

BSD

**ERETZ ISRAEL  
BULLETIN 147**

**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**

**"SIMILARLY, THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO ARGUE AGAINST  
ALIYAH TO ISRAEL BECAUSE THEY BELIEVE IT IS FRAUGHT  
WITH PHYSICAL AND SPIRITUAL DANGERS."**

The Mishna establishes the principle, Everyone ascends to Eretz Yisrael.( Ketubot, 110B) If the husband wants to move to Eretz Yisrael and the wife does not, the Beit Din can compel her to go, or to undergo a divorce without receiving her Ketubah payment. When the situation is reversed, and the man does not want to move to Israel, the court compels him to either go, or to divorce his wife with all of her Ketubah rights. (Ketubot, 110B) Tosafot states, in the name of R. Chaim Cohen, 'This is not kept in this time because of danger on the way. (Tosafot to Ketubot 110b) And the Shulchan Aruch decrees that one must take danger into account.( Shulchan Aruch, Even HaEzer, 75:1:3) Thank G-d, today it is easy to come here, and there is no situation of danger. Even in the Halacha, the Pitchei Tshuva records, in the name of the Meil Tzedakah, that if merchants are not prevented from traveling (to Eretz Yisrael) on business, this is a sign that no danger exists. (Shulchan Aruch, Even HaEzer, 75: 1:3, Pitchei Tshuva, there) Rav Tzvi Yehuda also mentioned the Halachic opinion that one does not have to move to Israel if one does not have a livelihood waiting, since poverty removes a man from his senses, and from the proper service of Hashem. The Pitchei Tshuva states: "If he travels there, and because of this, he needs to make his livelihood from charity, whilst, if he were outside the Land, he could earn a living from the toil of his hands, he doesn't act properly in moving, because of the great value of earning one's living by working. (Shulchan Aruch, Even HaEzer, 75:1:3, Pitchei Tshuva, there) This ruling also has limited application in our time, for a person does not have to rely on charity to earn one's living in Israel today. For someone who wants to work, there is sufficient work to be found. Furthermore, Rav Tzvi Yehuda pointed to a clarification of this argument in the responsa, Dvar Halacha, of Rav Eliahu Klotzkin. He lived in Jerusalem at the end of his life and wrote an opinion on the mitzvah of Aliyah to Israel. (Responsa, Dvar Halacha, Section 38, P.28) He notes that one must also examine what livelihood the Jews have outside the Land, because a portion of them are not involved in legitimate enterprises, but, rather, with dishonest dealings and stock holdings which rise and fall in line with the market price, a livelihood which resembles the forbidden practice of gambling with dice (Sanhedrin 24B.)

**(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**