

Saving Morocco

Draft of a letter to Rabbi Dr. Leo Jung - 27th of Iyar, 5713

History of Lubavitch & the JDC; Public services have always been part of Chabad; 60 Villages in dire straits; Changes in JDC's policies and administration

Rabbi Dr. Leo Jung
131 W. 86th Street
New York, N.Y.

My dear Rabbi Jung:³¹

I was gratified that ~~our representative and~~ **the** director of our overseas office in Paris, Rabbi Benjamin Gorodetzky, had an opportunity to confer with you before his return to Europe. It was further gratifying, though not surprising, to hear of the cordial interest which you showed in every phase of our work, and of your sincere desire to further this cause. Knowing of your affinity with the work of my father-in-law of saintly memory, I am certain that you are as staunch a supporter of his work and institutions, as ever. ³² **גם עתה ולהבא עוד יותר**

It is well over 30 years that Lubavitch has enjoyed the **fullest** confidence and support of the JDC, dating back to the early twenties in Russia, later continuing in Europe, and now extending also to North Africa and the Holy Land. Whether help was needed for agricultural settlements, or vocational training, or for the support of uprooted clergymen, or for religious, educational and cultural institutions - a public services going back two centuries to the founder of Chabad, who made it part and parcel of the movement - the JDC was always ready and willing to support Lubavitch in its devoted and selfless work in behalf of the Jewish community, and the individual.

The JDC - Lubavitch cooperation has proved of great and practical value to all concerned, the JDC, Lubavitch, and most of all to the beneficiaries: the refugees during their sojourn and after settlement, the educational institutions and students, and the communities at large.

I feel certain, therefore, that you personally, as Chairman of the Cultural Committee of the JDC, your colleagues, and the leader-

³¹ It should be noted that several months later the Rebbe was directly involved in Rabbi Jung's election to the office of "the Committee of Experts on Cultural Affairs of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany." see letter from the Rebbe to Jung (8 Teves, 5714) "I am pleased that I was instrumental in your acceptance of this office". Letter from Dr. Moses Leavitt (Vice-Chairman of the JDC) to Rashag (December 3, 1953) "I have spoken to Dr. Nahum Goldmann about Rabbi Leo Jung . . I feel very confident that Dr. Jung will be appointed to the Cultural Committee . . I appreciate very much Rabbi Schneersohn's appeal to me and I wish you would assure him that I will do all in my power to be of help". Letter from Dr. Nahum Goldman (President of the Claims Conference) to Rashag (December 4, 1953) "I have received your telegram and will put your proposals before the Committee which has to deal with the nominations for the Cultural Committee."

³² The following sentence was reworded as follows: you will continue to be a staunch supporter of his work and institutions, and more so than ever.

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131 W. 86th Street
New York, N.Y.

My dear Rabbi Jung:

I was gratified that ~~our~~ ^{the} representative and director of our overseas office in Paris, Rabbi Benjamin Gorodetzky, had an opportunity to confer with you before his return to Europe. ~~and I am sure~~ It was further gratifying, though not surprising, to hear of the cordial interest which you ~~have~~ showed in every phase of our work, and of your sincere desire to further this cause. Knowing of your affinity with the work of my father-in-law of sainted memory, I am certain that ^{you will continue to be} ~~you are as~~ (staunch) a supporter of his work and institutions ^{with growing and more than ever.} as ever.

It is well over 30 years that Lubavitch has enjoyed the ^{fullest} confidence and support of the JDC, dating back to the early twenties in Russia, later continuing in Europe, and now extending also to North Africa and the Holy Land. Whether help was needed for agricultural settlements, or vocational training, ~~in Russia~~ or for the support of uprooted clergymen, or for religious, educational and cultural institutions, the JDC was always ready and willing to support Lubavitch ^{Jewish} in ~~what~~ its devoted and selfless work in behalf of the ^{and the individuals} community, ^{public} - ^a service going back two centuries to the founder of Chabad, who made it part and parcel of the movement -

The JDC - Lubavitch cooperation has proved of great practical value to all concerned, the JDC, Lubavitch, and most of all to the beneficiaries: the refugees during their sojourn and after settlement, the educational institutions and students, ~~and~~ and the communities at large.

I feel certain, therefore, that you personally, as Chairman of the Cultural Committee of the JDC, your colleagues, and the leader-

ship of JDC in general, will continue to regard the policy of cooperation between the JDC and Lubavitch as an essential and vital necessity in Jewish life.

In the light of the above, it was rather surprising that there should have been any thought on the part of some JDC administrators to limit the educational work of Lubavitch in Morocco to the larger cities, leaving out of account the more than 60 villages where our educational work is organized on a permanent basis

היינו מוכרחים ע"י המצב בחינוך ובת"ת בכלל וע"י הצעקה נפשית של בני"ש לייסד שם עכ"פ מינימום של ביה"ס³³

ואשר מתאבק הנני קשה להשיג האמצעים על קיומם, במשך כמה וכמה חדשים שפסקו העזר ע"ז, נוסף על האמצעים שעלינו להמציא גם במקומות שהדזיונט עוזר שם

ומלבד הצד הכספי שבזה הנה צד עקרוני בזה, כי ליובאוויטש יש לה נאמנות בחינוך על יסוד עבודתה בזה זה כמה דורות

I am sure such an attitude could have only been a temporary expediency, since it is not compatible with the policy which the JDC has consistently pursued over the years with regard to the work of Lubavitch. Needless to say, the need for educational work in the villages and rural areas of Morocco is at least as urgent as that prevailing in the larger cities. I earnestly hope that this omission will be rectified at the earliest possible date.

~~It is also to be hoped most earnestly that whatever changes~~

ועוד נקודה עיקרית שהועמדה זה עתה על סדה"י בהתאם להשינויים³⁴

are contemplated in the administration of the European headquarters and overseas branches of the JDC, care will be taken that the time honored policy of the JDC towards Lubavitch be safeguarded, so that not only could we maintain our full range of work, but even increase its scope in accordance with the need of the hour.

I am certain that in so far as your position and influence, as Chairman of the Cultural Committee, bear weight, you will do your utmost to cultivate the JDC-Lubavitch cooperation, which has rendered such great service in behalf of our people.

With warmest regards, and blessing,

³³ We were impelled to organize at least a minimum of educational facilities, in view of the appalling lack of same, and the desperate appeals of our brethren there to save their religious heritage.

The continuation of the Rebbe's addition was not included in the final letter.

³⁴ Another point of utmost importance which has recently caused us concern is connected with contemplated changes.

of JDC

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In the light of the above, it was rather surprising, that there should have been any thought on the part of some administrators to limit the educational work of Lubavitch in Morocco to the larger cities, leaving out of account the more than 60 villages where our educational work is organized on a permanent basis. ^{I am sure} Such an attitude could have only been a temporary expediency, since it is not compatible with the policy which the JDC has consistently pursued over the years with regard to the work of Lubavitch. Needless to say, the need for educational work in the villages and rural areas of Morocco is at least as urgent as that ~~is~~ prevailing in the larger cities. I earnestly hope that this omission will be rectified at the earliest possible date.

It is also to be hoped most earnestly that whatever changes are contemplated in the administration of the European headquarters and overseas branches of the JDC, care will be taken ~~to preserve~~ that the time honored policy of the JDC towards Lubavitch be safeguarded, so that not only could we maintain our ~~XXXX~~ full range of work, but even increase its scope in accordance with the need of the hour.

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With warmest regards and blessing