

Comments of Rakefet Ginsberg, CEO & Executive Director of the Masorti Movement in Israel:

“Last night you could see with your eyes how free hatred and fanaticism leads to destruction. A takeover of girls and children led by their parents who explain to them without being ashamed that this is the time to fight (this is the time - the eve of Tisha B’Av, to fight their brothers - Jews who pray differently than them). Do you get it? Religious bigotry justifies every act every day. So destroying a national house, brotherly war or any other bad act is allowed in the name of God and suddenly it all seems so possible...”

The Egalitarian Kotel (or the Family Kotel, as many call it), is a small wide area and it is designed to allow a traditional and pluralistic prayer space without impinging in any way on orthodox prayer areas. Equal expansion is an act of compromise not aimed at disturbing anyone, not intended to 'hurt feelings'...

' It's better to fail in free love than to succeed in free hatred, ' Rabbi Mauricio Balter quoted Rabbi Cook in his D'var Torah yesterday evening. To everyone who attended yesterday at the Wall Plaza this sentence is not just a recommendation but a real warning.

Thanks to Rabbi Oded Peles who led the prayer despite the interruptions and the wonderful readers who with determination and devotion made it possible for us to pray and read Eichah. Thank you to the members of the Knesset and and the general public, of the congregations, rabbis and many who came, supported and prayed together - you give me hope and strength for the morning after...”