1

00:00:00,690 --> 00:00:01,539

My dear friends,

2

00:00:02,363 --> 00:00:05,579

a story is more

than just a bunch of words,

3

00:00:06,365 --> 00:00:08,055

or events and places.

4

00:00:08,668 --> 00:00:09,668

A good story

5

00:00:10,136 --> 00:00:11,612

directly affects

6

00:00:11,883 --> 00:00:13,349

our perception of the present,

7

00:00:13,600 --> 00:00:16,128

and significantly shapes

8

00:00:16,490 --> 00:00:17,747

our future as well.

9

00:00:18,517 --> 00:00:19,784

It creates a bridge

10

00:00:20,152 --> 00:00:23,771

and reduces the gap

between different generations.

11

00:00:24,382 --> 00:00:25,579

Your initiative,

12

00:00:25,857 --> 00:00:28,547

in which you document memories

from Ethiopia,

13

00:00:29,015 --> 00:00:32,088

strengthens the bond between

the younger generation

14

00:00:32,335 --> 00:00:33,578

and the older generation,

15

00:00:33,819 --> 00:00:36,485

and between Jews throughout the world

16

00:00:36,713 --> 00:00:39,252

for whom this may be

their first encounter

17

00:00:39,523 --> 00:00:41,935

with the unique history

18

00:00:42,293 --> 00:00:43,649

of the Jews of Ethiopia.

19

00:00:44,762 --> 00:00:45,762

Unfortunately,

20

00:00:46,025 --> 00:00:49,359

only in recent years have we,

as a society and a state,

21

00:00:49,787 --> 00:00:51,858

understood the extent

to which the stories

22

00:00:52,221 --> 00:00:55,353

and the memories of Jews from Ethiopia

23

00:00:55,639 --> 00:00:58,623

are an important and integral part

24

00:00:59,017 --> 00:01:02,706

of the story of the Jewish people

and the State of Israel.

25

00:01:03,766 --> 00:01:06,682

We have not always succeeded

in including all groups.

26

00:01:07,553 --> 00:01:11,220

We did not always listen to those

who spoke in a language

27

00:01:11,512 --> 00:01:13,186

that was different than ours,

28

00:01:13,805 --> 00:01:15,821

that had different customs

29

00:01:16,377 --> 00:01:18,448

or a different skin color.

30

00:01:19,154 --> 00:01:22,086

I know we still have a long way to go

31

00:01:22,361 --> 00:01:25,464

and I am aware of the

many unfortunate difficulties

32

00:01:25,652 --> 00:01:29,707

that many of you have to face.

33

00:01:30,334 --> 00:01:32,945

But precisely because of this,

34

00:01:33,223 --> 00:01:34,659

and despite all of this,

35

00:01:34,929 --> 00:01:36,405

I am so gladdened

36

00:01:36,628 --> 00:01:39,563

by this project and its launch.

37

00:01:40,619 --> 00:01:42,250

My dear friends,

38

00:01:42,772 --> 00:01:44,789

please continue to share with us

39

00:01:45,858 --> 00:01:48,559

your stories and childhood memories,

40

00:01:48,915 --> 00:01:50,591

to introduce us to the heritage

41

00:01:50,830 --> 00:01:51,949

of the Jews of Ethiopia

42

00:01:52,180 --> 00:01:55,949

and to teach us more and more

about the Jewish people.

43

00:01:56,752 --> 00:01:58,762

Israeli society and the State of Israel

44

00:01:58,961 --> 00:02:01,024

as we know it today

45

00:02:01,282 --> 00:02:03,982

would not have achieved

46

00:02:04,278 --> 00:02:07,458

all that it has thus far

47

00:02:07,854 --> 00:02:08,854

without you.

48

00:02:09,628 --> 00:02:11,938

Together, we will continue

49

00:02:12,121 --> 00:02:14,486

to build a Jewish home here,

an Israeli home,

50

00:02:14,628 --> 00:02:15,628

a democratic home.

51

00:02:16,184 --> 00:02:18,849

Together, together, we will renew

52

00:02:19,150 --> 00:02:20,404

Israeli hope.

53

00:02:20,992 --> 00:02:22,547

My dear friends,

may you be blessed.