



Today in History

March 9, 1999

▲ **Rana Raslan became the first Israeli Arab to win the Miss Israel beauty contest, going on to represent Israel in the Miss Universe pageant**

1454: Italian explorer Amerigo Vespucci, after whom the Americas were named, was born

1924: Italy abandoned claims to Yugoslavia's Dalmatian coast

1974: Japanese soldier Hiroo Onoda was discovered in the Philippines after hiding out for 30 years in the belief that World War II was still in progress

2004: A U.S. report warned that obesity could soon be the nation's leading cause of preventable deaths