MIQDASH BETHEL COVENANT INSTITUTION
CONGRESSIONAL COVENANT LETTER
The Anti-Semitism You Are Funding | A Covenant Witness to Louisiana's Congressional Delegation

May 22, 2026

Senator Bill Cassidy, M.D.
Chairman, Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee
United States Senate | Washington DC 20510

Senator John Kennedy
United States Senate | Washington DC 20510

Representative Steve Scalise
House Majority Leader | Washington DC 20515

Representative Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House | Washington DC 20515

Representative Clay Higgins | Representative Julia Letlow
United States House of Representatives | Washington DC 20515

RE: **The Anti-Semitism You Are Funding — A Covenant Witness Regarding Marwan Barghouti**

To the Members of Louisiana's Congressional Delegation:

You have spoken on the record — repeatedly, publicly, and with conviction — against anti-Semitism. Senator Cassidy has made it a defining priority of his chairmanship of the Senate HELP Committee, championing the Anti-Semitism Awareness Act and convening hearings on the persecution of Semitic people. Senator Kennedy co-sponsored a formal resolution declaring that the United States stands against anti-Semitism and Jewish racism at home or abroad. Representatives Scalise and Johnson have called for action against any force that would harm the Semitic people.

We write to you today not to challenge those commitments. We write to hold you to them — completely, and without the political exception you are currently applying to exactly the people your stated principles require you to defend.

THE SEMITIC PEOPLE — ALL OF THEM

The word Semite refers to the family of peoples who speak or historically spoke Semitic languages — Hebrew, Arabic, Aramaic, Amharic, and related tongues — and who descend from the ancient populations of the Near East. Palestinian people are Semitic people. The Institute for Palestine Studies has documented that while the term anti-Semitism historically refers to anti-Jewish acts, the word Semite itself encompasses Arabic-speaking peoples as fully as it encompasses Hebrew-speaking peoples.

This is not a political argument. It is a philological and genetic fact. Eight independent peer-reviewed genetic studies — from Harvard Medical School, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, the New York Genome Centre, and the American Journal of Human Genetics — have established that Palestinians carry 81-87% of their genome-wide ancestry from the Bronze Age Levantine population: the precise population from which the ancient Israelite tribes descended. Palestinians are not merely cultural Semites. They are biological co-heirs of the same ancient Semitic bloodline as the Jewish people.

MR. MARWAN BARGHOUTI — THE SEMITIC MAN YOUR FUNDING IS PERSECUTING

Marwan Barghouti, 66 years of age, is the most popular elected Palestinian leader in the world. Five days ago — May 18, 2026 — he received the highest vote count of any candidate in the Fatah Central Committee elections: 1,879 of 2,514 votes, from solitary confinement, without a campaign. He is serving five life sentences following a trial that the Inter-Parliamentary Union — representing 180 national parliaments, including the United States Congress — found produced numerous breaches of international law, making it impossible to conclude that Mr. Barghouti received a fair trial.

Since October 2023, Mr. Barghouti has been held in continuous solitary confinement. In March and April 2026, his lawyer documented three separate violent assaults: attack dogs deployed in his cell, a severe beating on April 8 leaving him bleeding for over two hours with medical treatment denied, and a transfer assault on March 25. The Israeli Knesset has passed a death penalty law applicable to Palestinian detainees. National Security Minister Ben-Gvir — sanctioned by the UK, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, and Norway for inciting violence — has publicly called for Mr. Barghouti's death.

The United States has provided $16.3 billion in direct military aid to Israel since October 2023. The prison service perpetrating these assaults operates within the security infrastructure of the government receiving your constituents' tax money.

THE LEGAL QUESTION YOUR ANTI-SEMITISM COMMITMENT REQUIRES YOU TO ANSWER

The Leahy Law (22 U.S.C. Section 2304 / Section 620M of the Foreign Assistance Act) is American law, already on the books. It prohibits US military assistance to foreign security forces credibly implicated in gross human rights violations — defined as torture and prolonged detention without charge. The Israeli prison service has committed documented torture against Mr. Barghouti. A former State Department official who vetted over 200,000 foreign military assistance requests annually has stated publicly that the United States has never applied the Leahy Law to a single Israeli military unit — the only country in the world receiving this special exemption.

The question we place before you is direct:

If you believe anti-Semitism must be condemned — and if Palestinian people are Semitic, which the genetic record and every philological dictionary confirms — then what will you do about the anti-Semitic persecution of Marwan Barghouti, funded by the American people?

THREE SPECIFIC ASKS

First: Formally inquire of the State Department whether the Leahy Law has been applied to the Israeli Prison Service units responsible for the documented torture and abuse of Mr. Barghouti and the 9,600+ Palestinian prisoners currently held in Israeli custody. If the answer is no — and it is no — demand compliance with American law.

Second: Publicly call for Mr. Barghouti's immediate release. His arrest violated the Fourth Geneva Convention (transfer from occupied territory). His trial was condemned as unfair by the Inter-Parliamentary Union. His detention conditions violate the UN Convention Against Torture, the Nelson Mandela Rules, and the ICCPR — all of which Israel has ratified. A man held under these circumstances is a political prisoner. Call it what it is.

Third: Apply the anti-Semitism principle consistently — naming the persecution of Palestinian Semitic people by the same standard you apply to the persecution of Jewish Semitic people. You cannot stand for the Semitic people while funding the persecution of half of them. The covenant record under which this institution operates does not permit selective justice.

"He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does Yahweh require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your Elohim?" — Mikhah (Micah) 6:8

This letter is transmitted as a covenant witness from Miqdash Bethel Covenant Institution — a Tanakh-authority ministry based in Pearl River, Louisiana, reaching Judaism, Christianity, and Islam simultaneously. We are your constituents. We are not a foreign voice. We are the people of this state, calling you to do what you said you would do: stand against anti-Semitism — all of it, without exception, regardless of who benefits from looking the other way.

Respectfully submitted in the covenant of **Yahweh** (יהוה) —

Elder Kepha Arcemont
Founder, Miqdash Bethel Covenant Institution
P.O. Box 762 | Pearl River, Louisiana 70452
985-250-9060 (Ministry) | 402-218-9530 (Cell) | miqdashbethel@gmail.com
miqdashbethel.org | May 22, 2026

Enclosures (5): Second Covenant Letter to Marwan Barghouti; Roots of the Covenant People (Historical Study); Attorney Legal Brief — The Anti-Semitism Paradox; When Brothers Shed Brother's Blood (Covenant Study); Lawyers and Courts — International Filing Guide.