

PRESS RELEASE

**Juneteenth Welcomes
Miss Israel to America**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (9/14/13)

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**National Juneteenth Christian Leadership Council (NJCLC) Welcomes
Miss Israel, Yityish Aynaw, to America During September 2013 Tour**

NJCLC to Host 2014 Israel Juneteenth Reconciliation Tour

**National Black Evangelical Association (NBEA) Celebrates the
Black Presence in the Bible During Visit of Miss Israel**



Rev. Ronald V. Myers, Sr., M.D.



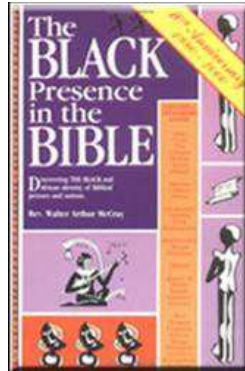
Yityish Aynaw



Dr. Walter McCray



[2014 Juneteenth Israel Reconciliation Tour](#)



(Washington, DC) - The first Ethiopian Jewish woman to become Miss Israel, [Yityish Aynaw](#), will tour America, hosted by the [National Juneteenth Leadership Council \(NJCLC\)](#), during the last week of September. Her U.S. tour will be followed by a [Israel Juneteenth Reconciliation Tour](#) to the state of Israel in 2014.

"We are excited about Miss Israel's visit and the opportunity to build closer relationships with the state of Israel through our connection with the Ethiopian Jewish community," states [Rev. Ronald V. Myers, Sr., M.D.](#), Founder & Chairman of the [National Juneteenth Observance Foundation \(NJOF\)](#) and the [NJCLC](#), host of the [National & World Day of Reconciliation & Healing from the Legacy of Enslavement](#).

"We, as Americans of African descent, share a common historical bond of going from enslavement to freedom with our Ethiopian Jewish brothers and sisters. We look forward to having a historic [Juneteenth Freedom Day Celebration](#) in Israel next year." Rev. Dr. Myers, who leads the [Campaign to Make Juneteenth a National Holiday](#), believes that the annual celebration of [Juneteenth](#) affords America a great opportunity to bring reconciliation and healing to one of nation's darkest moments in history. He also believes it is the time to address the need for reconciliation and healing from the legacy of enslavement for not just America, but the entire world, especially Africa.

Rev. Dr. Myers, the first ordained and commissioned medical missionary to America's poorest region, the Mississippi Delta, in the history of the African American church, wants to bring awareness of the needs of Ethiopian Jews.

"There are a number of Ethiopian churches, pastors and ministers in the U.S. that we are working with concerning Miss Israel's visit," states Dr. Myers. Our prayer is to be a blessing by raising money and other resources to help meet the needs of Ethiopian Jews in Israel and in Ethiopia."

"Miss Israel's visit will also bring awareness of black people in the Bible as we acknowledge the African and Jewish lineage of the descendants of King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba, who are the Ethiopian Jews," states [Dr. Walter McCray](#), President of the [National Black Evangelical Association \(NBEA\)](#) and author of ["The Black Presence in the Bible,"](#) an important resource on the subject of black Biblical history. "Our [2014 NBEA Convention](#) in Kansas City next year will continue to celebrate black Bible history. We continue to support Rev. Dr. Myers by our plans to hopefully join him in Israel next year to celebrate [Juneteenth.](#)"

For information on the U.S. tour of Miss Israel during the last week of September, with stops in Washington, DC, Fairfax, VA, Chicago, IL, Los Angeles, CA and San Diego, CA, from September 23-30, 2013, contact Dr. Myers at 662-392-2016; e-mail: JuneteenthDOC@yahoo.com; web sites: www.NJCLC.com, www.NationalJuneteenth.com.

Donations for the expenses of the tour through the [Myers Foundation](#) are greatly appreciated.