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# KosherTorah on Halakha

The Chain of Command in “Torah Law”

by Ariel B. Tzadok

*It is vital that Halakha  
be made relevant and applicable  
to modern times.*

*But this must be done  
without violating Halakha.*

*Halakha violated is not Halakha at all.*

*The spirit of Halakha  
must be embraced.*

*The body/form of Halakha  
must not be denied.*

*There are things permitted,  
and there are things forbidden.*

*This is Halakha,  
and no one can change it.*

*All the smart talk,  
and impressive logic  
still can never make  
the forbidden to be permitted,  
or the permitted to be forbidden.*

*One can twist thought  
in whatever way one wants.  
But in spite of one's desires  
that which is, remains what is.  
Halakha transcends human desire  
to change it at will.*

*There are the thoughts of man,  
and then there are the Words of God.  
But did not man write down  
these Words of God?  
But, of course, yes!  
But that does not make them  
to be man's words,  
and no longer in the Divine domain.  
Granted, one may believe this  
if one wishes,  
but such beliefs,  
and the conclusions, and practices  
that will come forth from such beliefs  
are not Halakha,  
in spite of one's claim to make it so.*

*The Halakha is not in Heaven,  
it is on Earth,  
in the hands of those  
who safeguard it,  
and assure that the Mesorah chain  
of yesterday, remains connected today,  
and stands intact for tomorrow.  
This is Halakha, the Way of Torah.*

*Changes made today  
have no value or validity  
if what is done today  
breaks the connection  
with the past.  
For how can we bring the past  
into the future  
unless the chain of command  
is preserved, and respected.*

*Change Halakha today,  
and tomorrow,  
the Mesorah chain is broken.  
A chain broken is at its end.  
A new chain begins.  
This is what many want.  
But the new chain  
is not the old chain.  
The new chain is not Halakha,  
but something new and different.  
It is wrong to call  
the new by the name of the old.  
This leads to all kinds of  
religious identity problems.  
We have seen this before!  
And have suffered greatly because of it.*

*Those who create and embrace the new  
must call their New by its new name,  
and not proclaim it to be  
the authoritative continuation of the old.  
Why confuse one with the other?*

*Let each person choose  
which path to follow.  
Halakha has many different roads,  
but not all roads are Halakha.*

*Follow the river to its source.  
Drink from the original waters.  
Know its taste and flavor.*

*Then as you travel down the many rivers,  
your eyes will not deceive you,  
your ears will not mislead you.*

*Taste the waters.*

*If they are the same as the source,  
then you are still in the Halakhic waters.*

*If the taste is not the same,  
then you are in an uncharted place.  
Choose wisely if this is where you wish to be.*



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