



JORDAN VALLEY REGIONAL COUNCIL

06/10/2019
-377361-2019

to

Your Majesty

King Abdulla II

King of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

Amman

We have been neighbors for over 70 years – on both sides of the Jordan River. Being a neighbor of the Jordanian people is a very peaceful experience. We share many good values, and we know that peace is a blessing and source of prosperity. I believe with all my heart that just like us - if not more - you know that nothing *is more* essential than keeping it that way.

Twenty-five years ago, your noble father and our late Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin signed the "Peace of the Brave" treaty, which contains a special paragraph regarding the Isle of Peace." This special arrangement created the most "auspicious atmosphere for which we could wish, and it made our mutual relationship much more than 'lifeless words' on plain white paper.



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In the course of these twenty-five years, we have experienced some challenging moments of grief and pain - and all the while, we have experienced yet many more days of heroic brotherhood, thanks to your noble father and to your kingdom's peaceful attitude.

As the head of the Jordan Valley Regional Council, a region that shares tens of kilometers of border with the Kingdom of Jordan - I can affirm that we have so many issues upon which we can and certainly shall collaborate. This includes and various types of the fields of tourism, agriculture innovation. In all of these areas and others, we can integrate, cooperate and make life on both sides of the border flourishing, better, and full of hope and prosperity.

Your Majesty,

I mentioned all of those fruits of our "Peace of the Brave," and even more importantly, the amazing potential that exists to increase all kinds of cooperation amongst us – in the fervent hope that you grant your patient and willing ear to our wish: Please do not ablate more than 70 years of connection between our agricultural land and us.

I am fully aware, that there are crucial issues that must be settled between both countries. As you probably know, Israel is in the midst of a very difficult political crisis.



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Unfortunately, as the negotiations on this subject don't yet seem to be bringing us all to the 'promised land,' we, the land workers of the Jordan Valley might be forced to pay a very painful price.

I am taking this step to write to you in order to prevent what, from our point of view, is a catastrophe. I wish to respectfully request an audience before Your Majesty, or with those whom you trust for such a meeting, *at the "Isle of Peace" itself*, in order that we may explore the possibility of advancing any kind of understanding between us, as neighbors who respect and value each other.

We are agricultural workers who simply wish to earn a living peacefully and who offer to be good neighbors to you, and who are ready to reach out and to assist in any of the many civil issues that we have in common.

Most Respectfully Yours,

Idan Grinbaum

Head of regional council
Jordan valley