

**UNDERSTAND THE ERUV THROUGH THE
WISDOM OF THE HOLY RABBI YEHUDA HA LEVY
ZTK'L AUTHOR OF HA KUZARI**

G-D FORBID THAT WE UNDO A TORAH RESTRICTION

The Kuzari said: "I still would like to ask you about the Eruv, a leniency in the commandment of Shabbat. How can you permit that which G-d forbade using such a despicable and lowly legal subterfuge?"

The Rabbi said: "Heaven forbid that a whole group of saintly and wise people would agree to a law which would undo a Torah restriction! To the contrary, they exhort us to "Make a fence for the Torah. One of the fences that they made was the prohibition of transferring from private to public property or vice versa, which is something that the Torah did not restrict. Afterwards they created a leniency within this fence. They did this in order that their decree would not be perceived on the same level as Torah law, and in order that people should have some freedom in performing their regular activities on the Shabbat. They wanted people to have this freedom in a permissible manner, through the making of an Eruv. This was done so that there should be some recognizable distinction between that which is completely permitted [namely a completely private domain] that which is completely prohibited by the Torah [namely a public domain], and that which is prohibited because of a fence [namely the rabbinical public domain, Carmelit]".

The Kuzari Maamar 3, 51