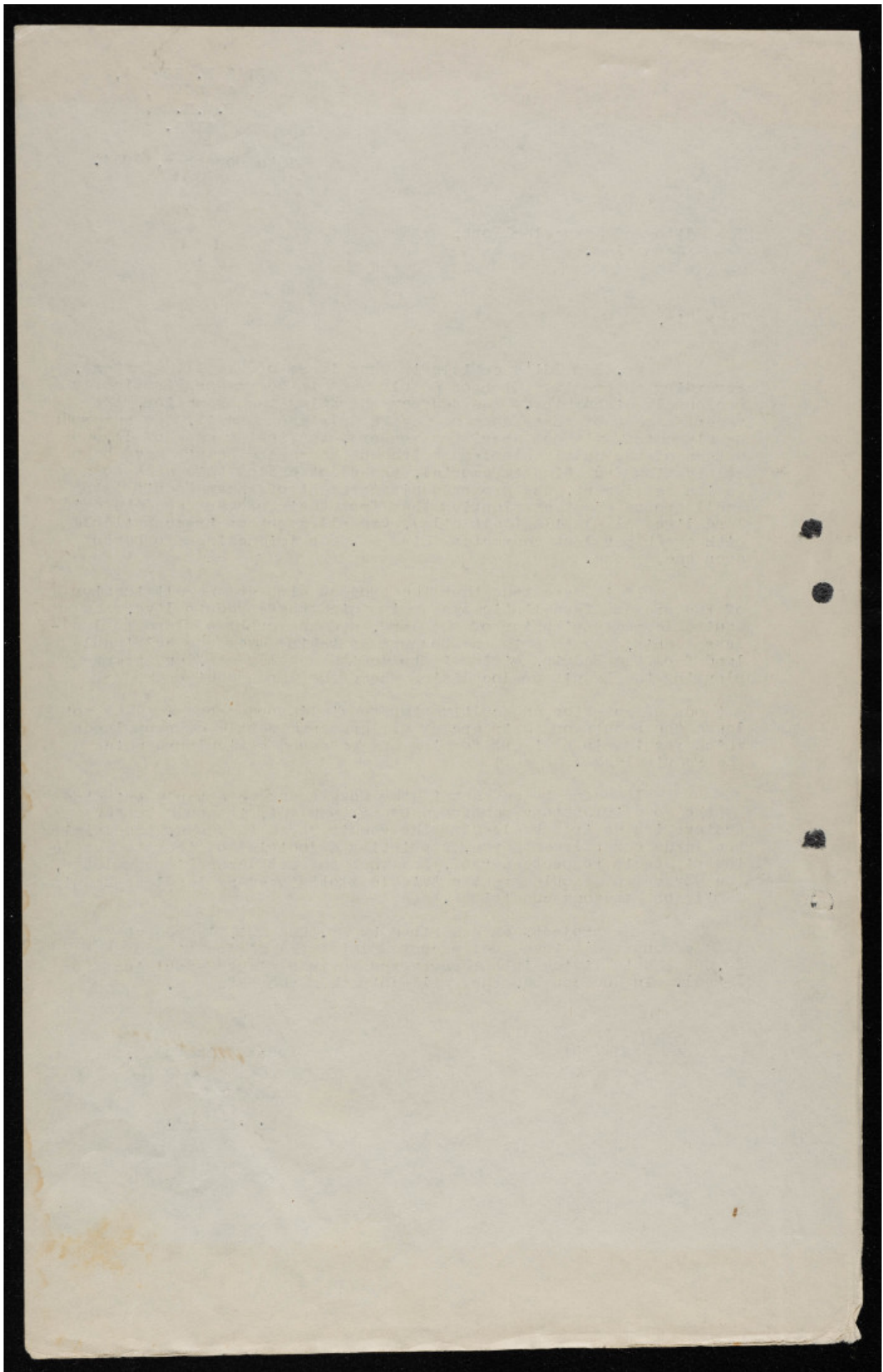


٠٢٩٠٠٢٠٢٣٦

## **كوسا تسجيل أراضي البدو في بئر السبع"، رسالة من إلياس" إلى محرر صحيفة جيروسالم بوست، تشرين الثاني ١٩٥٤**

محرر صحيفة رسالة مطبوعة باللغة الانجليزية من إلياس كوسا إلى مشروع تسجيل جيروسالم بوست بتاريخ ١٢ تشرين الثاني ١٩٥٤ بخصوص في رسالته أنه موضوع أراضي البدو في منطقة بئر السبع، والذي يذكر كوسا الثلاثة للشيخ سليمان مثير للقلق وخاصة بالتزامن مع اعتقال الأبناء ومنحها لمستوطنين الهزيل، أحد وجهاء النقب، ومصادرة ١٤ ألف دونم أراضي على النظام الاقطاعي يهود، وتهجير أهالي النقب وبئر السبع بحجة القضاء في المناطق البدوية.



ELIAS N. KOUSSA,  
ADVOCATE,  
P.O.B. 14,  
HAIFA.

12th November, 1954.

The Editor of Jerusalem Post,  
Jerusalem.

Dear Sir,

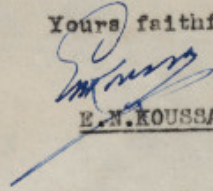
Mr. Ben Adi's article in your issue of the 11th instant, regarding the registration of Beduin land in Beersheba District is profoundly disturbing. The secrecy shrouding the operation, the recent arrest of three sons of Sheikh Suleiman Huzayil, the paramount Beduin chief, without ascribing reasons, the taking away of 14,000 dunams of the cultivable land which the Beersheba Beduin have been cultivating from time immemorial, the allotment of this area to a Jewish settlement, the proposed dispersment of these Beduin into small groups and transplanting them from their present abode to arid land like Tel Al Milh (Salt Hill), are all symptoms irreconcilable with the benevolent character which Mr. Ben Adi desires to bestow upon the scheme.

If it were true that the project aims at the elimination of the present feudalistic system in which these Beduin live, the equitable redistribution of the land, and the grant of land to landless Beduin, why then is the Government taking away the cultivable land from the Beduin, giving it to Jewish settlements, and transplanting the Beduin to localities where the land requires modern methods of rotation and cultivation to yield good crops? Why not leave the Beduin on their ancestral lands and settle Jews on lands which require intelligent farming and advanced agriculture which the Beduin lack?

It seems to me that if the Government were truly animated by the good intentions mentioned by Mr. Ben Adi, it would better achieve its desires by leaving the Beduin where they are, proclaiming the lands a settlement area, appointing a judicial officer to settle the rights in respect thereof, and when the settlement is completed, the Government should grant a "viable plot" to every landless Beduin family on generous conditions.

The project, as described by Mr. Ben Adi, leaves very little doubt that it actually contemplates the dislocation of the 13,000 Beduin living in the Negev and their ultimate expulsion from Israel. In due course, they will join the Arab refugees.

Yours faithfully,

  
E. N. KOUSSA.



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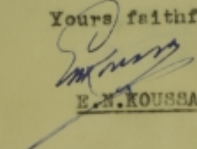
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The project, as described by Mr. Ben Adi, leaves very little doubt that it actually contemplates the dislocation of the 16,000 Beduin living in the Negev and their ultimate expulsion from Israel. In due course, they will join the Arab refugees.

Yours faithfully,

  
E.N. KOUSSA.

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