

Gilad Shalit Petition Show Your Support: Sign Your Name!



Congregation Beth El has prepared a petition to the Secretary General of the United Nations, The Honorable Ban Ki-Moon, in support of captured Israeli soldier, Gilad Shalit and **we need your signature!**

We call upon the United Nations to demand that the Palestinian Authority abide by international humanitarian law and guarantee Hamas affords Shalit his rights to proper medical care, regular visitation, and the right of communication with his family and the outside world. We also ask the Secretary General to use his influence to ensure that Gilad be returned safely and in good health to his home and family in Israel.

***Please print the following letter
sign it and return it the Beth El office.
We will mail them to the United Nations.***

Contact: Allison Pogany at arinsmommy@hotmail.com.

The Honorable Ban Ki-Moon
Secretary General
760 United Nations Plaza
New York, NY 10017

Dear Secretary-General,

On June 21, 1989, the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the Geneva Office of the UN informed the Swiss government, as depository of the Protocols, that “the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation ... decided, on 4 May 1989, to adhere to the four Geneva Conventions... and the two Protocols additional thereto.” With this letter of accession, the Palestinian territories committed themselves to abide by the international laws of war as delineated by the Geneva Conventions, particularly as they relate to the treatment of prisoners belonging to a military force.

On June 25, 2006, while stationed at an army facility within the sovereign territory of Israel, 19 year old Gilad Shalit was kidnapped by Hamas terrorists in a cross border raid. Staff Sergeant Shalit is believed to be held captive by Hamas in the Gaza strip, controlled by the Palestinian Authority.

Contrary to the Third Geneva Convention, **the International Committee of the Red Cross has been denied access to Gilad Shalit for the entire duration of his captivity.** No independent body has been permitted to visit to monitor his medical condition or general well-being.

The Geneva Conventions also require that persons deprived of their liberty be allowed to correspond with their families regularly. The UN Human Rights Committee ruled in the case of El-Megreisi v. Libya that prolonged incommunicado detention of more than three years amounted to torture and cruel and inhuman treatment.

In Gilad Shalit’s five years of captivity, Hamas has passed on only three letters from him, a voice recording, and a short video.

If the Palestinian Authority desires to be treated as a respected body, it must learn to meet its commitments. It has taken on obligations under the law, and if it cannot be trusted to abide by them in an area as critical as human rights, how can it be trusted to meet any future commitments?

We call upon you as Secretary General of the United Nations to demand that the Palestinian Authority abide by international humanitarian law and guarantee Hamas affords Gilad Shalit his rights to proper medical care, regular visitation, and the right of communication with his family and the outside world.

We also ask that you use the influence of your office to ensure that Gilad be returned safely and in good health to his home and family in Israel as soon as possible.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this critical matter,