

Creating New Jewish Leadership



by Moshe Feiglin

What Is Ehud Barak Offering?

I listened to the dramatic announcement last week by a retired chief of staff (Ehud Barak) and a retired deputy chief of staff (Yair Golan) about the establishment of a new party in Israel. Neither of them even made an effort, not even a hint of an effort, to lay out what they were offering in economics, education, health – even security.

It was hard not to agree with at least some of their criticism of Netanyahu, but what is Barak – a man who gave Arafat the whole country and brought us war – offering? What is his deputy – a man who detected processes of Nazism in Israeli society, no less,

and was offended by those who criticized him – offering?

What is being offered by the standard-bearers of the ideology of Oslo, which turned the state of Israel into a hostage of the PLO terror organization? Nothing. Simply nothing. Nor do they feel any need to offer anything.

In the winter of 2019, there was a party – Zehut – that did exactly the opposite, that laid out in precise detail what could and should be done. A party that aroused hope and not hatred. But everyone was intimidated by it, and fear overcame hope.

Zehut is not going to succumb to cynicism and intimidation. Because without Zehut, what has been, will be – on both the right and the left. They don't say anything because they have nothing to say. All that remains is hate and disgust, and they just play that over and over again. All the streams of cynicism flow down to the political sea, and the sea isn't full.

But we will be there, and we will once again kindly respect for the voter, respect for his intelligence. We will be there, and we will rekindle hope.

It's hard to find a more clear and coherent ideolo-

gy over the years in Israeli politics – certainly not on the right – than that offered by Zehut.

Is right-wing defined as loyalty to the Land of Israel or loyalty to Benjamin Netanyahu? Is right-wing a worship of personality, or an ideology of substance?

In the winter of 2019, I suggested that the Israeli public should forget about these definitions and focus instead on content. I published a detailed platform. I invited the public to think for itself rather than behave like fans of a football team.

I asked: Are you left-wing or pro-human rights? Because, in practice, it's really not the same. I asked: Are you right-wing or pro-Land of Israel? Because, in practice, it's really not the same.

We almost succeeded in freeing the world from its false divisions. We almost won an election with content, and with respect for the voter's intelligence. But it turned out that trying to change language so quickly was too much.

So, yes, we have exactly the same platform this time around, with exactly the same ideology, but this time we're calling it right-wing – a right-wing of ideology rather than a right-wing of personality.

Moshe Feiglin is chairman of the Zehut political party in Israel.

Pretzel Stand Takes Down Hashgacha After Rabbi Makes A Scene

By Baruch Lytle
Jewish Press Staff Writer

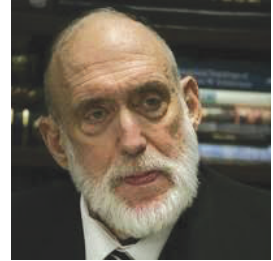
On Sunday, June 30, the Pretzel Factory – a pretzel stand at Palisades Mall in West Nyack, NY – finally removed its hashgacha certification letter, months after it expired.

Many frum Jews, reportedly, had been buying food from the stand since the certification's expiration in February, relying on the hashgacha certifi-

cation, not realizing that was no longer valid.

"I went there [on Sunday] and I made a scene," Rabbi Yaakov Spivak, rabbinic administrator of United Kosher Supervision (UKS) of Monsey, told The Jewish Press. At that point the Pretzel Factory staff took it down."

"They hadn't been returning my calls," he explained. "I tried to reach them and they wouldn't answer, so I sent



Rabbi Yaakov Spivak

[my mashgiachs]. The staff threatened to call the police if we tried to take the sign down."

Rabbi Spivak is happy the sign is finally down and said UKS will visit the location regularly to make sure it doesn't go back up.

A Pretzel Factory worker hung up the phone when The Jewish Press called for comment. Subsequent calls went unanswered.

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