An Open Letter to President-elect Trump: It's Time to Bring Them Back Home

Dear Honorable President-elect Donald Trump,

We write to you with an urgent plea, as the next leader of the United States of America. You demanded an end to the war in Gaza by the time you entered the White House for your second term as the 45th President of the United States. Ending the war in Gaza is simple and clear - the return of our 101 brothers, sisters, sons, and daughters, each held captive by brutal Hamas terrorists for over a year. Our innocent loved ones are 30 meters underground, suffocating, dying, disease-laden, and malnourished with their hands tied and AK 47's pointed at their heads. They have been in these conditions for over 415 days and nights.

We saw 6 innocent individuals executed in cold blood in September, including American Hersh Goldberg-Polin. This may be the reality for our loved ones at any moment – we cannot wait any longer.

Above the ground, Gaza is destroyed because Hamas uses the citizens of Gaza as human shields. This enables the terrorism and onslaught to survive and prevent Hamas' surrender.

Throughout your election campaign you carried and conveyed your message to the American people: right has become wrong and bad has become good. You promised to restore order in the simplest and most obvious way - and make America great again.

Now, please do the same for us. Impose the simple and straight logic to bring them back home and turn their darkness into light and freedom. It is wrong that while our relatives, including American citizens among them, are being held in these conditions while Khalil al Haya, the deputy of eliminated abominable murderer Yahya Sinwar and Hamas' negotiator, is celebrating in 5-star hotels in the center of Doha in Qatar, a friend of the U.S.

Hamas leaders like Muhammad Darwish, Nizar Awadullah and Khaled Mashal, who are hiding in Doha, demand from their terrorists in Gaza to continue the "resistance," to continue hiding behind children and women in Gaza and not to surrender.

We urge you to call your colleague, the Emir of Qatar, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani, and demand an end to these games. We need a simple American deal with Hamas left in its shadow: Hamas must immediately announce the release of all the living and dead hostages without any conditions and surrender or all Hamas leaders be immediately deported from the country and will no longer be safe anywhere in the world.

This is how the war with a terrorist organization in Gaza should end. This is how your term in the White House should begin. It should be with the rehabilitation of Gaza by Qatar and the Gulf states alongside ensuring the security of the citizens of Israel and the return of our loved one's home.

Symbolically, this year Christmas and the first day of Hanukkah fall on the same day. We look forward to the miracle of Christmas and the miracle of Hanukkah for us and implore you to ensure we see light for our loved ones.

Signed by:

Hoshea Haggai

Brother of **Gadi Haggai (Dual Israeli-American citizen)** kidnapped from Kibbutz Nir Oz with Judith Weinstein Haggai (Israeli, American and Canadian citizen), kidnapped and murdered

Doris Liber (Dual Israeli-American citizen)

Mother of Guy Iluz, her only child, kidnapped from NOVA festival and murdered in captivity

Ziv Abud (NOVA festival massacre survivor) Spouse of **Eliya Cohen**, kidnapped from NOVA festival

Talia and Liran Berman

Mother and Brother of twins **Ziv and Gali Berman**, kidnapped from Kibbutz Kfar-Aza

Simona and Dor Steinbrecher

Mother and Brother of Doron Steinbrecher, kidnapped from Kibbutz Kfar-Aza

Amanda Damari

Mother of Emily Damari (Dual Israeli-British citizen), kidnapped from Kibbutz Kfar-Aza

Lishay Lavi

Wife of Omri Miran, kidnapped from Kibbutz Nahal Oz