



SIGNS OF THE TIMES

News Articles for Episode 318

[Russia Teases ‘Big Treaty’ with Iran \(breitbart.com\)](#)

#bibleprophecy, #russia, #iran, #treaty

Jun 27, 2024

Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said at a press conference on Wednesday that Moscow is preparing to sign a “big treaty with Iran.”

She implied the Iran treaty might be even more expansive than the security pact Russia [signed](#) with North Korea, which caused great alarm among the free world and considerable unease in China.

“Now we are working on a treaty — probably you have heard about it, and I ask you once again not to use the formula ‘the same as the one with North Korea’ — now the work is underway on the big treaty with Iran,” Zakharova [said](#).

Several other Russian officials previously hinted that a deal with Iran that has been at least two years in the making could be signed soon. Both the Iranian and Russian foreign ministers declared their commitment to finalize an agreement at the BRICS Foreign Ministers’ meeting in Nizhny Novgorod in June. BRICS is an economic bloc headed by China and Russia.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said at the BRICS meeting that as soon as a few final steps were taken in Iran, “we can do this.” Iran made comments around the same time that indicated there was no problem or delay on its end.

On Tuesday, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Andrei Rudenko [said](#) a comprehensive agreement would be signed with Iran “in the very near future,” and the text of the agreement is “already close to completion.”

On the same day, Russia’s Gazprom [signed](#) a memorandum of understanding with the National Iranian Gas Company (NIGC) to supply Russian gas to Iran. Gazprom has been desperately seeking customers to replace the European suppliers it lost after Russia invaded Ukraine in 2022.

Russia and Iran already have a strategic agreement, which was signed in 2001 and was extended for five years in 2020. The new pact has been touted as a substantial upgrade to that agreement.

Zakharova said, in January 2024, that the leaders of Iran and Russia would “meet in the near future” to sign an agreement that was “currently being finalized.” In the time

since she made that comment, Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi was [killed](#) in a helicopter crash. Iran will hold a sham election on Friday to install his replacement.

[Iran's UN mission threatens 'obliterating war' if Israel launches Lebanon offensive | The Times of Israel](#)

#bibleprophecy, #israel, #iran, #hezbollah

Jun 29, 2024

Israeli FM responds: 'A regime that threatens destruction deserves to be destroyed'; US official warns full-blown conflict could break out with 'little notice'

Iran's mission to the United Nations said on Friday that if Israel embarks on a "full-scale military aggression" in Lebanon against Hezbollah, "an obliterating war will ensue."

The warning came after the Israel Defense Force attacked several Hezbollah positions, in response to the Iran-backed terror group's latest barrage on northern Israel hours earlier, amid escalating tensions on the Lebanese border.

Writing on X on Friday, the Iranian UN mission said that if Israel were to launch a war on Hezbollah, "all options, including the full involvement of all resistance fronts, are on the table."

Foreign Minister Israel Katz responded Saturday on X: "If Hezbollah does not cease its fire and withdraw from southern Lebanon, we will act against it with full force until security is restored and residents can return to their homes."

And, he added, "A regime that threatens destruction deserves to be destroyed."

Iran's "Axis of Resistance," which includes Hezbollah, Hamas, Yemen's Houthis, and other groups in Syria and Iraq, has been targeting Israel since October 7, when thousands of Hamas-led terrorists stormed southern Israel, killing 1,200 people and taking 251 hostages, sparking the war in Gaza.

Iran itself also launched an unprecedented missile-and-drone strike on Israel on April 14, two weeks after an alleged Israel airstrike near Tehran's embassy in Damascus killed several senior officers of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps. The Iranian strike was almost entirely repelled by Israel, the United States and other allies, though a 7-year-old girl was seriously injured in the attack.

Soon after Hamas's October 7 massacre, Israel evacuated much of its north, fearing Hezbollah, Iran's proxy in Lebanon, would carry out a similar attack. Some 60,000 residents of northern Israel remain displaced, as the country seeks to remove the terror group from its northern border.

Albeit Iran deems as psychological warfare the Zionist regime's propaganda about intending to attack Lebanon, should it embark on full-scale military aggression, an obliterating war will ensue. All options, incl. the full involvement of all Resistance Fronts, are on the table.

— I.R.IRAN Mission to UN, NY (@Iran_UN) [June 28, 2024](#)

Diplomatic efforts led by the US have so far failed to make the terror group retreat beyond the Litani River — some 30 kilometers (19 miles) north of the border with Israel — in accord with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1701, which ended the 2006 Israel-Hezbollah conflict.

Tensions between Israel and Hezbollah have been steadily mounting, with a US official cited in [Politico](#) on Thursday as saying that the risk of war is higher than it has been for weeks. According to the official, a major attack by either side could spark a war, which could happen with “little notice.”

In a June 19 [speech](#), Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah said “no place” in Israel would be spared from the group’s weapons in case of a full-blown war, adding that Hezbollah would fight with “no rules” and “no ceilings.”

He also threatened Cyprus for allowing Israel to use its territory for military exercises, and appeared to threaten Israel’s offshore gas rigs, saying Israel “knows that what also awaits it in the Mediterranean is very big.”

Speaking at a ceremony commemorating senior Hezbollah commander Taleb Abdullah, whom Israel killed in an airstrike a week before, Nasrallah said the Shiite terror group does not want “total war” but is only acting in support of Hamas.

“We will continue to support Gaza and we are ready for anything. We are not afraid,” said Nasrallah. “Our demand is clear: A complete and permanent ceasefire in Gaza.”

Israeli security leaders have also said they [would prefer](#) a diplomatic resolution to the conflict, but were readying the military in case war became necessary.

Speaking to troops at an Iron Dome air defense battery in northern Israel on Friday, Defense Minister Yoav Gallant said the country was “not looking for war.”

“[We are] preparing the military force... and this can happen quickly. On the other hand, the political alternative is being prepared, it is always better,” said Gallant.

Iran ramps up Hezbollah weapons shipments as US, Europe up diplomatic pressure to prevent Lebanon war | All Israel News

#bibleprophecy, #israel, #iran, #hezbollah

Jun 29, 2024

'Don't be overconfident,' US and Europe tell Hezbollah terrorists

The Iranian regime has significantly increased its weapons shipments to the Lebanese terror group Hezbollah in recent months, despite diplomatic efforts by the United States and European countries to prevent the ongoing conflict between Hezbollah and Israel from escalating into a full-blown war.

Among the most significant weapons systems Iran recently supplied are additional anti-aircraft defense systems, which could [threaten Israel's air superiority](#), according to Ynet News.

In recent months, Hezbollah forces have attempted to shoot down Israeli aircraft numerous times, successfully hitting and [intercepting five IDF drones](#).

On April 6, Hezbollah shot down an Israeli drone. It was a Hermes 900 drone, according to Hezbollah. Hezbollah's published documentation leads us to believe that an Iranian anti-aircraft missile of type "358" launched against the drone. Pay close attention to the green rectangle... pic.twitter.com/9RKqpmdT2L

— Israel-Alma (@IsraelAlmaorg) [April 7, 2024](#)

Iranian shipments reportedly also contain advanced Almas anti-tank missiles, an Iranian development based on the Israeli Spike missile that Hezbollah obtained during the Second Lebanon War in 2006.

The missiles have a long range and are highly accurate, thanks to a camera in the warhead that allows the operator to guide them in flight.

The Iranian regime regularly [supplies weapons to Hezbollah](#), its main military proxy in the region, via a sophisticated network of smuggling routes spanning across Iraq and Syria into Lebanon.

The [IDF has struck trucks](#) and convoys carrying these shipments multiple times over the past decade.

Efforts to reach a diplomatic solution continue behind the scenes, despite appearing stalled. Both U.S. envoy Amos Hochstein and German Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock visited Jerusalem and Beirut in recent weeks but left without achieving tangible results.

The Times of Israel reported that American, European, and even Arab mediators have warned Hezbollah not to be overconfident in its ability to take on the Israel Defense Forces in an all-out war.

The message being transmitted to the Lebanese terror group is, “Don’t think that you’re as capable as you think you are,” said Gerald Feierstein, a former senior U.S. diplomat in the Middle East.

Feierstein noted that although the exchanges of fire have lessened somewhat since peaking about a week ago, neither side appears to have decided to restrain their attacks to avoid a broader war.

“It certainly seems the Israelis are still... arranging themselves in the expectation that there will be some kind of conflict... an entirely different magnitude of conflict,” he said.

The U.S. has delivered multiple warnings to Hezbollah, including a statement last week that the terror group should not count on the [U.S. holding back Israel](#) in the event of a potential regional war that could involve Iran.

The U.S. bolstered its naval forces in the Eastern Mediterranean last week, reportedly to prevent the ongoing armed conflict from escalating into an all-out war, which the U.S. fears could potentially engulf the entire region. Naval forces moved the amphibious assault ship USS Wasp to the region this week, with an official confirming, [“It’s about deterrence.”](#)

[More than 50 Florida synagogues receive bomb threats \(ynetnews.com\)](#)

#bibleprophecy, #anti-semitism, #florida, #jews, #synagogues

Jun 20, 2024

Emailed threats were sent to synagogues mainly in South Florida in Miami, Broward County, and Palm Beach County; Local and state agencies are investigating the threats

More than 50 synagogues throughout Florida received bomb threats on Wednesday, local media reported.

The emailed threats were sent to synagogues mainly in South Florida in Miami, Broward County, and Palm Beach County.

Bomb squad sweeps were conducted at the affected synagogues; no threats were determined. Several local and state agencies are now investigating the threats.

The bomb threats were issued a day after Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis announced that the state had provided more funding than ever to provide security against antisemitic attacks.

"Florida is prepared. We have put out money where our mouth is and if you are going to try to bring that to our state you are going to end up hitting a brick wall," DeSantis said. "If people are being targeted because they are Jewish or for any other reason, we are going to hold the offender accountable."

There were 463 anti-Semitic incidents in Florida in 2023, according to the Anti-Defamation League's annual tally. There has been a marked increase in antisemitic incidents since October 7, according to reports.

"Everyone should care. Unfortunately, the hatred that starts in the Jewish community overflows and it becomes a problem for everyone," Rabbi Josh Broide, of the Boca Raton Synagogue, told local media.

"This is obviously very concerning. The government and the authorities will have to deal with this. As far as the community is concerned, it is never good to panic and we must be vigilant. In the last few months, we have seen an uptick in anti-Semitic incidents and demonstrations and again this is all very concerning," Rabbi Yisroel Spalter of the Chabad of Weston told CBS News Miami.

A bomb threat sent by email is a federal crime and can lead to a prison sentence of up to 10 years if there is a conviction.

[Aid groups press to stop Sudan 'man-made' famine as 755,000 projected to starve \(yahoo.com\)](#)

#bibleprophecy, #sudan, #famine, #man-made, #starvation

Jun 28, 2024

Aid groups are warning that Sudan's "man-made famine" could be even worse than feared, with the most catastrophic death toll the world has seen in decades, without more global pressure on warring generals.

A UN-backed study said Thursday that 755,000 people are on the brink of starvation in Sudan, a death toll not seen since the 1980s when famine in Ethiopia shocked the world.

Barrett Alexander, the director of programs in Sudan for Mercy Corps, said even that figure could be an underestimate as the conflict has displaced farmers in the country's agricultural areas, raising fears for the next harvest.

"Honestly, I wouldn't be surprised if it were a little bit higher than that number," he said of the projection by the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification initiative, or IPC.

"We're seeing a man-made likely famine happen in front of our eyes that's primarily conflict-induced," Alexander, who is based in Port Sudan, told AFP on a visit to Washington.

The IPC said that nearly 26 million people -- half of Sudan's population -- were facing acute food insecurity with the 755,000 in catastrophic conditions, including around the capital Khartoum and Darfur, the scene of a scorched-earth military campaign two decades ago.

Fighting erupted in April 2023 between the army and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces after a plan to integrate them failed, with the warring generals seizing territory.

Alexander said that both sides have imposed cumbersome levels of bureaucracy, including requiring permits of aid workers.

"Getting across the frontlines is nearly impossible," he said.

- Eating grass -

Eatizaz Yousif, Sudan country director for the International Rescue Committee, said there have already been accounts of people resorting to eating grass in South Kordofan state.

"Definitely we will be seeing very soon people dying from a lack of food in different parts of the country," said Yousif, who was also in Washington.

She said that the belligerents have looted food warehouses and harassed or killed humanitarian workers.

"It's definitely a man-made hunger crisis because we don't have a problem with the level of grain at this time," she said.

The United States has been seeking to bring the warring sides back to the negotiating table but has seen little interest, with diplomats saying both sides believe they can win on the battlefield.

The two sides "must negotiate an immediate ceasefire to facilitate predictable and sustained humanitarian access to all Sudanese and remain at the negotiating table to end this conflict," Samantha Power, head of the US Agency for International Development, said in a statement.

Regional players have increasingly been involved in Sudan, with the United Arab Emirates accused of funneling military support to the Rapid Support Forces, whose fighters helped the wealthy Gulf country in Yemen.

The paramilitaries have also allegedly received support from Russia's Wagner mercenaries, while Egypt, Turkey and reportedly Iran have backed the army.

With multiple conflicts in the world, donors have provided only 17 percent of the \$2.7 billion sought by the United Nations to help Sudan.

"Compare Sudan with crises like Gaza and Ukraine -- maybe they are more important in the geopolitical arena," Yousif said.

"If you see the number of displaced and the number of humans suffering, Sudan should be on the top of humanitarian attention," she said.

[Beryl's 'Armageddon-like' impact: Few buildings stand, power grid destroyed in Caribbean \(yahoo.com\)](#)

#bibleprophecy, #hurricane, #beryl, #caribbean, #destruction

Jul 3, 2024

St. Vincent and Grenadines Prime Minister Ralph Gonsalves Facebook page

As Hurricane Beryl bore down on Jamaica on Wednesday, the islands in its wake were getting a clearer picture of the destruction the record-setting storm left behind in the southeastern Caribbean.

“It is almost Armageddon-like, almost total damage or destruction of all buildings whether they be public buildings, homes or other private facilities,” said Grenada Prime Minister Dickon Mitchell after a helicopter survey on Tuesday. “Complete devastation and destruction of agriculture. Complete and total destruction of the natural environment; there is literally no vegetation left anywhere on the island of Carriacou.”

In St. Vincent and the Grenadines to the north, fellow Prime Minister [Ralph Gonsalves](#) on Wednesday described Union Island as “a field of devastation.”

“The roofs of all these buildings are gone,” Gonsalves said of the island of about 3,000 people in the southern Grenadines as he flew over.

The storm has already been blamed for at least four deaths in the eastern Caribbean where two people died on the island of Carriacou, another in mainland Grenada and another in Union Island, a sister island to St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Two other deaths have been reported in northern Venezuela during the storm's passage, the Associated Press reported, adding that five people are also missing. The toll is expected to climb and Beryl's passage along the Jamaican coastline could add to it. The storm is packing not just 145-mph winds but up to nine feet of storm surge.

Mitchell said the devastation is worse than he and others previously thought.

“It is clear that agriculture has taken quite a battering. It is clear that many persons have lost their roofs...many people have lost their entire homes,” Mitchell said about mainland Grenada, which also took a beating. “But the destruction in Grenada. even in St. Patrick, which is extensive, is of almost no significance, compared to the total destruction that Hurricane Beryl has brought to the islands of Carriacou and Petite Martinique.”

It is now estimated that only two percent of the buildings and homes there survived — 98 percent have been destroyed or severely damaged.

Beyond the immediate housing crisis, Mitchell said the electrical grid system and communication systems had been destroyed. “As of this moment, communication is still a major problem,” he said late Tuesday.

Despite the dire circumstances, Mitchell said things have started to move. Volunteers have started to give their time, dropped off supplies and offered their boats freely to get supplies to the two sister islands.

“This is going to be a mammoth task to rebuild Carriacou and Petite Martinique, but we are committed to doing so” Mitchell said.

Gonsalves also promised that St. Vincent will turn “this terrible setback” into an opportunity to rebuild on both the mainland and the sister islands of Canouan, Palm Island, Mayreau and Union Island where homes were flattened by a record-setting Beryl as its winds and heavy downpour pounded the region.

“There are hundreds of houses on St. Vincent that have been severely damaged or destroyed,” he said during an address to the nation where he confirmed at least one death. “Roofs are gone, government buildings, especially schools...where you have had severe damage and of course there are churches.”

On Union Island at least 90% of the homes and buildings are damaged or destroyed, including a hospital and the roof of the airport terminal.

“There is a sense of shock among people, at the same time a determination to rebuild,” said Gonsalves, who released a video showing him touring the trail of destruction and being greeted with hugs and tears by residents. “We’re going to build it back, we’re going to build it back better and stronger.”

Gonsalves some residents want to lead the islands in the southern Grenadines, while others are determined to stay. “There’s a lot of trauma,” he said of what he observed on residents’ faces as he tried to console them and give them hope. “It’s an extraordinarily difficult time.”

While the islands’ isolation add to the challenges of both cleaning up and providing relief, both Gonsalves and Mitchell launched efforts to get supplies in. Grenada issued a list while Gonsalves launched a relief fund for the government to receive financial contributions online. Persons can go to <http://svghurricanerelief.gov.vc> to make contributions.

“Building back here is huge,” he said. “It is a huge challenge demanding solidarity from all of our people, and from our allies in the region and from the international community.”

Beryl remained a Category 4 on Wednesday as it headed toward Jamaica, which is currently under a state of emergency.

Regional response

The Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management agency, which is the regional body responsible for responding to disasters, said Wednesday there is not yet an official death toll and they are still assessing the destruction in member countries.

Elizabeth Riely, director of CDEMA, confirmed that while the Grenadines islands of Grenada and St. Vincent bore the brunt of the hurricane, Barbados, St. Lucia and Dominica were also affected.

Riely emphasized that damage assessments are ongoing. But the preliminary picture of what has emerged includes over 200 boats damaged in Barbados, and 40 homes damaged “with numbers expected to rise.”

“We have also confirmed significant damage to the fishing sector as well as coastal infrastructure particularly along the south coast of the island,” she said. Roads are also obstructed with debris and fallen trees.

St. Lucia also experienced significant damage in its southern part of the island, particularly in Soufrière. There are also reports of damage across the twin island state of Trinidad and Tobago; there were power outages and water disruption on Tobago and temporarily blocked roads on both islands. Dominica, meanwhile, has reported minimal damage.

Riely said based on reports provided so far, they know that 100% of the population on the island of Canouan, which has 12,600 inhabitants, was affected by Beryl. “There is an estimated 90% of the houses that were damaged either extensively or destroyed.”

A police station in Charlestown has lost its roof while the runway has been cleared and is usable. In addition to almost all the buildings and houses on Union Island, the control tower of the airport also had been destroyed. The power plant has also received significant damage and approximately 30% of the solar panels at a solar farm have also been damaged or destroyed.

On the island of Mayreau, all 300 inhabitants have been affected while 90% of the housing stock experienced some kind of impact. Meanwhile a resort on Palm Island has also been significantly damaged along with the desalination plant. The island of Bequia has fared a bit better than its sister islands, Riely said.

“Initial estimates are that about 10% of the houses and buildings, suffering roof damage. We’ve confirmed that the airport buildings and runways are still very much usable,” Riely said. “With respect to Mustique, the airport also is in good condition as well as the jetty.:

“The overall picture with respect to the Grenadine islands is quite significant, severe and of course the focus as this time is on the population which has been significantly impacted. They’re also exposed, so there are considerations related to urgent shelter for those persons,” Riley said.

Shelter is also a consideration for the entire 6,081 residents who live on Carriacou and the 900 people who call Petite Martinique home.

Riley said the 15-member Caribbean Community bloc leaders met on Tuesday to address the ongoing disaster and her agency has activated its regional response to assist those nations that have been affected while keeping an eye on Beryl’s impact to Jamaica, Cayman, Haiti and possibly Belize.

[Red Rocks workers spot 'spaceship' looking UFO hovering in Colorado \(usatoday.com\)](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2024/06/28/red-rocks-amphitheatre-ufo-sighting/7244444002/)

#bibleprophecy, #ufo, #spaceship, #colorado

Jun 28, 2024

A dozen employees at the [Red Rocks Amphitheatre](#) claim they saw a strange object light up the Colorado sky earlier this month, according to the National UFO Reporting Center.

The observers, who said they work for the Morrison, Colorado venue, described a [dark metallic disk](#) that appeared north of the amphitheater at around 1 a.m. on June 5, the center reported.

The object appeared to be several hundred feet long and hovered in place for 30 seconds before heading east at about 5-10 mph and vanishing, according to a report the center posted.

"One of our coworkers suddenly said to us, 'Hey, what is that over there? It looks like a spaceship.' We all turned to look in the direction he was pointing and sure enough, there was a UFO hovering," an observer in the report said. "We all kept asking each other, 'Are you seeing this too?'"

Satellite crumble: [Russian satellite breaks up, sends nearly 200 pieces of space debris into orbit](#)

Craft appeared to have 'three levels of windows'

The amphitheater employee said the "large disc-shaped craft" appeared to have "three levels of windows," according to the report.

The worker said it seemed as large as a three story office building. While it remained completely silent throughout its appearance, the employee claimed that the object tipped at an angle and slowly headed east right when the group dedicated their full attention to it.

"Then it started fading away until it was invisible. It didn't shoot off into the distance. It simply dissolved into the ether. We all watched it vanish," the worker said in the report. "This was not a plane. It wasn't a satellite, a drone, or anything like that. There was no mistaking what this was."

What states have the most UFO sightings?

There have been 3320 UFO sightings reported in Colorado, according to the center. The Centennial State ranks as the 12th U.S. state with the most UFO reports and in 2023 was the 21st most populated.

Colorado sits behind Oregon with 3,587 sightings reported.

These are the [top 10 states in the U.S.](#) with the most reports as of June 28, 2024, shared by the center (along with their 2023 state population rank).

- California - 16,394 (1st)
- Florida - 8,380 (3rd)
- Washington - 7,281 (13th)
- Texas - 6,262 (2nd)
- New York - 5,954 (4th)
- Pennsylvania - 5,078 (5th)
- Arizona - 5,056 (14th)
- Ohio - 4,494 (7th)
- Illinois - 4,321 (6th)
- North Carolina - 3,715 (9th)

What are the most common types of UFOs reported?

The most common description is simply a non-identifiable light in the sky, according to Peter Davenport, the non-profit's director since 1994.

"We don't get too excited about reports of that nature, because there are many lights in the sky," Davenport told USA TODAY in October. "Stars and planets, of course, satellites."

As a commercial pilot himself, Davenport said he's most intrigued by reports submitted by airline pilots, which he calls "pretty good sources of accurate information when they see something they can't identify or explain."

Descriptions of these objects from the center's data ranges from common shapes including circles, ovals, triangles and diamonds to images such as a light, orb, flash, disk or fireball.

A NASA team published a report on Sept. 14 showing that the most common form of UAPs reported are orbs or spheres.

NASA UFO team finds no evidence of extraterrestrials

A [36-page report](#) from NASA's Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena Independent Study Team released in September found no evidence that UFOs or UAPs are of extraterrestrial origin.

The team said some UAPs simply can't yet be explained but that NASA is increasing their role in scientific investigation of these sightings, even naming a new director of UAP research, whose identity has been withheld.

At a [congressional hearing](#) last July, three former military members spoke about their knowledge of reported UFO encounters and discussed the security threats the phenomena could pose.

One of them was Rt. Commander [David Fravor](#), who was among Navy pilots who during a 2004 flight, spotted [the now-famous Tic Tac-shaped object that was captured on video](#) off the Southern California coast. When testifying he described the oval object as "perfectly white, smooth, no windows," and said it displayed flight capabilities that were unheard of.

[Zuckerberg: AI Companies Trying to Create 'God' | Newsmax.com](#)

#bibleprophecy, #god, #zuckerberg, #artificial intelligence

Jun 29, 2024

Meta CEO Mark Zuckerberg claimed this week that artificial intelligence companies are trying to create "God or something," but said his company is different.

"I find it a pretty big turnoff when people in the tech industry kind of talk about building this one true AI. It's almost as if they think they're creating God or something. And it's like, that's not what we're doing," Zuckerberg said during an interview with YouTuber [Kane Kallaway](#).

He also maintained that his company had other goals, such as allowing creators and small businesses to personalize their own AIs to suit their needs.

"So, a big part of the approach is going to be enabling every creator, and then eventually also every small business on the platform, to create an AI for themselves to help them interact with their community and their customers if they're a business," he said.

However, [according to The Sun](#), during his 40-minute interview, the tech CEO made no serious attempt to address the ethical concerns surrounding the technology, such as loss of jobs, privacy, and misinformation.

In a [study](#) conducted by German AI ethicist Thilo Hagendorff from the University of Stuttgart, Large Language AI Models (LLM) exhibited overwhelming "maladaptive" behavior and "Machiavellianism."

"GPT-4, for instance, exhibits deceptive behavior in simple test scenarios 99.16% of the time," the study said.

In another study published in [Patterns](#), researchers found that Meta's LLM also exhibited Machiavellian tendencies:

"Billed as a human-level champion in the political strategy board game 'Diplomacy,'" the tech zine [Futurism](#) wrote, "Meta's Cicero model was the subject of the Patterns study. As the disparate research group — comprised of a physicist, a philosopher, and two AI safety experts — found, the LLM got ahead of its human competitors by, in a word, fibbing."

[Hawaii schools ordered to allow Good News Clubs access to campus | Education \(christianpost.com\)](#)

#bibleprophecy, #good news club, #hawaii, #education, #evangelism

Jul 1, 2024

A federal court has ordered the Hawaii Department of Education and six individual elementary schools to allow Child Evangelism Fellowship's after-school Bible clubs to operate on public school campuses just like any other club. The directive comes months after CEF sued education officials for blocking their student clubs from operating in four local school districts.

The preliminary [injunction](#) protects Good News Clubs from viewpoint discrimination and compels school officials to respond promptly to facility-use applications, [according to Liberty Counsel](#), the legal group that represented CEF.

This decision stems from a lawsuit filed in January, alleging that the Hawaii Department of Education and six schools had continuously denied the Good News Clubs' access to school facilities over three years, citing instances of what the Liberty Counsel described as “blatant religious discrimination.”

During the legal proceedings, it emerged that one school had explicitly barred the club based on its religious nature, while another rejection was attributed to a misinterpretation of school policies.

“This is a great victory for Child Evangelism Fellowship, parents, and the students in Hawaii public schools,” said Mat Staver, founder and chairman of Liberty Counsel. “The U.S. Supreme Court has ruled that public schools cannot discriminate against Christian viewpoints regarding use of school facilities,” he pointed out. “Child Evangelism Fellowship gives children a safe space that offers moral and character development from a Christian viewpoint.”

Before the pandemic, child Evangelism Fellowship of Hawaii had established Good News Clubs in over a dozen schools across Oahu and other islands. However, despite the restoration of after-school programs in 2022 following COVID-19 restrictions, the Department of Education, led by four superintendents and other officials, denied all requests from CEF to restart its programs. They rejected every appeal, allowing access only to other similar groups.

The Good News Clubs aim to provide a safe space for children for spiritual growth and moral character development. These clubs, which meet weekly, immediately after

school, are managed by trained local volunteers and offer religious teachings alongside activities promoting learning, service and leadership development. The clubs are free and open to children who have written permission from their parents.

In their complaint filed in the U.S. District Court of the District of Hawaii, CEF Hawaii named several defendants, including the Hawaii Department of Education and Education Superintendent Keith Hayashi; and other area superintendents such as Rochelle Mahoe, Linell Dilwith, Janette Snelling and Richard Fajardo.

The complaint argued that the denials of access violated constitutional rights under the First and Fourteenth Amendments by preventing the clubs from communicating with students on equal footing with secular organizations such as the Girl Scouts and Cub Scouts.

“Good News Clubs should be in every public elementary school,” Staver remarked.

In 2001, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled 6-3 in *Good News Club v. Milford Central School* that public schools could not ban the Christian student group from meeting on their property after class hours solely because the club was religious in nature.