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ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON PALESTINE

COMMUNICATION FROM THE COUNCIL (WAAD HAIR)
OF THE ASHKENASIC JEWISH COMMUNITY, JERUSALEM

The following letter has been received from the Council (Waad Hair) of the Ashkenasic Jewish Community, Jerusalem.

P.O.B. 5006
Jerusalem
9th June, 1947

The Chairman,
United Nations Special Commission
on Palestine,
Jerusalem

Sir,

The Council (Waad Hair) of the Ashkenasic Jewish Community of Jerusalem, being the duly elected and officially recognized representative body of Orthodox Jewry of the Holy City; a community council which was in fact the first to be recognized as such by the Palestine Government, by His Britannic Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom, as well as by the former League of Nations through its permanent Mandates Commission, hereby begs to submit its formal application for permission to present oral testimony before the UNITED NATIONS SPECIAL COMMISSION ON PALESTINE.

The testimony to be orally submitted will not be concerned with any political issue of the Palestine problem; it will merely deal with the fundamental religious interests of Traditional Judaism, the safeguarding of which is the prime object of this Council and no other organization or institution is as much concerned with these interests as our Council. These problems strike at the very root of true Judaism and our request for a hearing is based specifically on article 4 of the terms of reference of the Commission which reads:-

"The Commission shall give most careful consideration to the religious interests in Palestine of Islam, Judaism and Christianity."

Trusting that you will see your way clear to grant the hearing applied for above, and in anticipation of your favourable reply, we have the honour, to be, Sir,

Yours most respectfully,

(Rabbi Y. Zwebnér)
General Secretary.