



THE PRESIDENT

Jerusalem, January 10th, 2012

Dear Professor Bartoszewski, Dear Friend,

It is with profound pleasure that I extend my warmest good wishes on the occasion of your 90th birthday, and regret I cannot attend this event hosted by my good friend H.E. Bronislaw Komorowski, the President of Poland.

In Israel your name is synonymous to a great friend, a great man, a man of honor and dignity, a man who fights injustice and discrimination at the risk of his own life. This was demonstrated by your tremendous courage in helping Polish Jews when persecuted by the Nazis during the Holocaust as a leader of the underground ZEGOTA organization. Your exceptional acts of bravery and humanity were recognized with gratitude by Israel and its people when you received the Righteous Among Nations award at Yad Vashem and made Honorary Citizen of the State of Israel.

Your contribution to the good relations between Israel and Poland and the Jewish communities in the Diaspora has been significant, and we hope to build on these ties of friendship and advancing them further.

Wladyslaw, on a personal note, I am proud to count you as a friend, and it was a pleasure and privilege to host you on your visits to Israel, which I hope will continue. I wish you all the very best, good health and many more years of fruitful activity, not only according to Polish tradition – Sto Lat – but also in the Jewish tradition that goes one better – until one hundred and twenty.

Shalom and God bless you!

Shimon Peres

His Excellency
Professor Wladyslaw Bartoszewski
Secretary of State, Plenipotentiary for International Dialogue
The Republic of Poland