

BSD

**ERETZ ISRAEL
BULLETIN 121**

**WORLD ALLIANCE FOR THE CORRECTION
OF THE SIN OF THE SPIES**

**“LIVING IN ERETZ ISRAEL IS THE EQUIVALENT OF ALL THE
MITZVOT OF THE TORAH” (SIFRE, PARASHAT REE)**

LEARN THE LESSON AND DO NOT FOLLOW ON THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE SPIES

A PEOPLE RETURNING TO LIVE IN THEIR ANCIENT LAND IS NOT MERELY ZIONISM, OR POLITICS, OR THE SOLUTION TO THE "JEWISH PROBLEM." THE RETURN OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE TO ISRAEL IS THE DEEPEST ESSENCE OF TORAH.

For the first time in nearly two-thousand years, we have a powerful army able to defend our land from our enemies. But photographs from only sixty years ago tell a different story - the tragedy of a people in ruins, disgrace, and defeat. To search for the truth of Am Yisrael in one isolated era, or generation, distorts the unity of the whole. The Torah of the Lord is perfect, (Tehillim 19) encompassing all generations and time. After a two-thousand-year exile, the Jewish people have returned to where we truly belong, in Israel, to the center of the international map. This phenomenal saga of a people returning to live in their ancient land is not merely Zionism, or politics, or the solution to the "Jewish problem." The return of the Jewish people to Israel is the deepest essence of Torah.

Of course, all of us in the room wanted to believe in this exalted vision of redemption. But truly incorporating it into our psyches didn't come easy. Most of us had grown up with alien notions and foreign creeds: "All men are created equal!" "Liberté, Egalité, Fraternité." And all of the "isms." In our day, the Zion had been taken out of Zionism, and we were left with liberalism, humanism, socialism, communism, and capitalism. For the Israeli students of the Yeshiva, young people who had grown up through wars, and who had been nurtured on national pride, this world view of Israel came easier. But for the students from the Galut, who never had a Jewish Land of their own, and had grown up as minorities in someone else's country and culture, this understanding of redemption was more difficult to grasp. Therefore, Rav Tzvi Yehuda was careful to explain.

(From Sefer Torat Eretz Yisrael)

PLEASE HASHEM SAVE US FROM THE SIN OF THE SPIES WHO SPOKE LASHON HARA AGAINST ERETZ ISRAEL. LET US CORRECT THE SIN OF “THEY DESPISED THE DESIRABLE LAND” (TEHILLIM 106) FOR IN THIS WAY WE BRING CLOSER THE COMPLETE GEULA WHEN YOUR NAME WILL BE SANCTIFIED IN THE WORLD AND YOUR NATION ISRAEL SHALL BE EXALTED AND YOUR BEIT HA MIKDASH REBUILT MAY THIS BE SOON IN OUR DAYS, AMEN YEHI RATZON