

שמעו דבר ה'!

Call from Central Rabbinical Congress of the United States and Canada

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בס"ד

Since the changes made in the atheistic government in the Holy Land, a wave of confusion and euphoria has arisen. Even within the ranks of those who uphold the Torah and mitzvos in the Holy Land and the diaspora, there is an element of sympathy for the new regime, because of the acquiescence of the religious parties, including the well-known Party that prides itself in representing the Torah and Judaism.

The decision of this Party to join the coalition is what turned the balance in establishing the new government, which opposes world nations and mighty governments with an impudence greater than all previous ones.

How terrifying is this blasphemy toward Heaven! The Jews who represent Torah observers praise the wicked and help to establish a regime of evildoers and, by so doing, they proclaim to the entire world that they are an inseparable part of this government.

And if, concerning previous regimes, we subscribe to the principle that serving in the atheistic Knesset was an endorsement of the rule of atheists and evil laws that the wicked had enacted, that sin has been multiplied, as they are now directly responsible for the deeds that this atheistic regime executes. The responsibility rests on their necks, for without the cooperation of the religious parties, the regime would not have been able to exist.

During these trying times, in which the threat of terrible war hangs over the heads of our brethren, the residents of the Holy Land—may the Almighty have mercy—
— ה' ירחם —
the religious representatives chose, for their personal benefit, to support the atheistic regime over fulfilling their responsibility to the Jewish people. They chose to join a regime that contends with the nations with fearful insolence. They reply to all these charges that due to their joining, they were able to receive concessions for the benefit of religion.

It is our duty to warn that even if it be so, that they received promises of some concessions, there is no permission according to the Torah, to join this regime. On the contrary, during the past weeks, the hate toward religion has worsened and has already caused blood to be shed, may the Almighty have mercy.

Even if the government was composed entirely of Jews who observe the Torah and mitzvos, the prohibition to establish a state for Jews before the coming of Moshiach stands. We have been foresworn, by three strong oaths, not to ascend to the Holy Land as a group using force, not to rebel against the governments of countries in which we live and not, by our sins, to prolong the coming of Moshiach; as is written in Tractate Kesuvos (111b): To he who thinks it is in the power of the Jews to breach the yoke of exile by establishing an independent state before the arrival of Moshiach, we must state that a spirit of atheism hovers within him.

Much to our great regret, the atheistic Zionist ideology has now found room to spread among Torah observers as well.

Many are wandering around with fraudulent hopes in their new leader—that he will console them and supposedly purify the Zionist state and make it more presentable according to the Torah.

Our forefathers and rabbis of all generations sacrificed their very lives against Zionism but now if, G-d forbid, we remain silent, this movement can succeed in seducing the multitudes of Orthodox Jews. The responsibility to the faithful public rests upon us, and it is not a time to remain silent.

What has aggravated the situation even moreso is that since the "Torah Party" desecrated the Almighty's Name by joining the wicked regime, its members' wicked hearts led them to silence the voice of the faithful Jews who sigh at the scene of this terrible rebellion. When Orthodox Jewry in Jerusalem, under the leadership of the Bais Din of the Eida HaChareidis (Orthodox Jewish community), cried out in protest, the Party reproached them with scorn and didn't hesitate to use all the low methods of coercion at its disposal: All in order to suppress the anguished cry of the G-d-fearing Jews. We are therefore calling to our brethren!

Trying times of reckoning have come to faithful Jewry. A wave of evil waters threatens to engulf the best of us, Heaven forbid. We therefore must write and stand firm to watch that the flame of our Holy Torah and pure faith should not be extinguished. Each man should help his friend and strengthen his brother, and we, too, will be

reinforced in the true belief given over to us from our holy forefathers and rabbis.

All the evil winds in the world will not be able to move us from our position, with the help of the Almighty.

Let us strengthen weak hands. Let us not allow the remnant of Orthodox Jewry in Eretz Yisroel, which is fighting with self-sacrifice against the atheists and their collaborators, to buckle under the pressure of those who are scheming to choke their crying voice.

And to you, our brethren in the Holy Land, who feel the word of the Almighty and His Torah, we declare:

Don't be silent! Raise your voices in protest against all the harsh decrees that are multiplying in Eretz Yisroel, and against these flatterers who sold themselves to the atheistic regime. You, from there, and we, from here, will raise our voices and declare to the entire world that we are

all continuing the chain of tradition of our holy forebearers of every generation.

We are against and entirely condemn any method of joining with the atheists who are in control of power in Eretz Yisroel.

We publicly make known our stand, the stand of the Torah, that any form of a government in Eretz Yisroel before the coming of Moshlach is a denial of and rebellion against our Holy Torah.

All those who are collaborating with the Zionists in any form have a part in this terrifying rebellion. Our hands are outstretched to our Merciful Father, that we should merit to be firm in these trying times. We are sure that the Almighty will not leave His people for the sake of His Great Name and will help us spread the light of true faith among the Jewish people, while teaching the confused understanding.

Very soon we shall merit to be redeemed through the righteous Moshlach. Amen.

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