

Interfaith Leaders Are Going To Istanbul To Meet With Adnan Oktar



The Jerusalem Post, the most long-established English newspaper of Israel followed throughout the world, published a news item announcing that a delegation is coming from Israel in order to meet with Mr. Adnan Oktar, on its news dates May 4th, 2011. Some lines from the item were as follows:

Interfaith leaders to meet with the influential Turkish scholar

A delegation from Israel comprised of rabbis, sheikhs and a priest resolved in Istanbul on Thursday to form an interfaith convention – along with their Turkish hosts – that will arbitrate disputes in the Middle East and Muslim world to counter religious extremism and promote peace.

A delegation from Israel comprised of rabbis, sheiks and a priest will resolve in Istanbul on Wednesday to form an interfaith convention.

A rabbi, a Catholic priest, a Druse and a sheikh will spend three days with Adnan Oktar, a philosopher and religious scholar with a great mass of followers throughout the Muslim world, also known as Harun Yahya.

Such a meeting took place a couple of yers ago; this will be the second delegation led by Deputy Minister for Development of the Negev and Galilee, Ayoob Kara. Kara said that the relations between Jerusalem and Ankara need to be improved. Rabbi Hollander, who accepted the invitation, defines Oktar as “a religious scholar and philosopher who aims to make the world a better place”. Oktar is making a television program, which is broadcasted every day and watched by millions of people. Hollander said: “If people like Oktar’s program, then I would definitely spend my time to encourage them to this”.

Interfaith delegation travels to Istanbul

Clergymen to meet with influential Turkish preacher

By David Weisberg

An interfaith delegation from Israel will meet with a prominent Muslim preacher in Istanbul on Wednesday as it aims to enhance understanding between the faiths.

A. Aziz, a Catholic priest, a Greek Orthodox priest, a Jewish rabbi and a British Muslim cleric will meet with Sheikh Ahmad Raza Khan, who is the head of the Muslim world.

The delegation will meet with a member of the Turkish opposition, to present him with a list of Jewish holy sites in Israel, which would not disclose the names of the Israeli politicians whose names are con-

cerned, he said, there is a list of Jewish sites being listed and protected. "This is a request that the Jewish sites be safeguarded by what might be the most significant in Turkey," he said.

One of the delegation rabbis, Yehoshua Friedman of Torah Tzion, is an associate pastor at the Jewish Center for Israel in Jerusalem. Friedman is active in interfaith relations, especially with Muslims and Christians.

The delegation, headed by Adnan Oktar and his wife, who is a member of the national parliament, began over three years ago when Oktar's people asked the rabbis to come to Turkey to meet and talk. Friedman, who accep-

ted the invitation, described Oktar as "a man of religion, a philosopher who tries to make the world a better place." Oktar has an extremely influential television program, broadcast daily and viewed by millions.

This is Friedman's seventh visit to Turkey for interfaith dialogue. "If people like Oktar's message, I will definitely dedicate the time to them to encourage them," he said, noting that Oktar

is a member of the national parliament, began over three years ago when Oktar's people asked the rabbis to come to Turkey to meet and talk. Friedman, who accep-



ADNAN OKTAR (second from left), Deputy Minister of Health, Turkey, with Israeli rabbis and other members of the delegation in Istanbul, Turkey, on Tuesday.

speaks well of Israel and believes it should belong to the Jewish people.

Friedman was far from being sure that the encounter would set off a change in the attitude of the Muslim world toward the Jews.

"I'm not optimistic, but I don't give up on the cause," he said. "With the [Muslim] world there is not much to say, since they have had a long history at hand and I don't expect a breakthrough here in the initial stage. But there is an opportunity to reach understanding with them through one-to-one relations."

If we succeed, there is a chance that the message of moderate Islam will reach Muslims in Europe and America, most of whom are immigrants in search of a better life, who do not want to appear to their counterparts in an aggressive group that came to occupy their lands.

"I don't think Muslims are able to show the European that the practice of Islam is successful, lawful, and healthy, not particularly in the 21st century, and do not represent Islam as a whole," he said. "It is possible for peace to emerge as well. And if the Muslim world makes the strategic decision to live in peace with the Jews, that will undoubtedly influence the Arabs. Especially since the Arab resistance such as Hamas," Friedman said.

For second-time Israeli delegate Meir Kahane, such a meeting is important not only from the perspective of an interfaith dialogue, but also as an opportunity to show the Turkish regime and other world leaders that Israel is a peace-loving country that treats all its citizens well.

As an Israeli citizen, Kahane said that it's his duty to take part in a dialogue that could promote good ties with the Muslim world and promote peace. "The initiative should come from both sides, who should be encouraged to welcome the other side. Our religious institutions, in no sense, are proximity with the Jews," he said.

He also noted that Jews are mentioned in the Quran as a nation.

"If only moderate Islam would influence the Arab world," he said. "People here around the Middle East quietly tell me they are afraid of the Jews. But the Jewish people should be encouraged to welcome the other side. Our religious institutions, in no sense, are proximity with the Jews," he said.

"The most common to reach out to hand," he said. "Ultimately, a hand will be extended back."

You can [read](#) or [watch](#) Mr. Adnan Oktar's explanations at the press conference held with the Israeli delegation.

<https://www.harunyahya.info/en/articles/interfaith-leaders-are-going-to-istanbul-to-meet-with-adnan-oktar>