ARIS

ALLIANCE OF
RABBIS IN ISLAMIC STATES

PROMOTING PEACE, COEXISTENCE, AND TOLERANCE
BY SUPPORTING JEWISH LIFE IN MUSLIM COUNTRIES

First Annual Report
2021

www.rabbisalliance.org

Welcome from our Chair

BH, Rosh Hodesh Kislev 5782

Friends,

Before the signing of the historic Abraham Accords, an alliance of rabbis was quietly supporting Jewish life in some Muslim countries. The signing of the Accords opened a new era in Muslim-Jewish relations and with it the public formation of the Alliance of Rabbis in Islamic States (ARIS) – a 501c3 nonprofit whose work took on an unprecedented level of excitement and urgency.

ARIS exists to support existing Jewish communities and their Rabbinic leadership, and now with the signing of the Accords our work can be more public, more prominent, more comprehensive, and more encompassing. We can now expand to new countries, develop interfaith programs, and be influential in normalizing Jewish life in the Muslim world.

- ARIS is actively leading and supporting Rabbis across the Muslim world and working to ensure that Jews can freely practice their faith.
- ARIS is committed to expanding and strengthening its work as a critical step toward warmer relations between Jews, Muslims, and other religions throughout the world.
- Our rabbis have a created a bottom-up program to build bridges of understanding and cooperation our world so desperately needs.

We read in the Torah about the History of the Jewish People. About Abraham who was born in Ur – present day Iraq, traveling to Haran – in present day Turkey, and then following G-D's orders to go to the Land of Israel and then onward to Egypt. The story of Abraham, father of many nations, is the story of this region and our story.

As we mark our first annual report and approach the festival of Hanukah, the holiday of light, thank you for helping us shine a light on the important and meaningful work of rabbis and Jewish communities throughout the Muslim world.

Rabbi Mendy Chitrik
Chair

Presidium Council

Rabbi Shimon Gad Elituv
Member of the Council of Israeli Chief Rabbinate

Rabbi David Rafael Banon
Montreal Bet Din

Rabbi Isaak Haleva
Chief Rabbi of Turkey

Rabbi Haim Bitan
Chief Rabbi of Tunisia

Rabbi Gad Bouskila
Rabbi of Netivot Yisrael Moroccan community of NY

ARIS Advisory Board

Alexander Machkevich
Kazakhstan
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Carole Basri
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Daniel Berkove
Israel

Rabbi Avraham Berkowitz
USA

Nir Boms
Israel

Sandra Dangoor
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Jason Epstein
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Paris

Eli Ovits
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Joy Malka Rothenberg
Israel

Daniel Seal
UAE

Tuli Skaist
USA

Leizer Schiner
USA

Dr. Efrat Sopher
UK

Solomon M. Sarway
USA

ARIS Advisory Council meetings have taken place on a regular basis with members joining from the UAE, UK, USA, Israel, and elsewhere.

Executive Board Meeting in New York

ARIS Mission

Mission:

To support, sustain, and advocate on behalf of Jewish life across Islamic States.

Our Aspirations:

- Provide a platform for rabbis and Jewish communities in Muslim countries to connect with and support one another on issues of common concern, as well as to serve as a collective voice that complements their individual engagement and advocacy with national governments and beyond.
- Enable and safeguard Jewish practice across the Muslim world – from arranging, leading, and teaching prayers and festival traditions to ensuring the provision – and even encouraging the production – of kosher food locally. Also, to strengthen the capacity of local Jewish communities to serve as a "home away from home' for Jewish visitors and business travelers.
- Advance the strategic engagement between faith leaders through the formation of the ARIS Charter – and transforming the Abraham Accords into an active grassroots dialogue between peoples.
- Develop a global network of Friends of ARIS who assist ARIS by providing strategic advice, expanded networks of professional and personal contacts, professional services, and political and financial support.
- Develop online content that promotes ARIS, focusing such critical issues, among others, as interfaith dialogue, Jewish faith-based connections to Hebrew and the Land of Israel, and community profiles in locally spoken languages such as English, Arabic, Farsi, and Hebrew. ARIS will also generate and disseminate related content on social media channels as an authoritative voice on Jewish affairs in Muslim communities worldwide.
- Visits between ARIS leaders across members-states will help solidify and solidify the network and forge stronger connections between the communities residing in Muslim societies. These ties will enable local branches to benefit from a global network spanning Asia, Africa and Europe.
- Convene Rabbis and communal leaders for an annual in-person summit – with training workshops, dialogue with faith leaders etc. to be hosted by a member/Muslim state.

ARIS Communities in Numbers

		Jewish population	Jewish tourists (estimated)*	Muslim population	Total population (incl. for reference)	Total rabbinical leadership
Current ARIS communities	Leadership					
	Albania	50	2,000	1,797,645	2,877,797	1
	Azerbaijan	30,000	70,000	9,735,074	10,139,177	10
	Bashkortostan	3,000		2,230,747	4,063,293	1
	Iran	12,000		82,500,000	83,992,949	12
	Kazakhstan	20,000	2,500	13,158,672	18,776,707	8
	Kosovo	50	2,000	1,663,412	1,739,825	1
	Kyrgyzstan	3,000		4,679,436	6,524,195	1
	Morocco	2,500	200,000-350,000	37,930,989	36,910,560	12
	Nigeria	850	2,000	99,000,000	206,139,589	2
	North Cyprus	250	75,000	322,740	326,000	1
	Tatarstan	3,500		2,094,972	3,894,000	1
	Tunisia	1,000	5,000	11,190,000	11,818,619	1
	Turkey	13,000	200,000+	79,850,000	84,339,067	9
	Uganda	800	2,000	5,435,234	45,741,007	1
	United Arab Emirates	1,500	200,000-350,000	4,615,081	9,890,402	4
	Uzbekistan	5,000	7,000	26,550,000	33,469,203	1
ARIS Expansion Plans	ARIS Expansion Plans					
	Algeria	50	minimal	41,240,913	43,851,044	-
	Bahrain	50	50,000	1,063,239	1,701,575	-
	Egypt	100	30,000	80,024,000	97,100,000	
	Indonesia	100	15,000	229,000,000	229,000,000	-
	Kuwait	50-100	minimal	2,175,684	4,270,571	-
	Malaysia	100	2,500	19,500,000	31,950,000	
	Oman	Expat no. unknown	minimal	2,427,000	5,106,626	-
	Qatar	Expat no. unknown		2,881,000	1,950,437	
	Saudi Arabia	100	minimal	31,878,000	34,813,871	-

** The number of Jewish tourists is expected to increase significantly with the signing of the Abraham Accords and the re-opening of international travel post-Covid.*

Media – in English, Arabic, and Hebrew

ARIS is active on Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn where we showcase to the Muslim world and to others, active Jewish life in Muslim countries with the aim of fostering the normalization of Jewish life and Jews living peacefully as Jews in Muslim countries.

One such example was over Pesach, when ARIS used social media to share stories of Jewish traditions and rituals being practiced by the Jewish communities in Muslim counties. The posts, in Arabic, English, and Hebrew, facilitate Muslims' understanding of Pesach rituals AND work to normalize that Jews are proudly observing a Jewish holiday, in public, in Muslim countries.

ARIS has influential followers from around the world, and our posts are increasingly re-tweeted in Arabic by journalists, influencers, and organizations.

5781 Highlights

- **March/April 2021** – ARIS leadership traveled to Washington, D.C. to meet with ambassadors of Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, and Turkey to discuss strengthening the Jewish communities in their respective countries.

  At the initiation of ARIS leadership, the Turkish ambassador hosted a kosher interfaith iftar meal at the Embassy of Turkey in Washington, D.C., which included leaders from Jewish, Christian, and Muslim communities, as well as several other dignitaries.

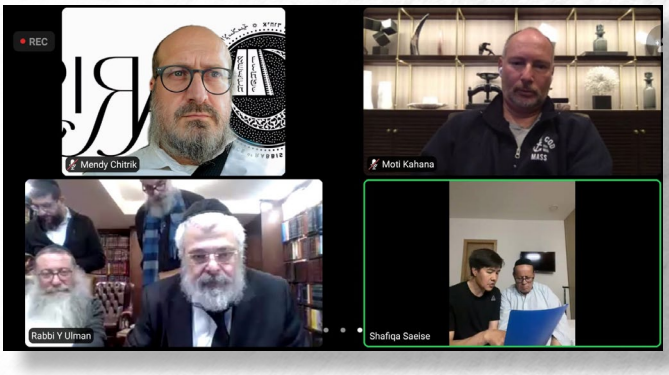
- Throughout year, ARIS leadership met with **prominent leaders and ministers** in Israel to discuss ARIS' work in Muslim countries. Meetings included: the head of the Jewish Agency of Israel and current President of Israel, Isaac Herzog, Minister of the Diaspora Nachman Shay, MK Omer Yankelovich, as well as others.

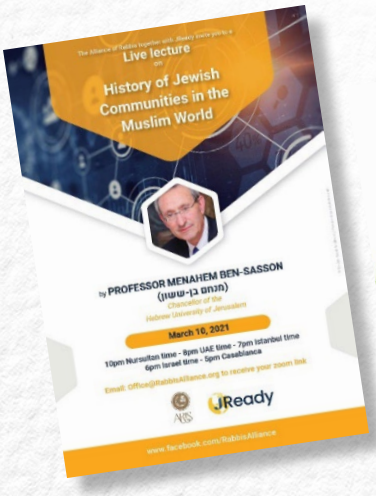
- **ARIS leaders are involved in interfaith events with Muslims and Christians in Muslim countries.**

Metropolitan Gregorios ÜREK of Adıyaman

Sufi teacher in the Mevlana

- **September 2021** – Helped the release of Zevulun Simantov, the last Jew of Afghanistan.





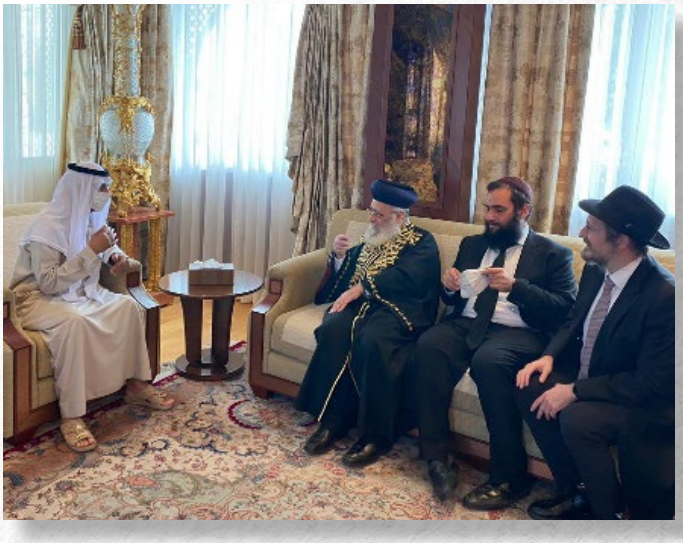
One of this year's highlights was the packing and distribution of Ramadan food packages in Nigeria.

- ARIS leaders arranged kosher slaughtering in the UAE to supply kosher chicken and meet to resident and visitors to the region.

- Meeting in Abu Dhabi of Chief Rabbi of Kazakhstan - Rabbi Yeshaya Kohen, Rabbi of the UAE – Rabbi Levi Duchman, Leader of Abu Dhabi Jewish community - Daniel Seal, Rabbi Mendy Chitrit, and Ambassador David Friedman.

- In late 2020, ARIS leaders traveled with R Yitzchak Yosef, Rishon Lezion Chief Rabbi of Israel, to Abu Dhabi and Dubai to meet with government officials. This was the first such visit of a sitting chief rabbi to the UAE. The trip included putting up a mezuzah in the Dubai Jewish school, laying a cornerstone for a new mikvah in Dubai, praying at the newly established synagogues in Abu Dhabi and Dubai, lighting Chanukah candles in the Dubai Synagogue, meeting with the Yemenite Jewish community living in Abu Dhabi, and receiving permits for the Jewish community in Dubai.

Together with Rabbi Duchman, Rabbi of the UAE, the group met with ministers and high-ranking officials to support the establishment of Jewish communities in the UAE.



Presidium Council of ARIS

The Presidium Council is comprised of the five leading Sefardic rabbis from Muslim countries who serve as mentors to ARIS rabbis.

Rishon LeZion, the Sefardic Chief Rabbi of Israel, Rabbi Yitzchak Yosef, provided a letter stating that he will continue to provide halachic guidance to ARIS and providing his endorsement of the Presidium Council.

Yitzchak Yosef
The Rishon Lezion Chief Rabbi of Israel

יצחק יוסף
הראשון לציון הרב הראשי לישראל

BS"D, 3 Adar, 5781, 807-5-15/81

HaRav HaGa'on Menachem Mendel Chitrik, Shlit"a
Chairman of the Alliance of Rabbis in Islamic States

I was delighted to hear of the establishment of the Alliance of Rabbis in Islamic States, presided over by the great Rabbis, HaGa'on Rabbi Shimon Gad Elituv, member of the Chief Rabbinate of Israel's Council; HaGa'on Rabbi Haim Bitan, Chief Rabbi of Tunisia; HaGa'on Rabbi David Rephael Benon, Badatz Montreal; HaGa'on Rabbi Avraham Hamra, Chief Rabbi of Syrian Expatriates, HaGa'on Rabbi Gad Buskila, Chief Rabbi of Netivot Yisrael Community.

With immense gratitude to Hashem Yitbarach, we have merited to see the hearts of leaders of Arab and Islamic countries connect to the peace agreements with Israel and, as a result, many Jews are returning to live in these places and visiting there. Now, during our visit to the United Arab Emirates, we discovered that the community there has needs and we must work with the government officials in all areas of religion requiring official approval, and Be'ezrat Hashem they will respond to our requests to meet with them and they will permit holding Jewish prayers, as well as constructing mikva'ot, Talmud Torahs [Jewish Schools] etc.

We must give thanks for the initiative to set up the Alliance of Rabbis in Islamic States, which strives to unite all Jewish communities in these places, while recognizing the official authorities in each and every state, thus providing assistance to all needs of members of the various Jewish communities.

In addition, I would like to give thanks for the Alliance's decision to take action in each of these countries, to instruct halacha according to the customs of Maran Beit Yosef, zichro yagen aleinu, the spiritual leader and guide of the Sephardim and Bnei Edot Hamizrach, and have accepted his rulings in all matters, whether he took the lenient or the strict approach, and according to that stated in the books of Maran, our teacher and spiritual guide, ztz"l, and that discussed in the books "Yalkut Yosef."

We wish to extend our sincere blessings, that they should continue in their important work to bring the Jewish People closer to our Torah and the path of Halacha and Mitzvot, according to the heritage that has been passed on to us from generation to generation, and may they succeed in blessing the Name of Hashem and succeed in all they do, Amen.

Bivirkat HaTorah,

Rabbi Yitzchak Yosef
The Rishon LeZion
Chief Rabbi of Israel

ARIS Rabbis in Action

Here are some highlights from this past year of ARIS Rabbis' independent programs which took place across the Muslim world:

- ARIS rabbis were involved in various events taking place in Muslim countries, including placing *mezuzot* in the new Embassy of Israel in Abu Dhabi (pictured here), programs at Expo 2020 in Dubai, and many others.

- ARIS Rabbi Uzan, Chief Rabbi of Nigeria meets with the Imam of Abuja, Nigeria about Ramadan food distribution to the needy.

ARIS Rabbis Summit

Istanbul, December 2021

The first ARIS Rabbis Summit, was held in Istanbul under the auspices of Chief Rabbi Haleva of Turkey and in the presence of Summit Honorary Chairman Mr. Akif Gilalov.

The summit provided a unique opportunity for rabbis to inter-connect and to learn from each other's experiences – and helping"normalize" Jewish life in the Muslim world.

A highlight was an invitation to meet President Erdogan at the presidential palace in Ankara.

ARIS Chair Rabbi Mendy Chitrik reflects on the historic summit in this article published in *The Washington Institute*:

The Alliance of Rabbis in Islamic States: A Summit for Jewish Communities Old and New

Ninety-five percent of global Jewry lives in just nine countries, which is less than ten percent of the world's nations. And yet, there are active Jewish communities in most of the remaining 186 countries, including more than one hundred thousand Jews living in Muslim-majority countries.

Providing communal and religious leadership, rabbis have played a role in Islamic countries for centuries. Precisely due to their apolitical status, history has recorded numerous instances of kings and ministers seeking their counsel to help mitigate delicate issues of international significance.

As today's communal rabbis, we see ourselves as continuing in this noble tradition of rabbis as peacemakers. Dedicated rabbis make enormous personal sacrifices to serve their congregations. Often, rabbis do much more than enable community members to sustain their faith and connectivity. Rabbis are uniquely positioned to interface with host governments at the highest levels to nurture a hospitable environment in which Jewish life can flourish and thousands of Jews can visit in a welcoming, safe environment. In so doing, local rabbis also have a unique role to play in fostering peace and universal brotherhood. As the Talmud teaches [in *Berahot* 64a]: *"Rabbis bring greater peace in the world."*

While the integration of Jewish life across the Muslim world has not always been without challenges, Jews have, and continue to form, an integral part of the Islamic world. In fact, many people are surprised to learn that not only are there Jews in most Islamic states, but a number host quite active Jewish community. For instance, one of the largest Jewish communities is the *Ashkenazi* community of Azerbaijan. Headed up by Chief Rabbi Segal, the community is comprised of Jews who moved to the region during Russian rule, adding to the indigenous Mountain Jew community of Azerbaijan which has been living in the region for 2000 years.

Moreover, these communities have a notable range of diversity—from Jews in Muslim countries who are the remnants of communities with centuries or even millennia-old roots—such are the communities of Iran, Turkey, Morocco, and Tunisia, to the post-communist Muslim countries of Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, and others, which still boast the largest Jewish communities in the Muslim world. Other communities, such as those of Abu Dhabi and Dubai of the United Arab Emirates, are in the process of expanding in the wake of the signing of the Abraham Accords. Meanwhile, some Jews find themselves in more remote locations for a variety of personal or professional reasons.

In order to support these diverse communities, the Alliance of Rabbis in Islamic States (ARIS) was founded in 2019 to connect and develop the activities *of Sephardi rabbis*, whose communities members' ancestors lived in North Africa, the Middle East, and Spain; *Ashkenazi rabbis* representing those whose ancestors lived in Central and Eastern Europe; Chabad rabbis, who are members of a movement working to support and foster Jewish religious life globally; and communal rab-

bis serving Jewish communities in countries that are members of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC).

At present, the network comprises of rabbis in countries such as Albania, Azerbaijan, Egypt, Morocco, Turkey, Tunisia, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kosovo, Kyrgyzstan, UAE, Uganda, Uzbekistan, and Nigeria, as well as rabbis serving in communities of other Muslim majority regions, such as North Cyprus, Tatarstan, and Bashkortostan. Like myself, our network comprises of full-time residents in the countries we serve. We support local Jewish life and visitors in all their Jewish needs while also leading initiatives to combat Islamophobia and anti-Semitism. As a united voice, we provide a powerful model for mutual respect and the quest for interfaith deference by encouraging dialogue, religious tolerance, and practice. From Nigeria to Turkey, Rabbis across the ARIS network engage in efforts to strengthen ties with Muslim faith leaders, whilst actively arranging welfare initiatives for the most-needy general population during Ramadan and other Muslim festive periods.

As a rabbi of Turkey's Ashkenazi community and elected chairman of ARIS, I was proud to recently host the First ARIS Summit, held in Istanbul under the auspices of Hahambashi the Chief Rabbi Haleva of Turkey. The summit provided a unique opportunity for rabbis to connect and to learn from each other's experiences—while helping to "normalize" Jewish life in the Muslim world. It was also the first time in history that certain senior rabbinic positions in the region interacted; the ARIS Summit marked the inaugural meeting of the Chief Rabbi Gerami of Iran, Chief Rabbi Cohen of Kazakhstan, and Rabbi Meirov of the 'Mountain-Jews' community of Baku.

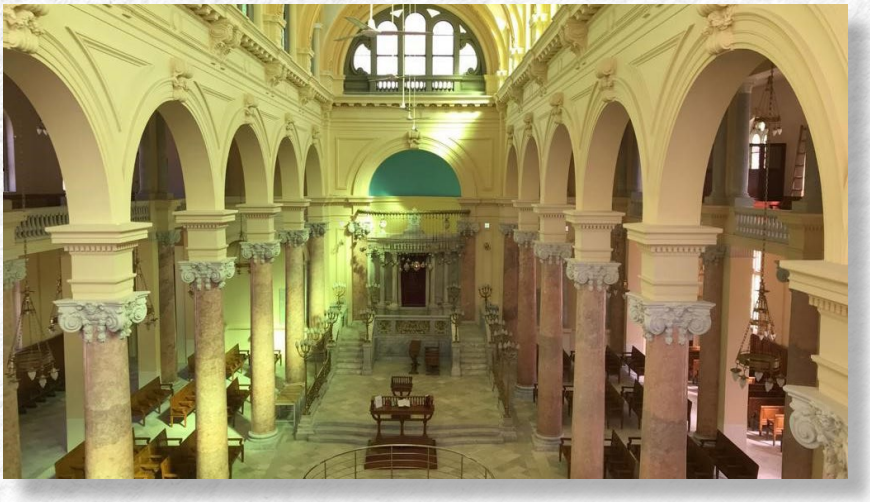
It was an opportunity for the rabbis present to be inspired from the experience of Rabbi Hattab of Tunisia, to receive a signed copy of Egyptian Rabbi Avraham Dayan's book about the last rabbis of Egypt, and to learn from Rabbi Rabin—the Head Rabbi of Bucharian Jews of Uzbekistan—who addressed matters of Jewish law pertaining to Jewish identity in cases of marriage and divorce.

Rabbis also learnt from Chief Rabbi Lazar of Russia—a guest of honor at the summit, Chief Rabbi Reichman of Kyrgyz Republic, and Rabbi Saidian of Isfahan. And, showcasing the centuries-old spiritual connection with Turkey, participants prayed at the Etz Ahayim synagogue in Ortakoy with local Rabbis Haleva, Peres, Alauf, Sevi, and Gerson.

The culmination of this historic gathering was an invitation to an audience with Turkish President Erdogan at the Presidential Palace in Ankara—during which the President reiterated that Anti-Semitism, as is Islamophobia, a crime against humanity and contrary to Turkish law. The warm reception, the Kosher food that was served, and the evening Jewish prayers in the palace all provided a powerful statement: that Jews and Jewish practices are welcomed, and simply a part of the social fabric of the Muslim world.

As we reflect on this inaugural historic summit, and embark on planning the second, the benefits of intercommunal collaboration have become even clearer, whether it be in the field of youth education, the sharing of best practices between rabbis, or the formation of projects for the preservation of Jewish heritage sites. ARIS rabbis anticipate a growth in many of the existing communities as well as the emergence of new Jewish communities in various Muslim-majority countries as Jews seek countries that safeguard religious practice and evolving economic factors lead to further travel and migration. Externally, this creates an opportunity to enhance interfaith dialogue and collaboration—with strategic benefits to the local Jewish and Muslim communities, to Israel, global Jewry, and humanity. In turn, this will require rethinking on how many perceive the Jewish world, allocation of financial resources and the recruitment of additional rabbinic talent.

Synagogues



Press Clippings

News articles about ARIS, op-eds by ARIS rabbis

- The Jerusalem Post: Last Jew leaves Afghanistan
  https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/the-last-jew-in-afghanistan-is-en-route-to-the-united-states-678882
- Forward: As Taliban take charge, uncertain future for Afghanistan's Jewish heritage sites
  https://forward.com/news/474297/taliban-jewish-heritage-afghanistan-herat/
- JTA: This rabbi is tweeting his unusual 3-week Jewish heritage road trip through Turkey
  https://www.jta.org/2021/08/09/global/this-rabbi-is-tweeting-his-unusual-3-week-jewish-heritage-road-trip-through-turkey
- Times of Israel: Personal relationships are the future of Jewish-Muslim coexistence
  https://blogs.timesofisrael.com/personal-relationships-are-the-future-of-jewish-muslim-coexistence/
- The Jerusalem Post: For Jews in the Muslim world, an increasingly bright future awaits
  https://m.jpost.com/opinion/for-jews-in-the-muslim-world-an-increasingly-bright-future-awaits-661731
- The Jerusalem Post: Passover in Muslim countries: Matzah in Iran, seder in UAE
  https://m.jpost.com/diaspora/passover-in-muslim-countries-matza-in-iran-seder-in-uae-662187
- Ami Magazine: Small Islands of Jews in a Muslim Sea: The rabbis of Jewish communities in Islamic countries join together to strengthen each other
  https://www.amimagazine.org/2020/05/20/small-islands-of-jews-in-a-muslim-sea/
- eJewish Philanthropy: Rabbis as Peacemakers
  https://ejewishphilanthropy.com/rabbis-as-peacemakers/
- Jewish News Syndicate: For a future of peace, Jews and Muslims should build bridges
  https://www.jns.org/opinion/for-a-future-of-peace-jews-and-muslims-should-build-bridges/
- The Jerusalem Post: Afghanistan's last Jew departs for Israel after granting wife divorce
  https://www.jpost.com/diaspora/afghanistans-last-jew-departs-for-israel-after-granting-wife-divorce-682284
- Turkish Government highlights work of ARIS
  https://twitter.com/trtworld/status/1453373419714584577
- Daily Sabah: Rabbi behind Afghan rescue explores Turkey's Jewish heritage
  https://www.dailysabah.com/turkey/minorities/rabbi-behind-afghan-rescue-explores-turkeys-jewish-heritage

Letters of Support and Appreciation

Minister of Diaspora Affairs

May 30, 2021

19 Sivan, 5781

ChabadAid Humanitarian projects for NIGERIA

CHABAD CENTRAL AFRICA NIGERIA

March 17, 2021

JEUNESSE LUBAVITCH MAROC

Casablanca le 24 Février 2021

Dear Rabbi Chitrik,

I hope you are well and that you and your community are staying safe!

Once again I want to thank you and the Global Jewish Assistance and Relief Network for enabling us to help so many needy households in Casablanca for Pesach. Through your help, we are delivering food boxes to over 100 households who are the most vulnerable as well as the elderly who are still stuck at home while waiting for the vaccine. 3 families with children are receiving food cards to use at the local BIM stores as well as clothing for their children.

In the zechut of this Chessed, may Hashem grant you Hatzlacha in all your endeavors.

Rabbin Levy Banon
Président de l'association
Loubavitch Maroc

AZƏRBAYCAN RESPUBLİKASI
"SUMQAYIT YƏHUDİLƏRİ"
DİNİ İCMASI

חב"ד צפון קפריסין
Chabad Jewish Center of North Cyprus

ב"ה ערב פסח תשפ"א

לכבוד ארגון איחוד הרבנים במדינות האסלאם

שלום וברכה

ברצוני להודות לכם על המאמצים הרבים ודאגתכם הרבה עבור היהודים המתגוררים בצפון קפריסין במשך השנה כולה במשלוח תשמישי קדושה וכל עזרה הנדרשת ובמיוחד עכשיו בערבי פסחים הגדלתם לעשות ושלחתם עזרה נדיבה מארגון **GJARN** בכדי שנוכל לחלק מצות ואת צרכי החג ביד נדיבה.

עזרתכם בשנה זו חשובה עוד יותר עקב מגפת הקורונה והקשיים הרבים ביבוא המוצרים הכשרים.

ישלם השם פעלכם הרב ושמזכה עוד בשנה זו לאכול מן הזבחים והפסחים בבית המקדש.

בכבוד ובברכה

הרב חיים הלל אזימאוו- צפון קפריסין

Web: Chabadnorthcyprus.com **Email:** Rabbi@chabadnorthcyprus.com **Phone**: +905338770774

YAD MATAN BASETER

Istanbul, April 7th,2021

To : THE GLOBAL JEWISH ASSISTANCE AND RELIEF NETWORK
&THE ALLIANCE OF RABBIS IN ISLAMIC STATES

As you may know, YAD , the Welfare Support Organization of the Jewish Community in Turkey supports 320 needy families with all their material needs including food , staples, fuel , cash and needs for health and medication.

Within the support program, our support to our 320 needy recipient families (1250 people)for is of course Pesach is very special.

As YAD - Matan Baseter, we provide our needy with food packages , hot meals and wine for Seders as well as a cash present for Pesach. The amount allocated per needy family for this is about USD 200 per family.

In the name of the needy Jewishw families in Turkey that we support, we would highly appreciate any help that may come to support this effort.

Respectfully
Nina Alkaş
President
YAD Jewish Welfare Organization
Istanbul

With Thanks

ARIS' accomplishments would not have been possible without the time dedicated by fellow ARIS Rabbis, our advisory council, and organisational consultants Altruists.

Thank you to our founding patron Mr. Alexander Mashkevich for his wisdom, generosity, and leadership – helping connect Rabbis and Jewish communities across the Muslim world.

Also, thank you to the Jewish Agency for Israel, Meromim, the Global Jewish Assistance and Relief Network, and Keren Hayesod for the generous seed project and core funding.

Goals and plans for the coming year

Our plans for the coming year focus on our leaders, our communities, and our outreach to Muslim countries.

For our leaders:

- An in-person conference for our Rabbis and advisory board will be part of our efforts to strengthen and expand our professional development programs.

For our communities:

- Our leadership will visit Jewish communities through the Islamic countries to assess needs and populations so we can better support these communities.
- We aim to establish ARIS led communities in 5-9 new Muslim countries.
- We will expand our holiday assistance programs, which includes, food and ritual objects.

Outreach efforts:

- We will expand our website to include additional languages popular in Islamic countries. Our plans are to add Turkish, French, and Russian this year.

Looking to the future

Thank you to our many supports for your assistance in our inaugural year.

The challenge of strengthening Jewish communities and their leaders across the Muslim world, and the normalization of the existence of Jewish life in the Muslim world is an immense one; yet the return on investment is of strategic importance for the Jewish people.

Please join us in furthering our mission to create a world of mutual respect and understanding between people of all faiths.

ARIS seeks additional benefaftors and patrons to help in its critical mission.
Please be in touch to also discuss various programmatic naming opportunities.

Contact ARIS today at
office@rabbisalliance.com

Donations can be made online at
www.rabbisalliance.org/support

ARIS

2021 Organizational Budget

	Description	
INCOME		
Donations secured	from founding patron, JAFI, I&Fs	89,640
Fundraising target		220,040
	Subtotal Income:	$309,680
EXPENDITURE		
Celebrating Abraham Accords Inaugural Outreach Summit	Provide travel lodging and conference subsidies for participants; Honorariums - Participation of representatives of international rabbinic and lay leaders	95,317
Empowerment and Fact-Finding Missions	Senior member of ARIS shall visit member countries to meet community and its leadership. The senior member shall receive compensation for their time and travel.	48,526
Profile Raising/Expansion	ARIS is in touch with government and NGOs. With its growth and reputation, in-person participation in global conferences will be needed, plus visits to potential member-states	31,876
Website: Design, Copy, Hosting	Content and basic information about Judaism in the countries of our member states geared to a non-Jewish audience in the languages of our member states, including English/Arabic/Farsi	50,326
Marketing, including Digital Outreach		30,526
Monthly Meetings and training	Will utilize world thinkers and leading policy makers. Skills training such as public speaking, social media/ marketing, learning about other faiths, advocacy	24,957
Operations		28,152
	Subtotal Expenditure:	$309,680