



Remembering **the Murder** Fighting for **Democracy**

18 years after the assassination of Israel's Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin

The 18th annual commemoration of the assassination of Israeli Prime Minister and Defence Minister, Yitzhak Rabin.

“Remembering the murder, fighting for democracy”

The prophets of Israel facilitated the foundations and the cornerstone of the perception of humanistic equality, that influenced the entire world – and when the Bible commanded “Love the stranger,” the intention was to every stranger, not just those who had converted; He (Rabbi Akiva) would say “beloved is man for he was created in The image,” with his essential intention being for all mankind, not just the Jewish People.

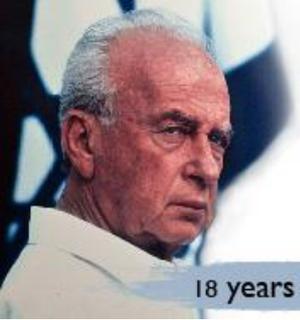
Generational law (Halacha), that the Sanhedrin of Israel set as “not in heaven,” created the basis for a persuading and free dialogue between people. The assertion of Rabbi Yehoshua Ben Chananya, “[to] side with the majority view”, defined that decisions of the majority had decisive meaning – however, they are subject to the rules of ethics.

The declaration of Independence, as delivered in front of the whole nation and the world, here in Tel-Aviv 64 years ago, demanded “complete equality of social and political rights to all its inhabitants irrespective of religion, race or sex.” This was nurtured from the vitality, foundations and core vision of the prophets of Israel.

“We came here tonight to say that the assassination of Prime Minister and Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin could turn into an assassination of the depth of our way of life, which stands on the basic agreement among us for the renewal of the Jewish People in its homeland.

Despite that, we have gathered here tonight, all sectors of Israeli society, to determine and agree between us that these commandments are not beyond our reach, and they are neither high up in the heavens nor far across the sea – they are very, very close to use, in our words and our hearts to be agreed upon, for their act, their fulfilment, and their realisation here in the land of our forefathers. **So it will be.**” (*From the closing remarks of the 17th annual commemorative rally for Yitzhak Rabin*)

In our days, leaders of the Zionist movement arose, pioneering men and women, and led the people back to their country and birthplace, to again establish our state. In continuity with the heritage of the forefathers and prophets, the Scroll of Israeli Independence declared that our country would be based on the foundations of freedom,



Remembering **the Murder** Fighting for **Democracy**

18 years after the assassination of Israel's Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin

equality, and justice: “The State of Israel will be based on freedom, justice and peace as envisaged by the prophets of Israel; it will ensure complete equality of social and political rights to all its inhabitants irrespective of religion, race or sex.”

At the 17th annual commemorative rally for the assassination of Prime Minister and Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin, we closed the event with a call to turn the terrible murder into the renewal of our basic agreement as a society. We, therefore, commit ourselves to work tirelessly forging and strengthening the young Israeli democracy, and to stand at her guard.

At the turn of the 18th year since the assassination of Prime Minister and Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin, we are coming out again with the mutual call to all citizens of the state of Israel for a higher capacity of Israeli democracy, under every circumstance and situation. We remember the tragic incitement that circulated. We will heavily admonish and denunciate, without fear, any incident of incitement and racism that stand opposed to the spirit and essence of the democratic way of life.

Nonetheless, we the undersigned hereby call all Bnei Yisrael and all parts of Israeli society to undertake our generations’ mission, with the understanding that Israel faces difficult, historic, and fateful decisions. These decisions can only be accepted through the democratic process. We seek to place the assassination of Prime Minister and Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin as a warning sign to Israeli society as they deal with the prevalent and difficult decisions that are standing at our door, and to commit that every dispute will be decided through, and only through, the democratic process.

Date: _____

Signed by: _____

On behalf of: _____