

TORAH IN MOTION, DECEMBER 2024**Rabbi Sacks' Theology of Interfaith Relations:****Muslim-Jewish Women's Friendship in the UK after 7th October*****WHAT IS FRIENDSHIP?*****1. ELLITHORPE, A-M. (2022: 37)**

'[f]riendship provides an important perspective for considering political relationships both locally and globally, yet this most important relationship when it comes to politics has not been adequately explored'

2. DEVERE, H. & SMITH, G. (2010: 347)

'as a site and tool for analysis both within the state (as a means to identify the connective tissue between communities, citizens and the nation) and between states (in the realm of international politics)'

3. BOYM, S. (2010: 4)

'the recognition of the foreignness at the core of intimacy'

4. WADELL, P. J. (1989: xiii & 7)

'[f]riendship is the crucible of the moral life'...

'we are not accustomed to think of the moral life as friendship – we are not even accustomed to think about friendship as moral.

But maybe we should'

5. VAN HOF, F. & OELSNER, A. (2018: 117)

'[f]riends... impose moral obligations upon each other'

6. FRIEDMAN, M. (1993: 198)

'[t]hrough seeing what my friend counts as harm done to her, for example, and seeing how she suffers from it and what she does in response, I can try on, as it were, her interpretive claim and its implications for moral practice'

RABBI SACKS' THEOLOGY of INTERFAITH RELATIONS

7. FOUR STRANDS

1. BIBLICAL THEOLOGY
2. COMMON HUMANITY
3. RADICAL LISTENING & RADICAL CONVERSATIONS
4. COVENANTAL HOPE

8. BEREISHIT (GENESIS) CHAPTER 4, VERSE 8

וַיֹּאמֶר קַיִן אֶל־הֶבֶל אָחִיו
וַיְהִי בְהִיּוֹתָם בַּשָּׂדֶה
וַיִּקְם קַיִן אֶל־הֶבֶל אָחִיו וַיַּהַרְגֵהוּ

8. Cain said to his brother Abel ...
and when they were in the field,
Cain set upon his brother Abel and killed him.

9. BEREISHIT (GENESIS) CHAPTER 16, VERSES 8 — 11

וַיֹּאמֶר הָגָר שִׁפְחַת שָׂרַי אֵי־מֵזָה בָּאת וְאֵנָה תֵלְכִי
וַתֹּאמֶר מִפְּנֵי שָׂרַי גְבוּרָתִי אֲנֹכִי בִרְחַת

8. and (G-D) said, "Hagar, slave of Sarai, where have you come from, and where are you going?"
And she said, "I am running away from my mistress Sarai."

וַיֹּאמֶר לָהּ מַלְאַךְ ה' שׁוּבִי אֶל־גְּבוּרָתְךָ
וְהִתְעַנִּי תַחַת יְדֵיהָ

9. And the angel of the L-RD said to her, "Go back to your mistress,
and submit to her harsh treatment."

וַיֹּאמֶר לָהּ מַלְאַךְ ה'
הֲרִבָּה אֲרֻבָּה אֶת־זַרְעֲךָ
וְלֹא יִסְפָּר מִרְבּוֹ

10. And the angel of the L-RD said to her,
"I will greatly increase your offspring,
And they shall be too many to count."

וַיֹּאמֶר לָהּ מַלְאַךְ ה'
הִנֵּנְךָ הָרָה וַיִּלְדֶּתְ בֵּן
וְקָרָאת שְׁמוֹ יִשְׁמָעֵאל
כִּי־שָׁמַע ה' אֶל־עֲנִידְךָ

11. The angel of the L-RD said to her further,
"Behold, you are with child
And shall bear a son;
You shall call him Ishmael,
For the L-RD has paid heed to your suffering.

10. BEREISHIT (GENESIS) CHAPTER 21, VERSES 17 — 20

וַיִּשְׁמַע אֱלֹקִים אֶת־קוֹל הַנָּעֹר
וַיִּקְרָא מַלְאָךְ אֱלֹקִים אֶל־הַגֵּר מִן־הַשָּׁמַיִם
וַיֹּאמֶר לָהּ מַה־לָּךְ הַגֵּר
אֶל־תִּירְאִי
כִּי־שָׁמַע אֱלֹקִים אֶל־קוֹל הַנָּעֹר בְּאֶשֶׁר הוּא־שָׁם

17. G-d heard the cry of the boy,
and an angel of G-d called to Hagar from heaven
and said to her, "What troubles you, Hagar?
Fear not,
for G-d has heeded the cry of the boy where he is.

קוּמִי שִׂאִי אֶת־הַנָּעֹר וְהַחֲזִיקִי אֶת־יָדוֹ בְּיָדְךָ בּוֹ
כִּי־לְגוֹי גָּדוֹל אֲשִׁימְנוּ

18. Come, lift up the boy and hold him by the hand,
for I will make a great nation of him."

וַיִּפְקַח אֱלֹקִים אֶת־עֵינֶיהָ
וַתֵּרָא בְּאֵר מַיִם
וַתֵּלֶךְ וַתִּמְלֵא אֶת־הַחֲמַת מַיִם
וַתִּשְׁק אֶת־הַנָּעֹר

19. Then G-d opened her eyes and she saw a well of water.
She went and filled the skin with water, and let the boy drink.

וַיְהִי אֱלֹקִים אֶת־הַנָּעֹר
וַיִּגְדַּל
וַיֵּשֶׁב בַּמִּדְבָּר וַיְהִי רֹכֵב קֶשֶׁת

20. G-d was with the boy
and he grew up;
he dwelt in the wilderness and became a bowman.

11. BEREISHIT (GENESIS) CHAPTER 33, VERSE 4

וַיָּרֵץ עֶשָׂו לִקְרֹאתוֹ
וַיַּחְבְּקֵהוּ
וַיִּפֹּל עַל־צוּאָרוֹ וַיִּשָּׁקֵהוּ
וַיִּבְכוּ

4. Esau ran to greet him.
He embraced him and,
falling on his neck, he kissed him;
and they wept.

12. BEREISHIT (GENESIS) CHAPTER 45, VERSES 3 — 5

וַיֹּאמֶר יוֹסֵף אֶל־אֶחָיו
אֲנִי יוֹסֵף הָעוֹד אֲבִי חַי
וְלֹא־יָכְלוּ אֶחָיו לַעֲנוֹת אוֹתוֹ
כִּי נִבְהָלוּ מִפְּנָיו

3. Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?"
But his brothers could not answer him,
so dumfounded were they on account of him.

וַיֹּאמֶר יוֹסֵף אֶל־אֶחָיו
גִּשׁוּ־נָא אֵלַי וַיִּגָּשׁוּ
וַיֹּאמֶר אֲנִי יוֹסֵף אֶחֱיֵכֶם אֲשֶׁר־מְכַרְתֶּם אוֹתִי מִצְרַיִם

4. Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come forward to me."
And when they came forward,
he said, "I am your brother Joseph, he whom you sold into Egypt.

וְעַתָּה אֵל־תַּעֲצֹבוּ וְאֵל־יִחַר בְּעֵינֵיכֶם
כִּי־מְכַרְתֶּם אוֹתִי הִנֵּה
כִּי לְמַחִיָּה שְׁלַחַנִי אֱלֻקִּים לְפָנֵיכֶם

5. Now, do not be distressed or reproach yourselves
because you sold me hither;
it was to save life that G-d sent me ahead of you.