MIQDASH BETHEL COVENANT INSTITUTION

EVERY MAN AS HIS BROTHER

A Reply to Representative Ro Khanna on the Two-State Solution and the Tanakh's Twelve-State Pattern

Companion Letter to Document 362 • October 26, 2026

Elder Kepha Arcemont, Founder

***"You shall inherit it, each man as his brother."* (Ezekiel 47:14)**

October 26, 2026

The Honorable Ro Khanna
United States House of Representatives
306 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Khanna,

Thank you for your letter of October 26, 2026. We are grateful that you answered, and more grateful for what you have done. On September 25 you became the first member of Congress to call publicly for the release of Marwan Barghouti, knowing it would cost you. You have also held to the Leahy Law and stood against both antisemitism and Islamophobia. We share your goal: security for Israelis, and dignity and human rights for Palestinians.

We write to set before you one thing you may not have heard in this debate: what the Tanakh, the scripture that Jews, Christians, and Muslims all receive as first given by **Yahweh**, lays down as its own pattern for sharing the Land. It is not the two-state plan, and it is not a single state that one people rules. It is a twelve-state pattern, given at the close of the book of **Ezekiel** (**chapters 47–48**):

1. Twelve portions of equal standing. The Land is divided into twelve portions, ***"each man as his brother"*** (**Ezekiel 47:14**), by a fair lot, not by force (**47:22**). No portion rules another.

2. The stranger inherits where he lives. The foreigner who lives in the Land and raises his children there ***"shall be to you as the native-born,"*** with an inheritance among the tribes, ***"in the tribe with which the stranger sojourns, there you shall give him his inheritance"*** (**Ezekiel 47:22–23**). No one is moved. No one is second-class.

3. No evictions. The rulers are commanded, ***"Take away your evictions from My people"*** (**Ezekiel 45:9**), and the prince may not take the people's inheritance ***"to oppress them out of their possession"*** (**46:18**).

4. One shared city. Jerusalem belongs to no single tribe. It is served ***"out of all the tribes"*** (**48:19**), has a gate for every tribe (**48:31–34**), and is named ***"Yahweh is there"*** (**48:35**).

5. One law for all. ***"One law and one ordinance shall be for you and for the stranger"*** (**Numbers 15:16**).

We owe you honesty about the limits of this. The Tanakh does not forbid two peoples from agreeing, in peace and justice, to govern themselves apart. When strife arose between Abraham and Lot, Abraham said, ***"Let there be no strife between me and you... for we are brothers,"*** and offered Lot the first choice of land (**Genesis 13:8–9**). What the Tanakh forbids is division by seizure and eviction. And what it holds up as the final pattern is fuller than two peoples behind two borders: one Land, many portions, one law, and the stranger an heir.

Two more limits. We do not ask anyone to take a neighbor's land to draw Ezekiel's map; the Torah forbids it (**Deuteronomy 2:5, 9, 19**). The pattern applies only to the land the peoples already share, and only by agreement. And we do not ask anyone to sort people by blood: each of the twelve states would be mixed, and every resident would stand equal. Of the plans now discussed, the confederation proposed by the joint Israeli-Palestinian movement A Land for All comes nearest to this pattern.

The enclosed study, **Document 362, "Every Man as His Brother,"** sets out the text, grades each claim by the rule that a matter stands only on two or three witnesses (**Deuteronomy 19:15**), and shows how twelve covenant principles would answer borders, settlements, refugees, Jerusalem, security, and prisoners.

We respectfully ask that you:

1. Continue to press for Marwan Barghouti's release and for due process for every detainee, Israeli and Palestinian.

2. Hold to the Leahy Law in public and in full. The Torah asked the elders of every town to be able to say, ***"Our hands have not shed this blood"*** (**Deuteronomy 21:7**).

3. Support no peace framework that requires the eviction of families or leaves any people without standing.

4. Give confederation and federal models, including this twelve-state pattern, a hearing beside the two-state plan. ***"He who answers a matter before he hears it, it is folly and shame to him"*** (**Proverbs 18:13**).

A word on your name. We offer this as a gift, not as a sign. Written in Hebrew letters, your name is **רוֹ חַנָּה** (Ro Channah). Your surname comes from India, not from Hebrew, so this is a meeting of sounds and nothing more. But in Hebrew those letters spell Hannah, from ***chanan (to show favor, to be gracious)***. Hannah was the mother who prayed in the house of **Yahweh**, and her prayer says that He

"raises up the poor out of the dust… to set them among princes" (**1 Samuel 2:8**). The same root is in ***"he who is gracious to the needy honors Him"*** (**Proverbs 14:31**). Pleading for a prisoner and for people without a voice is that kind of grace.

We would welcome the chance to brief you or a member of your staff. Please also note our new mailing address below; your letter was sent to our former address in Pearl River, Louisiana. We will keep you, the families who grieve on every side, and Marwan Barghouti and his family before **Yahweh** in prayer.

"But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree; and none shall make them afraid." (**Micah 4:4**)

With respect for your office and for the work you have begun,

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Enclosure: Document 362, "Every Man as His Brother: The Tanakh's Twelve-State Answer"