

Sweden, 31<sup>st</sup> of May 2021

**To**

The Justices of the Supreme Court in Israel  
And Attorney general Mr Avichai Mandelblit

Fax: 0097226759648 and 0097222467001

**Re.** cases 2401/21+ 2841/21

Dear Sirs/Madams,

We write to you in respect of your ministry to judge fairly and with impunity and justice. We write to you as we are concerned with the following situation in Israel (and Palestine):

*The threatening evictions of Palestinian families in East Jerusalem, e.g. in Sheikh Jarrah and Silwan.*

We would like to remind you that International Law requires that East Jerusalem is seen as Occupied Territory with the Fourth Geneva Convention applicable. This means that the occupation forces are not allowed to change the State of affairs of the Occupied Territory. And it is illegal to settle civilian populations in territories that have been militarily occupied.

Of course, we are aware, that Israel does not adhere to International Law in this case, but we still feel obliged to insist on a world order that is to be applied to all countries and situations.

However, given that International Law might not be respected, are there other arguments that could be important for a Judge in Israel to consider?

– You have the basic law of equality before the law. This means that all are treated equally. This means also that there is no possibility for Palestinians to regain their property in West Jerusalem.

– In fairness, how could you desire Jewish settlers to be favored in such a painful way in East Jerusalem? However, if you do not pay attention to the imagination of equality before the law, what could reach your heart?

– Every person has a right to his or her home.

– Jewish children, women and men in a country as Sweden witness about suffering, when injustices are displayed in the conflict regarding land in Israel/Palestine. Unjustly, these Jewish children and their families are sometimes blamed for the atrocities of Israel, and of the settlers and their support from the State of Israel. In defense of freedom of Religion and opposing incitements of one religious group against the other, “Kippah walks” are manifested in Sweden by Christians, Moslems and Jews together in solidarity.

Could you imagine that what you are ruling in Israel is felt with pain in Sweden and – we have reason to fear – also around the world?

Our last argument is a plea to your Jewish roots in the Prophets in the Torah: “But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!” (Amos 5:24). The Palestinian people are poor in rights. As Judges in the Tradition of the Torah, you are obliged to care for Justice for the Poor and Oppressed, especially for those who are without rights.

May G-d bless your ministry!

*Sune Fahlgren*, Rev. Dr., Uniting Church of Sweden,  
Docent Uppsala University.

*Anna Karin Hammar*, Rev. Dr., Church of Sweden

*Kjell Jonasson*, Rev., Church of Sweden

*Lena Lönnqvist*, Rector em., Uniting Church of Sweden

*Kristina Tyrberg*, Rev., Church of Sweden