



Language of the Heart
Lenguaje del corazón
Le langage du cœur

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

July 3–6, 2025 | Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

August 12, 2025

To: All Conference Members

Dear A.A. Friends,

On behalf of the General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous, I am writing to offer my sincere amends for a grave error within the Souvenir Book, *A BOOK OF FELLOWSHIP: 90 Years of Sharing Love and Service*, commemorating the 2025 International Convention in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

Specifically in Part Thirteen, A.A., Country by Country, on page 329, the name “Jerusalem” appears with its corresponding flag. The correct country listing should have been “Israel” along with its flag.

I understand this may appear to some as an expression of opinion on political or other issues outside of A.A., however, there was no such intention. Although the error was not intentional, it is still inexcusable, and the Fellowship has every reason to expect better from this office. I sincerely regret this error and offer my deepest apology to all who have been hurt by this.

The details of how this happened are by no means an excuse but may be helpful for some to know and to aid in understanding that this was an error. The original draft of the souvenir book from the 2020 International Convention included the same error, however, it was noticed and corrected before final publication. Unfortunately, when preparing the book for this year’s convention, the writer began with the template from the original draft of the 2020 souvenir book rather than the final copy and our editors missed the error during their review. Again, this in no way excuses the error or diminishes the harm it caused.

Understanding how this occurred has been of great importance to me, our entire General Service Office, and to the General Service Board. I have been working closely with the Publishing Department, and we have developed and implemented controls to ensure nothing like this happens again.

We are reaching out to those directly affected by this error. This will include the Israeli structure through its Intergroup.

A corrected page is available for download from the aa.org website under the International Convention tab at [International Convention | Alcoholics Anonymous](#).

Again, my sincere apologies for any harm this has caused.

Bob W.

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General Manager, GSO

