



January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022

To: Dr. Mike Evans, Founder of FOZ

Cc: Mr. Gideon Mor

Dear Mike,

On behalf of the entire Board of the LISHANA Association for Renew Aramaic in Israel, I would like to express our deepest gratitude for the privilege we recently had to tour the FOZ museum in Jerusalem under the inspiring guidance of Mr. Gideon Mor. We were most impressed by the thought-provoking exhibits and the underlying concept of the museum, thanks to your very special worldview with respect to Jerusalem, the state of Israel and its Christian friends worldwide. With our whole-hearted support for your ambitious endeavor, we affirm: “We are with you” (הנני)

I would like to draw your attention to the relevance of the LISHANA Association to the FOZ EcoSystem. LISHANA was founded with the following unique missions:

1. To revive the Aramaic language which has been spoken by Jews and Christians for centuries. Just as Jesus of Nazareth spoke Aramaic, today millions of Christian Assyrians speak it too. And today some tens of thousands of Jews still speak Jewish Aramaic (Aramit) the language of our fore-fathers which continued throughout the periods of the Bible, the Talmud, the Zohar and our daily prayers. As Jewish descendants from ancient Assyria (today, Northern Iraq, Iran, Syria and Southern Turkey), LISHANA members constitute the last generation of Aramaic speakers. As such, this noble language is under the threat of **extinction**, unless we act urgently to revitalize it.
2. To act as a bridge between Christians and Jews on the ground of our common language and biblical culture, and because we have suffered similar persecutions as minorities. Millions of exiled Assyrian Christians who have escaped ethnic cleansing by the Turks, the Kurds and radical Islam are in close contact with the LISHANA Association and they support Israel and defend Zionism all around the world.

Mike, we are poised to connect with several millions of Assyrian Christians to our endeavor as friends of Israel and supporters of the FOZ museum which you have altruistically founded. We believe that the association of this significant population with the FOZ will constitute a major contribution to your museum EcoSystem. In the coming fall, the LISHANA Association is planning to hold its annual international conference – which this year is specifically aimed at marking the alliance between Jews and Assyrian Christians. And since this conference is the first of its kind in history, we would very much like to hold it at the FOZ venue in Jerusalem - and we would be honored to have you open the leading ceremony. Furthermore, beyond this conference, and based on my reading of your inspiring book “Born Again”, I would be delighted to meet with you face-to-face in order to seek your blessing and advice on the great endeavor that we have undertaken. And if this is not possible, I would even appreciate a video conference.

I look forward to a fruitful cooperation between us.

Cordially,

Dr. Yaacov Maoz

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Yaacov Maoz', written in a cursive style.

Chairperson

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