

A PROTEST TO PREMIER ALEKSEI N. KOSYGIN DOES HUMANITY HAVE A PRICE TAG?

In the name of human rights, on this 25th anniversary of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights, this petition is published.

AN APPEAL TO PRIME MINISTER PIERRE ELLIOTT TRUDEAU

On August 3, 1972 the Soviet Government imposed an unconscionable and inhumane "head tax" on all educated Soviet citizens seeking to leave the country. And since this decree applies principally to Jews wishing to emigrate to Israel it has transformed Soviet Jewry into a new class of indentured servants.

We, members of faculty of the University of Toronto and York University, deplore this ransoming of human beings in violation of all canons of international law and human decency. And we take specific offence to the anti-Jewish intent and effect of the decree, particularly as it follows upon a series of intolerable harass-

ments, political persecutions, arbitrary dismissals from employment and committal to "psychiatric wards" and labour camps for Soviet Jews and their families.

The human mind and human body belong to the individual alone. Men and women must be free to develop their talents, to pursue their professions, to advance scholarship and knowledge, and thus to make their contribution to humanity wherever they wish. Otherwise a crippling blow is inflicted upon their rights as human beings, upon science and culture, and ultimately upon the welfare of mankind.

We therefore call upon the Soviet Union, in recognition of the rights of its own citizens, in conformity with international law and human dignity, and in the interests of further cooperation between our two peoples and two countries, to rescind this price tag on humanity.

We appeal to Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau and the Canadian Government to use its good offices to secure these objectives; and we call upon all Canadians of goodwill to join us in this protest.

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