

## ***Moses Project,***

At the end of 1974 I visited the Statue of Liberty in New York City. I was moved, touched and inspired! Maybe because she is so real, you feel like she is talking to you! People connect to her easily.

She stands on Liberty Island in New York Harbor and you need to take a Ferry to reach her. As you get closer and closer, the statue standing there looks so tall it absolutely mesmerizes you! The Statue of Liberty is now more than one hundred and twenty years old, erected on October 28, 1886, an icon that represents America and what it stands for. This old statue draws millions of visitors every year –from all over the world. There they read an incredible poem by the Jewess, Emily Lazarus.

That visit triggered my thoughts about Israel, the country and the Jewish people who brought opportunity and hope to the poor and downtrodden through reemergence of the land. Rekindling of the light of the Torah should be erected and dedicated to the Land of Israel, to the Jewish people, their enormous contributions and their struggles through the ages.

My thought and focus was on what could visually represent the Jews and Israel as the Statue of Liberty had done for me.

What could represent who we are socially, politically and religiously? How could we mesmerize the world with our amazing history! Share with them our ethical beliefs and show what we have stood for over the last 3000 years.

I was thinking of an icon, like the Statue of Liberty, but one that emphasizes responsibility to the truth to our values, our principals to us and to others.

Over the years I've asked many people these questions: "What symbol represents the Jews and Israel to you? How should it look? What should it represent?"

As time went by, it became more and more clear that the most popular image can be none other than Moses and the Ten Commandments.

Moses was the humble leader, the brave and determined liberator, the tireless lawgiver! We all know how this amazing man led the Hebrews out of slavery and out of Egypt through the toughest circumstances and led the Children of Israel for forty years in the desert. Moses was a model of faith in G-d, then a good shepherd, a warrior who trusted in G-d, a spiritual leader and a conduit for G-d. Our tradition teaches that Moses was the only human permitted to converse with G-D "face to face".

Moses brought the Ten Commandments down from Mt. Sinai. They were an outline of our laws and of virtues that did not exist at that time.

The idea of an enormous, colossal, Statue of Moses and the Ten Commandments is to mesmerize the world visually, impact humans emotionally, inspire, and to spread the Jewish People's values.

This colossal Statue of Moses and the Ten Commandments would be a world class tourist attraction.

People would be in awe over a statue that could be seen miles away. It would raise over 60 stories into the sky.

It would beam light like a beacon of truth.

It would house a magnificent museum of how the Jewish People survived the millennia and were able to miraculously reinvigorate their ancient, barren homeland into a thriving, powerful Israel. Because we must learn from the lessons of the Torah and our history, there would be a faculty for Jewish leadership. We don't want our generation to repeat the mistakes of the past.

The project has a great upside economic potential: from early construction, to movies, souvenirs, restaurants, shopping areas and hotels. These in turn would create many employment opportunities.

The educational symposia and classes would bring eyes from all over the world. It would bring pride to Israel and display the justness of our cause.

Israelis and visitors from all over the world will come to visit and revisit this attraction in Israel.

It inspires respect and promotes our values. We, the Jewish People, are required to take responsibility not just opportunity.

The visitors will carry stories about the accomplishments of the Jewish people all over the world.

With modern, interactive technology, visitors would be exposed to the amazing history of modern Israel and how this tiniest of people have contributed to humanity far out of our proportion.

Both Jews and non-Jews will be invited to see Jewish accomplishments in such areas as science, economics, medicine, research, social welfare, religious experience and politics: our contributions to the world!

Diverse groups of people will be able to participate in seminars and classes led by a faculty of Jewish leadership all under the shadow of this awesome monument.

This project is enormously significant and essential at this period of time in history.

Due to a series almost overwhelming tragedies and to secularism over the last four centuries, too many of the Jewish People neglected and even abandoned- the teachings of Jewish principles, traditions, values and responsibilities.

Its long history of the Jewish people in the land of Israel. The deep tie to Judea and Samaria as well as to the Golan Heights and Gaza. History with kings and Army, Capital city and Temple. Holidays and rabbis, schools and Laws and economy. Israel was Israel away before the word Islam or Christianity! We were around before the words Arabs, Palestine or terrorism.

The glue that kept the Jewish people alive seem to be dissolving, resulting in more and more secular society that uprooting us from our foundation!

The consequences are increasing confusion, separation and resentment between us. Shaking up the very fiber of who we are!

At this time in history as the attacks on the existence of the edifice of Israel, and the future of the Jewish people continuously face real extinction. It is essential to be very clear as to who we are and of the principles we stand by. It is fundamental in order to survive the on going threat! We must have reasons to be able to stand together strong.

I truly believe that the faculty for Jewish Leadership within the complex of the Statue will lend clarity to us and generate respect for Israel and the Jewish People and even Christianity.

I truly believe that The Statue of Moses and the Ten Commandments would serve to illuminate to the world who we are This is an enormous visual, intellectual and emotional way to give the strength we need!

We are the people who admonished the nations to beat their swords into plowshares.

I would like to thank all the people who believe in this project and who would be standing with me determined to accomplish it.

I'd also want to thank the investors for helping us make it happen.

G-D Bless you all, G-D blesses Israel and the Jews!

Respectfully,

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