

KSBB
KIRCHLICHE SAMMLUNG UM
BIBEL UND BEKENNTNIS IN
BAYERN E. V.



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An den
Landesbischof der ELKB
und die
Evangelische Akademie Tutzing

OFFENER BRIEF

Windsbach, den 09.10. A¹D 2023

**Sehr geehrter Herr Landesbischof Dr. Bedford-Strohm,
sehr geehrter Herr Pfarrer Hahn,**

nach der Verleihung des Tutzinger Löwen an Erzbischof Makgoba forderte die Kirchliche Sammlung um Bibel und Bekenntnis in Bayern die Aberkennung der Auszeichnung, weil zahlreiche Äußerungen des anglikanischen Primas von Südafrika in Hirtenbriefen und Ansprachen dem israelbezogenen Antisemitismus zuzurechnen sind. Wir haben diesen Antrag begründet und die entscheidenden Aussagen dokumentiert. Wir haben auch den offenen Brief des südafrikanischen Oberrabbiners unserer Begründung beigelegt.

Am 28. September diesen Jahres gab die anglikanische Kirche Südafrikas abermals eine Resolution zu Israel und den Palästinensern ab (s.u.). In dieser wird Israel als Apartheidsstaat angeprangert. Erzbischof Makgoba schrieb an einem Brief an die Diözese verschärfend folgendes:

TEXT:

As people of faith who are distressed by the pain of the occupation of the West Bank and Gaza – and who long for security and a just peace for both Palestine and Israel – we can no longer ignore the realities on the ground. We are opposed not to the Jewish people, but to the policies of Israel's governments, which are becoming ever more extreme.

For Christians, the Holy Land is the place where Jesus was born, nurtured, crucified and raised. Our hearts ache for our Christian brothers and sisters in Palestine, whose numbers include Anglicans but are rapidly declining. People of all faiths in South Africa have both a

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1. Vorsitzender: Andreas Späth * 2. Vorsitzender: Pfr. Martin Fromm

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deep understanding of what it is to live under oppression, as well as experience of how to confront and overcome unjust rule by peaceful means. When black South Africans who have lived under apartheid visit Israel, the parallels to apartheid are impossible to ignore. If we stand by and keep quiet, we will be complicit in the continuing oppression of the Palestinians.

If we are to celebrate peace for Palestinians and security for the Israelis in in our time, we need to pray and work for the land we call holy, for an end to the occupation of Gaza and the West Bank and for full recognition of the Palestinians' inalienable right to self-determination.

We yearn for peace and the wholeness of God to be made manifest in Palestine, in Israel and among their neighbouring countries. I pray the prayer we adopted at the last meeting of the Provincial Synod, the ruling body of the Anglican Church of Southern Africa:

*Lord God,
Bless the people of the Middle East;
Protect their vulnerable children;
Transform their divided leaders;
Heal their wounded communities,
Restore their human dignity,
and give them everlasting peace.
AMEN.*

Gaza ist kein von Israel besetztes Gebiet, sondern ein von Terroristen regiertes Autonomiegebiet. Diese haben kein Interesse an einem Frieden mit Israel, sondern arbeiten beständig auf das Ziel ein Zerstörung Israels hin. Die Behauptungen über Israel als Apartheidsstaat sind ebenso israelbezogener Antisemitismus, wie die Verdrehung der Tatsachen hinsichtlich Gazas, die Behauptung einer kollektiven Unterdrückung der Palästinenser durch Israel und das falsche historische Narrativ über die Gründungsgeschichte des Staates Israel, das Erzbischof Makgoba immer wieder bedient.

Angesichts des fürchterlichen Terrorkrieges der Hamas gegen Israel fordern wir noch einmal die Tutzinger Akademie dazu auf, Erzbischof Makgoba die Ehrung zu entziehen! Hasspropaganda gegen Israel darf in Deutschland nicht unwidersprochen bleiben oder gar ausgezeichnet werden.

Mit freundlichen Grüßen,

Andreas Späth

und

Martin Fromm

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ANHANG (<https://anglicanchurchsa.org/psc-resolution-declaring-israel-an-apartheid-state/>):

PSC Resolutions declaring Israel an apartheid state and on pilgrimages to the Holy Land

28th September 2023

The following resolutions were approved by Provincial Standing Committee at its 2023 meeting on Wednesday.

A statement on the decisions by Archbishop Thabo Makgoba is available on his blog >>

ON ISRAEL AS AN APARTHEID STATE

1. Whereas:

- a. Many global human rights bodies including Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch have now declared Israel an apartheid state;
- b. The SACC National Executive Committee has now also declared Israel an apartheid state;
- c. The Dutch Reformed Church Western Cape synod has now also expressed its opinion that Israel should be declared an apartheid state and has asked its church's National synod to consider this at its October 2023 Synod;
- d. Most Palestinian civil rights bodies consider this to be true;

2. This PSC Resolves to:

- a. Endorse the position taken by the SACC national executive committee declaring Israel an apartheid state;
- b. Respectfully request the Archbishop to inform the Primate of Jerusalem and the Middle East of this decision;
- c. Pray for our Anglican brothers and sisters in Palestine and to express our solidarity with them;
- d. Express support for the upcoming global anti-apartheid conference on Palestine to be held in Tshwane in November 2023.

ON PILGRIMAGES TO PALESTINE AND ISRAEL

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1. Whereas:

- a. the definition of Israel as an apartheid State has become more widely used, including by the National Executive of the South African Council of Churches;
- b. the Archbishop's Lent Course 2023 on The Bible and the Land Called Holy helped significantly in raising awareness in ACSA about the plight of the Palestinians and that there was a strong interest expressed in continuing this focus;
- c. One of the possible actions emanating from this course is to promote solidarity visits to Israel-Palestine;

2. PSC Recognises that:

- a. In the Provincial Synod Resolution of 2019 "Many Christian pilgrimages to the current state of Israel often ignore the Christians living in Palestine";
- b. Visits to the Christians of Palestine to hear their stories are often not on the programme of these pilgrimages and, furthermore, the word "Palestine" is never or hardly ever used in the marketing material or in the preparation for the pilgrimage;
- c. The military occupation of Palestine is hardly ever talked about or discussed in these pilgrimages and the similarities to apartheid South Africa seldom discussed.

3. Affirming that:

In respect of Christian pilgrimages to the Holy Land it is desirable to:

- a. include an interfaith (or at the very least "Abrahamic") component and a discussion regarding the current situation of Christians in the Holy Land;
- b. have an Anglican priest (or one approved by ACSA) as chaplain to accompany the group of pilgrims (which may be comprised of both Anglicans and Christians of various denominations);
- c. include meetings with Palestinian Christians if possible, including visits to their homes;
- d. includes meetings with The Bishop of Jerusalem or senior clergy in Palestine and Israel whenever possible; and
- e. visits all the sites of the most important parts of the life of Jesus (his birth at Bethlehem, his baptism in the River Jordan, his first sermon at Capernaum, the last Supper, his crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension sites).

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4. Resolves to:

Adopt the principle of ACSA-approved Pilgrimages to the Holy Land;

a. respectfully request the Archbishop to inform the Primate of Jerusalem and the Middle East about this resolution

b. encourage that the first ACSA-approved pilgrimage takes place around Pentecost 2024 and to advertise the same on the ACSA website.

Verteiler:

Evang. Akademie Tutzing / Pfr. Udo Hahn
Landesbischof Prof. Dr. H. Bedford-Strohm

idea
Evang. Sonntagsblätter in Bayern

Zentralrat der Juden in Deutschland
BCJ Bayern

Arbeitskreis bekennender Christen (ABC)
Gesellschaft für Innere und Äußere Mission im Sinne der Lutherischen Kirche

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