

# STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

In view of the recent developments in the Middle East, we find it imperative to reiterate our principles concerning the Zionist movement and the State of Israel.

In order that our stand be clearly understood, a brief historical review is necessary.

About a century ago some self-styled Jewish leaders started to propagate nationalistic ideals within the world Jewish community. This eventually led to the formation of the world Zionist movement.

From the beginning, this concept was vehemently denounced by the Rabbinical authorities of the time as being diametrically opposed to Judaism.

One of the basic tenets of our faith, is that since Divine will has placed us in exile, we are forbidden to have any nationalistic aspirations. We are bound by Divine oath to accept the yoke of the diaspora and live in peace and harmony within the nations that Divine destiny has placed us. When the demand for a Jewish state became insistent, the opposition of our great Rabbis grew in intensity. **They declared for the whole world to know that the Jewish people do not want a state before the advent of the messianic era.**

**This stand was in no way altered even by the de-facto establishment of the State of Israel.**

In addition to this basic ideological transgression, this so-called State of Israel has consistently indulged in activities which constitute a breach of our religious rights. Complete communities were forced to expose their children to an atheistic education; autopsies are performed against the wishes of the deceased and their kin; the sanctity of the resting places of our sages are being violated in a most shameful manner.

**From all the above it follows that the Zionist organizations and the State of Israel can in no way claim that they represent world Jewry. We also declare that all the belligerent acts perpetrated by the State of Israel are against our Divine law (the Torah) and thus completely foreign and repulsive to us.**

It is our sincere desire to live in peace and tranquility in the nations wherein we reside and be able to observe our religious practices till our final Divine redemption, when peace and tranquility will come to all mankind.

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