II](#) of Jordan, and orchestrated by Mr. Obama as part of an effort to invest the process with his own personal stature.

It came after Mr. Obama held a series of one-on-one meetings with the men throughout the day, and just before they were to begin a working dinner.

For Mr. Netanyahu and Mr. Abbas, Thursday's talks, with their very real chance of failure, represent a huge risk: President [Bill Clinton](#)'s failed attempt in 2000 led to the Palestinian intifada while President [George W. Bush](#)'s Annapolis peace attempt dissolved amid chronic violence in Gaza.

"Too much blood has already been shed, too many hearts have already been broken," Mr. Obama said. "This moment of opportunity may not return soon again."

The inclusion of Mr. Mubarak and King Abdullah underlines the administration's hopes to forge a regional solution to the conflict. Egypt and Jordan are critical to providing Israel with security guarantees that would enable it to accept the creation of a Palestinian state.

Mr. Mubarak has offered to host subsequent rounds of talks in Egypt, though officials said he was pushing for Mr. Obama to take a direct personal role in the process. The standing of Mr. Mubarak, 82, in the region is such that officials said the administration was eager to get direct talks going quickly, because his health is said to be fragile and the United States is worried about the uncertainty that will come after he passes from the scene.

Jordan is a crucial player because of the difficult question of how to secure its border with a new Palestinian state. Israel currently has troops along that frontier and would balk at withdrawing them without a guarantee that the border would not become a conduit for missiles that militant groups opposed to the peace process, chiefly Hamas, could fire at Tel Aviv and other cities in Israel.

Previous attempts to involve Israel's Arab neighbors in constructing a peace deal between Israelis and Palestinians have fared poorly. Mr. Obama's most recent attempt, when he sought to win confidence-building measures from Israel's neighbors like allowing Israeli carriers to fly over their countries, failed when Saudi Arabia and other Arab states refused.

But more recently, the Saudis pressed Mr. Abbas to agree to the direct talks, using their financial aid to the Palestinian Authority as a lever.

The [Arab League](#) also has put its stamp of approval on the negotiations.

- 1
- 2

[Next Page »](#)

- [E-Mail](#)
- [Print](#)
- [Single Page](#)
- [Reprints](#)

[Get the full newspaper experience, and more, delivered to your Mac or PC. Times Reader 2.0: Try it FREE for 2 full weeks.](#)

Ads by Google [what's this?](#)

Kibbutz Israel Hotels
Low prices, great range of hotels Online kibbutz hotel reservations!
[Come2israel.com/Kibbutz_Israel](#)

BCT Bible Lands Tours
Jehovah's Witnesses Bible Land Tour Israel Egypt Turkey
[www.bethelcoachtours.com](#)

official Exhibition Agent
with Becker Travel to all UAE exhibitions - Travel and More
[www.beckertravel.com](#)

Past Coverage

- [The Outlines of a Future Palestinian State](#) (August 30, 2010)
- [Israel Tense Before Talks as Protest and Sermon Fan Flames](#) (August 29, 2010)
- [Netanyahu Seeks Regular Meetings With Abbas During Talks, Official Says](#) (August 27, 2010)
- [NEWS ANALYSIS: Mideast Talks: Scant Hopes For the Start](#) (August 21, 2010)

Related Searches


[Netanyahu, Benjamin](#)
[Abbas, Mahmood](#)
[Palestinian Authority](#)
[Israel](#)


[Get E-Mail Alerts](#)
[Get E-Mail Alerts](#)
[Get E-Mail Alerts](#)
[Get E-Mail Alerts](#)

Log in to see what your friends are sharing on nytimes.com. [Privacy Policy](#) | [Log In With Facebook](#)

[What's This?](#)

What's Popular Now

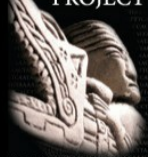

[Police Kill Gunman Holding Hostages at Discovery Channel](#)


[Cleaning the Henhouse](#)

Breaking News Alerts by E-Mail

Sign up to be notified when important news breaks.
[fsquillante@servizi-italiani.n...](#) [Sign Up](#)
[Change E-mail Address](#) | [Privacy Policy](#)

THE
DNA ANCESTRY
PROJECT



Discover your ancestry with DNA
[www.DNAAncestryProject.com](#)

[www.dnaancestryproject.com](#) Ads by Google

MOST POPULAR

- [E-Mailed](#)
- [Blogged](#)
- [Searched](#)
- [Viewed](#)

1. [Formula to Grade Teachers' Skill Gains Acceptance, and Critics](#)

2. [Maureen Dowd: Not-So-Magic Carpet Ride](#)
3. [Roger Ebert: No Longer an Eater, Still a Cook](#)
4. [Does Your Language Shape How You Think?](#)
5. [Well: Phys Ed: Does Stretching Before Running Prevent Injuries?](#)
6. [For the A-Cup Crowd, Minimal Assets Are a Plus](#)
7. [Frank Rich: The Billionaires Bankrolling the Tea Party](#)
8. [Child's Ordeal Shows Risks of Psychosis Drugs for Young](#)
9. [They Crawl, They Bite, They Baffle Scientists](#)
10. [Thomas L. Friedman: You Ain't Seen This Before](#)

[Go to Complete List »](#)

1. [Marking Iraq Milestone, Gates Strikes Cautious Note](#)
2. [Murkowski Concedes Senate Race in Alaska](#)
3. [Teenagers Charged in Harassment at Mosque](#)
4. [Touchable Gadgets Win Over Users](#)
5. [White House Oval Office Is Redecorated](#)
6. [Not-So-Magic Carpet Ride](#)
7. [President Obama's Address on Iraq](#)
8. [Power Ingredients: Rose Water Adds a Subtle Kick to Stews, Pastries or Salads](#)
9. [Ethics Inquiries Urged for 3 Congressmen](#)
10. [4 Israeli Settlers Killed in West Bank](#)

[Go to Complete List »](#)

1. [august 1, 2010](#)
2. [china](#)
3. [hurricane earl](#)
4. [oil spill](#)
5. [krugman](#)
6. [modern love](#)
7. [obama](#)
8. [ground zero mosque](#)
9. [bed bugs](#)
10. [education](#)

[Go to Complete List »](#)

1. [Maureen Dowd: Not-So-Magic Carpet Ride](#)
2. [Thomas L. Friedman: You Ain't Seen This Before](#)
3. [Roger Ebert: No Longer an Eater, Still a Cook](#)
4. [Maryland Hostages Safe as Police Kill Gunman](#)
5. [They Crawl, They Bite, They Baffle Scientists](#)
6. [Obama Declares an End to Combat Mission in Iraq](#)
7. [Formula to Grade Teachers' Skill Gains Acceptance, and Critics](#)
8. [Stocks and Bonds: Wall Street Surges After Good Reports](#)
9. [Movie Review | 'The American': Traveling Man With Few Words and a Big Gun](#)
10. [Phys Ed: Does Stretching Before Running Prevent Injuries?](#)



Women's fall fashion 2010

ALSO IN T MAGAZINE »

- [Screen Test: Freida Pinto](#)
- [Connect with T Magazine on Facebook](#)

nytimes.com  **MAGAZINE**

Advertisements

[Find your dream home with The New York Times Real Estate](#)

[Follow The New York Times on Twitter](#)

[Watch today's top videos](#)

[See the news in the making. Watch TimesCast, a daily news video.](#)



The New York Times

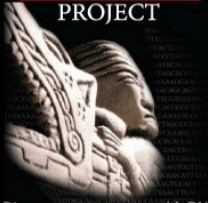
TimesReader 2.0

TRY IT FREE FOR 2 WEEKS

ACT NOW

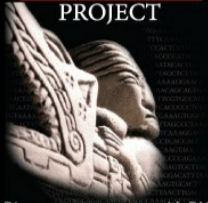


THE DNA ANCESTRY PROJECT



Discover your ancestry with DNA
powered by **genebase**

THE DNA ANCESTRY PROJECT



Discover your ancestry with DNA
powered by **genebase**

[Advertise on NYTimes.com](#)

Ads by Google

[what's this?](#)

official Exhibition Agent

with Becker Travel to all UAE exhibitions - Travel and More
www.beckertravel.com



Inside NYTimes.com

[Business »](#)

[Music »](#)

[Home & Garden »](#)

[Opinion »](#)

[Fashion & Style »](#)

[Opinion »](#)

[Opinion »](#)



[From Apple, a Step Into Social Media for Music](#)



[Send in the Heartthrob. Cue the Shrieks](#)



[The Audacity of Taupe](#)

Home Fires: The Blame Game

It is true many Iraq reconstruction projects failed, but the obstacles of rebuilding were many.



[The Tribes of San Francisco](#)



[Living Rooms: O Urban Pioneers!](#)

[Art & Design](#) [Home & Garden](#) [Information](#) [Architecture](#) [Home Is as a Form of Tax Exemption Is](#) [Where the](#)

Negotiating With the Israeli Settlers

A Room for Debate forum on whether Netanyahu can bring the settlers into a peace process.

[Fashion & Style](#) [Opinion](#) [Travel](#) [Men's Cosmetics](#) [A Dream House After All](#) [Becoming a Bull Market](#) [Op-Ed: London's Beaten Path](#) [An Oasis Off](#)

- [Home](#)
- [World](#)
- [U.S.](#)
- [N.Y. / Region](#)
- [Business](#)
- [Technology](#)
- [Science](#)
- [Health](#)
- [Sports](#)
- [Opinion](#)
- [Arts](#)
- [Style](#)
- [Travel](#)
- [Jobs](#)
- [Real Estate](#)
- [Autos](#)
- [Back to Top](#)

- [Copyright 2010 The New York Times Company](#)
- [Privacy](#)
- [Terms of Service](#)
- [Search](#)
- [Corrections](#)
- [RSS](#)
- [First Look](#)
- [Help](#)
- [Contact Us](#)
- [Work for Us](#)
- [Advertise](#)
- [Site Map](#)