

չարք, եւ տանջանք մի մերձեցին ի յարկս մեր» (Բարձրեալ Քրիստոսին մեզ ապաւեն անենք, որպէսզի չարիքը մեզ չհասնի եւ տանջանքը չմերձենայ մեր յարկերին), - կրկնում ենք ամէն օր երեկոյեան ժամերգութեան ընթացքին: Հաւատով Քրիստոսին մօտեցողը ճանաչում է ճշմարտութիւնը: Աղօթով, պահեցողութեամբ եւ պատուիրանապահութեամբ մարդ բժշկւում է ցաւերից եւ Աստուծոց ողորմութիւն գտնում:

Թո՛ղ բարձրեալն Աստուած օրհնի մեր ազգն ու եկեղեցին անսասան պահելով մեզ ճշմարիտ վարդապետութեան մէջ, պահպանի մեզ չարից եւ շնորհի մեզ Իր երկնային խաղաղութիւնը, ամէն:

ԷՄՄԱՆՈՒԷԼ ԵՐԷՆ. ԱԹԱՋԱՆԵԱՆ

#### ISRAELI LAW PROHIBITS

*It no more has any place in modern Israel  
A Jewish custom of spitting in front of the cross*

It was learnt yesterday from legal sources that the Israeli law condemned an old Jewish custom of spitting in front of the Christian cross, considering that this practice has no longer any place in modern Israel.

The Jerusalem court confirmed this week a law issued by the district court against Moshé Ironfield, who in the year 1995, spat on the ground in front of a cross which the Armenian clergy were carrying in front of the Holy Sepulchre Church in East Jerusalem.

Ironfield believes, like many other fanatic Jews, that he does something right by applying an ancient Jewish custom the aim of which is to express the rejection or ostracism of the Christian religion.

And the spokesman of the Israeli law-courts Moshé Gorali declared that the Jerusalem Court confirmed the law of the district court for a suspended sentence of imprisonment for two months, and a payment of 250 U.S. Dollar fine.

Ironfield appealed against this sentence defending himself by saying that the Jewish religion permits spitting on the cross whenever you see it pass.

But the law court took into consideration the fact that since many religions and communities exist in Israel, therefore it is incumbent on us to show respect to the various communities living in the country.

Menahem Friedman, a teacher of social sciences at the University of Bar Ilan, observed to France Press that spitting in front of the cross, which originally used to be done in secrecy, is an ancient Jewish tradition practised by the European Jews, even if it does not exist in the Jewish Religion.

Furthermore, Friedman observed that the law wanted to show that the status of the Jews during the previous centuries in Europe, when they were facing anti-Semitism, has no bearing whatsoever with the status of the Jews in Israel today where they are the sole rulers.

He then added that the law court declared the following: "Stop behaving as though you were Jews in Vienna, but behave like Jews residing in Israel."

Translation from the Arabic daily Newspaper "Al Kuds"  
Dated 22 February 1997