You heard me say that we care little about procedural methods. Let me state clearly before our people, the Arab nation and the world at large that we are ready to go to Geneva and to sit for the peace talks, despite all the procedural impediments raised by Israel to deprive us of the opportunity by irritating us so that we will say «No», as we used to do in the past. To say «No, we will not go», so that it can appear as the advocate of peace before the world.

I agree to all procedural matters. In the final analysis, when we go to Geneva, Israel cannot prevent me from claiming the territories occupied in 1967, Arab territories. Neither Israel nor any other power can prevent me from demanding the legitimate rights of the Palestinians and their right to self-determination and to their own state.

This is what Israel is trying to avoid, by raising procedural issues, adding a word or deleting another, releasing an announcement after a meeting of the Israeli Council of Ministers, meant to provoke the Arab world, which they often did in the past, hoping to shatter our nerves to the extent that we will announce the refusal to go to Geneva.

Before you and before the Arab nation, I repeat that procedural matters are of little concern to me. Let Israel indulge in fits of histerics as it pleases.

Israel dreads Geneva. No Arab needs to dread it. We exported disruption, fear, defeatism, suspicion and doubt to Israel. Whatever has plagued us in the past we exported it to the Israeli society, so why should we try to recover it?

I am ready to go to Geneva. You must have heard me say that I would go to the end of the world to spare an injury to one of our men, much more the death of one. Israel must be greatly surprised to hear me say that I am willing to go to Geneva. I am even ready to go to the Knesset and discuss with them.

Brothers and Sisters,

God be praised, no time is being lost nor are we at a loss. We hold the reins of the initiative, and no decision is taken except by consent of the people who want us to proceed forward to make up for lost time, and we have lost a great deal of time. The people want us to work rather than talk. The people want us to devote all our efforts to building a new future. Let us not waste time in disavowing the past or shedding tears over accumulated ruins that clutter our course. The will to work is always capable of paving roads, and the toil of man can transform ruins into vast areas for reconstruction.