

June 2020

To the Directors of the Jewish National Fund, USA

42 East 69th Street

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USA

Email Jewishnationalfund@jnf.org

We the undersigned, intellectuals, academics, and artists worldwide, are profoundly disturbed by the impending eviction by the JNF of the Sumarin family from their home in Wadi Hilwe. Even if the court in its final discussion of the matter on 30 June 2020 finds no legal impediment to this unjust action, that cannot change its true, morally repugnant nature. The JNF, historically a positive institution which some of us have supported since childhood, should not be part of a brutal act of injustice like this one. Expelling innocent Palestinians from their family homes and planting colonies of Jewish settlers in Silwan cannot be justified by any ethical standard or national purpose. We ask you to withdraw at once from the decades-long struggle against the Sumarins and their right to live a normal life in their own home.

Adina Hoffman, Yale

Aleida Assmann, University of Konstanz, Balzan Prize, 2017

Allan Appel, journalist

Amos Morris-Reich, Tel Aviv University

Amos Zeichner, University of Georgia

Anat Matar, Tel Aviv University

Andrew Miller, Johns Hopkins University

Archana Venkatesan, University of California, Davis

Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett, New York University, Dan David Prize 2019

Barbara Kreiger, Dartmouth College

Barbara Taylor, Queen Mary College, University of London

Bernard Avishai, Dartmouth College

Blake Fitzpatrick, Ryerson University, Toronto
Brian Owensky, University of Virginia
Catherine Rottenberg, University of Nottingham
Chandler Davis, University of Toronto
Charles Malamoud, École des Hautes Études, Paris
Cindy Ballenger, Tufts University
Constance Furey, Indiana University
Cynthia Beth Rubin, artist
David Armitage, Harvard University
David Bell, Princeton University
David Enoch, Hebrew University
David Kikuchi, Wissenschaftskolleg Berlin
David Shulman, Hebrew University
Diana Eck, Harvard University
Diana Pinto, European Council on Foreign Relations
Dick Blau, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Don Handelman, Hebrew University
Dror Wahrman, Hebrew University and Wissenschaftskolleg, Berlin
Dudley Andrew, Yale University
Efrat Shvily, artist
Dr. Ehud Krinis, independent scholar
Eitan Grossman, Hebrew University
Elhanan Reiner, Tel Aviv University, National Library of Israel
Elizabeth Elbourne, McGill University
Emily C. Floyd, University College, London
Eric Sandweiss, Indiana University
Eva Illouz, Hebrew University
Felicity Harley, Yale University
Fritz Breithaupt, Indiana University
Gabriel Levin, poet and essayist
Georges Dreyfus, Williams College
Giovanni Galizia, University of Konstanz

Glenn Peers, Syracuse University
Dr. Gwynn Kessler, independent scholar
Hall Bjornstad, Indiana University
Hildegard Cancik-Lindemaier, University of Tübingen
Ian Buruma, Erasmus Prize, 2008
Iddo Landau, University of Haifa
Ilana Pardes, Hebrew University
Rabbi James Ponet, Yale University
James Silk, Binger, Allard K. Lowenstein International Human Rights Clinic, Director, Orville
H. Schell, Jr. Center for International Human Rights
Jan Assmann, Heidelberg University, University of Konstanz
Janet Gyatso, Harvard University
Jeffrey Veidlinger, University of Michigan
Jenny Kallick, Amherst College
Joe Lockard, Arizona State University
Jonathan Elmer, Indiana University
Jonathan Sheehan, University of California, Berkeley
Jonathan Weinberg, painter, historian, curator
Joyce Flueckiger, Emory University
Karthika Nair, Choreographer, Poet
Kesavan Veluthat, University of Mangalore, University of Hyderabad
Kenneth Mann, Tel Aviv University, First Chief Public Defender, Israel
Laura S. Levitt, Temple University
Laura Wexler, Yale University
Lauren S. Weingarden, Florida State University
Leo Cory, Tel Aviv University
Lorraine Daston, Max Planck Institute, Berlin
Luca Giuliani, Wissenschaftskolleg Berlin
Lynn Festa, Rutgers University
Marco Stroppa, composer, Wissenschaftskolleg Berlin
Margaret Hunt, University of Uppsala

Margaret MacNamidhe, School of the Art Institute of Chicago
Margaret Olin, Yale University
Marie Herberstein, Wissenschaftskolleg Berlin
Michael Gluzman, Tel Aviv University
Michael Walzer, Institute of Advanced Studies, Princeton
Michael Young, Humanities Librarian, University of Connecticut
Michael Zakim, Tel Aviv University
Michel Chaouli, Indiana University
Mike Grossberg, Indiana University
Mota Kremnitzer, Hebrew University
Natalie Zemon Davis, Princeton University
Neve Gordon, Queen Mary University, London
Nicola Figgis Goodbody, University College Dublin
Nuala Fenton, Fenton Art Gallery, Cork, Ireland
Orit Simon-Tov, artist
Patrick Olivelle, University of Texas
Paul Mendes-Flohr, Hebrew University and University of Chicago
Peter Cole, Yale University
Peter Mandler, University of Cambridge
Phyllis Granoff, Yale University
Raz Chen-Morris, Hebrew University
Richard Kent Wolf, Harvard University
Richard Yerahmiel Cohen, Hebrew University
Robert S. Nelson, Yale University
*Robert Schneider, Indiana University, former editor of the *American Historical Review*
Robert Storr, Yale University
Ronit Ricci, Hebrew University
Roy Kreitner, Tel Aviv University
Ruth Alcabes, Librarian, The Graduate Institute, Bethany, CT
Ruth Hacoheh, Hebrew University
Sally M. Promey, Yale University
Sebastian Conrad, Freie Universität, Berlin

Sheldon Pollock, Columbia University

Dr. Shelly Schreter

Sidra Dekoven Ezrahi, Hebrew University

Snait B. Gissis, Tel Aviv University

Sonia Velazquez, Indiana University

Steven Weitzman, University of Pennsylvania

Susan Neimann, Einstein Forum, Berlin

Susan Shapiro, Professor of Judaic Studies, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Susan Ward, Rhode Island School of Design

Susannah Heschel, Dartmouth College

Rabbi Tamara Cohen, Kolot Chayeinu

Vanalyne Green, University of Leeds

Vincent Digirolamo, Baruch College, SUNY New York

Jonathan Weinberg, Yale School of Art; Rhode Island School of Design, Director of
Research, The Maurice Sendak Foundation

Ruth Weintraub, Tel Aviv University

W. J. T. Mitchell, University of Chicago

Wendy Doniger, University of Chicago

Yagil Eliraz, Amherst College

Yair Minzker, Princeton University