



## THE SHALEM CENTER

Natan Sharansky, Distinguished Fellow

February 15, 2006

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to recommend support for the Institute for Science and Halacha.

The Institute has earned an exalted reputation in Israel and throughout the world as an authority on matters requiring practical solutions to Halachic challenges evoked by scientific discovery and technological innovations. In this arena, the Institute has contributed invaluable work for the State of Israel and many of its public institutions, as attested to repeatedly by government officials over the years. Further, individuals who are in need of mechanical and electrical assistance to communicate and move about and who observe the Sabbath, benefit greatly from their pioneering research.

With the creation of the State of Israel and the renewal of Jewish sovereignty after 2000 years, it was inevitable that such an Institute would be needed. The Jewish nation must operate its complex infrastructure on Shabbat and Chagim, it must maintain vigilant defense, and it must be able to serve all its citizens. Novel questions of Halacha requiring a profound understanding of Halacha and of science and technology are the inevitable consequence of renewed Jewish sovereignty.



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While it was inevitable that such an institute would be necessary, it is our good fortune that this specific Institute for Science and Halacha was founded. The Institute and its Halacha leader, Rabbi Levi Yitzhak Halperin, enjoy world wide respect which brings credit to Israel and to Clal Yisrael.

Sincerely, —