



Historical Society of Jews From Egypt

P.O BOX 230445

Brooklyn, NY 11223

President Donald J. Trump
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW,
Washington D.C 20500

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF JEWS FROM EGYPT

P.O. BOX 230445 BROOKLYN, NY 11223

email: info@hsje.org

<http://www.hsje.org>

Monday February 3, 2025

Dear President Trump:

We, representing the Historical Society of Jews from Egypt (HSJE), would greatly appreciate it if you would convey to President El Sisi of Egypt our serious concern about the Jewish religious articles and documents still in Egypt. They were left behind by the large Jewish community when the Egyptian authorities forced it to exile itself after Israel was created. We request that this, our patrimony, be transferred to an academic institution in the United States.

In response to our original request, sent directly to then-President Mubarak, Egyptian Ambassador Mr. Nabil Fahmy stated that these articles have been placed under the jurisdiction of the Department of Antiquities and cannot be transferred abroad. We cannot accept this response. Religious objects in use less than a generation ago cannot be classified as "antiquities", on a par with the Pyramids and the Sphinx. A country that persecuted its Jews just because they were Jews cannot safeguard the Jewish heritage under their control.

Our proposal to move these articles and records to an institution in the United States will allow people to admire them, consult them, and use them for religious purposes, instead of having them languish in dusty basements alongside ancient mummies. They belong to us.

To give you some background, after the creation of Israel the Egyptian authorities began persecuting the 100,000 Jews living in Egypt. They harassed us, made us live in fear, denied us equal opportunity, denied us citizenship even though we were born in Egypt, confiscated our property, threw many of us in jail even though we committed no crimes, and finally forced us to leave the country, frequently by simply expelling us. Before leaving, we were forced to pledge that we would never return and were "voluntarily" forfeiting all our assets. They stole, from the community as a whole and from individual Jews, assets amounting to billions of dollars. Our only crime was being Jewish. Not a penny has ever been returned. We all had to rebuild our lives from scratch in foreign lands.

And now, close to seventy-five years later,

1. Egypt still has not returned confiscated assets, as the free world has done with other Jewish communities;
2. Egypt still has not apologized for its past evil treatment of its Jews, as the free world has done with other Jewish communities;
3. Egypt still has not officially recognized the great contribution Jews have made to their country of birth, as the free world has done with other Jewish communities;

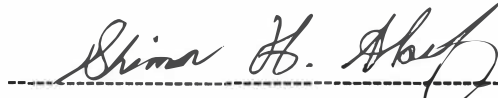
and, incredibly,

4. Egypt is currently trying to pilfer what little is left of the Jewish heritage in Egypt. The articles and records we are requesting have religious significance and were donated to the Egyptian Jewish community by its members for specific religious functions.

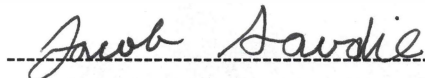
The United States has given Egypt \$87 billion in aid to date, not even adjusted for inflation, and continues to send it our tax dollars every year. We hope this matter can be settled without asking for legislation to withhold aid from Egypt if it does not comply with our request, but we are prepared to do so, with your support, if you think that is the best way. We kindly ask that you discuss this subject with President El Sisi. Thank you in advance for your efforts on our behalf.

Respectfully,

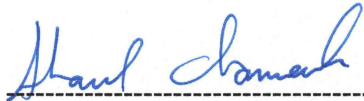
The HSJE committee and its Regional Officers



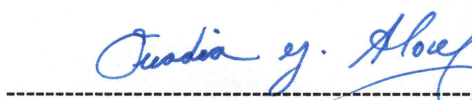
Rabbi Shimon Alouf Chief Rabbi of The Egyptian Community in New York, Ahava Ve Ahva of Ocean Parkway



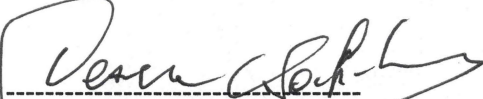
Rabbi Yaakov Savdie Ahava Ve Ahva of Ocean Parkway



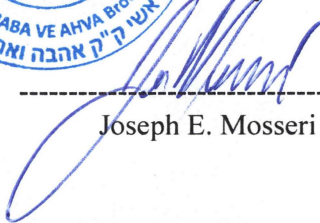
Rabbi Shaul Chamoula Ahava Ve Ahva of Ocean Parkway



Rabbi Ovadia Alouf Chief Rabbi of Ahava Ve Ahva of Ocean Parkway



Desire L. Sakal



Joseph E. Mosseri President

***Embassy of the Arab Republic of Egypt
Washington, D.C.***

The Ambassador

June 26, 2000

Rabbi Shimon Haj Allouf
Honorary Chairman HSJE
P.O. BOX 230445
Brooklyn, NY 11223

Dear Rabbi Shimon Haj Allouf,

With regards to your letter dated March 22, 2000 to his Excellency President Hosni Mubarak, requesting the transfer of Jewish artifacts in Egypt to an academic institute in New York, I would like to inform you that some of these artifacts are in the possession of the Jewish Temples in Egypt while the remaining are in the possession of the Egyptian Jewish Community.

Furthermore, the most import of these artifacts have already been registered with the Egyptian Antiquities Authority and are subject to the Egyptian Laws protecting our national heritage and cannot be sent abroad.

Best regards.

Sincerely

Nabil Fahmy



HONORARY CHAIRMAN
Rabbi Shimon H. Alour

Founders

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President
vice-President
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Washington, DC 20008

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January 2, 2018

His Excellency Ambassador
Yasser Reda

It has come to our attention that Ms. Magda Haroun, the president of the Jewish Community of Cairo, plans to hold "cultural" events in our synagogues. Since there are fewer than ten Jews in Egypt, these events will have to be non-Jewish in nature.

We protest this action. Our synagogues are houses of worship and must be used only for Jewish religious functions. They are not social clubs. Ms. Haroun lacks the authority to change the purpose of these synagogues.

The Egyptian government has stated many times that it is determined to protect these synagogues as "Egyptian heritage". This being the case, it stands to reason that they should be preserved only for their original purpose. We urge the Egyptian government to intervene and reverse this turn of events.

Respectfully ;

Desire Sakkal