Fortieth Year Celebrations in Israel

In celebration of the Yeshiva’s 40th Year anniversary, alumni from all machzorim, with their wives, children and grandchildren, converged upon the Yeshiva for an impressive and inspiring happening – Ha’Aliya La’Har – on Isru Chag Shavuot (June 10, 2008). The day-long event included a wide array of shiurim, chevruta study in the Beit Midrash, walking and biking tiyulim, a picnic lunch, a sale of Yeshiva and Herzog College publications, and activities for children of all ages, including a play by Ta’ir, the religious theatre troupe established by Har Etzion alumni. The culmination of the event was an exciting and poignant gathering of 3,000 people in the amphitheatre of Alon Shevut, with music by Shalhevet. Talmidim and alumni made a Siyum Shas on Mishna and Talmud Bavli, Shulchan Aruch and the Mishneh Torah of the Rambam. The Roshei Yeshiva and Moshko addressed the crowd, praising the Yeshiva’s accomplishments and enumerating challenges for the future. The program ended with lively dancing, as an inner circle of children and grandchildren of alumni danced with a beaming Rav Amital. “That was the most emotional part of the day for me,” said Yoni Holzer, Machzor 11, CEO of the Yeshiva.

In the months leading up to the Aliya La’Har celebration, three alumni reunions were held at the Yeshiva, divided according to alumni’s original year of attendance. Hundreds of alumni attended these events, reconnecting with the Yeshiva and recharging their spiritual batteries.

Also, special Shabbat programs were held in various communities in Israel – Ra’anana, Rechovot and Beit Shemesh – with Rabbanim of the Yeshiva.

The 40th Year celebrations have two basic goals: to bring the Yeshiva’s unique message to a wider audience, in particular the religious Zionist community in Israel and throughout the world; and to consolidate Har Etzion alumni and sharpen their awareness that the Yeshiva is not just a tunnel that young men pass through during their youth, but rather, a home throughout their lives. The Yeshiva strives to provide each talmid with the skills to grow and develop so that even when he leaves the Yeshiva, regardless of his chosen profession, he will continue to grow as a ben Torah who carries the Yeshiva’s path and outlook within him wherever he goes and whatever he does.
Bar Mitzva Program

This year, the Yeshiva launched the Bar Mitzva Program for bar mitzva age boys and their alumni fathers. Thirty fathers and sons participated in the first celebration at the Yeshiva on April 8, and another 40 father/son pairs participated in the second celebration held on November 6. The day-long program included father/son chevruta preparation, followed by a shiur, personal meetings with the Roshei Yeshiva, a tour of the Yeshiva, a workshop on tefillin-making by an alumnus Sofer Stam, and a tiyul in the area. The feedback on these programs has been extremely positive and more such programs are being planned.

Led by the dynamic educator and scholar, Mrs. Esti Rozenberg, the unique character of the Beit Midrash for Women is achieved through the synthesis of intense Torah study and vibrant religious experiences, including a minyan for Selichot, Yom Kippur davening, dancing on Simchat Torah, all-night learning on Hoshana Rabba and Shavuot, and Hanuka and Purim celebrations. The program for overseas students is completely integrated into the Israeli program and is ideal for students with a serious commitment to Torah study who wish to progress in their avodat Hashem, and develop a strong connection with Israel.

This year, there are 82 Shana Aleph students, including 27 from overseas, 24 Shana Bet
Kollel Gavoha Siyum

The Kollel Gavoha made a siyum on Masechtot Me'ila and Horayot which they studied with Harav Mosheh Lichtenstein. Nechemia Raanan made the siyum and the gathering was also a chance to bid farewell to three talmidim leaving the Kollel to pursue educational pursuits: Rav Zev Levine, Ram in the Yeshiva High School in Yeruham; Rav Steven Goldschmidt, educator in-residence, together with his wife, at the Children’s Home in Netanya; and Rav Aaron Segal, an associate fellow at the YU Torah MiTzion Kollel pursuing his Ph.D. in philosophy at the University of Notre Dame. They expressed their deep appreciation to the Yeshiva for enabling them to study intensely at this stage in their lives in such a nurturing environment. Aviad Bartuv, third year talmid in the Kollel Gavoha, noted that the learning was on such a high level that it was like “doing a doctorate in Torah.” The talmidim also expressed their deep gratitude to Rabbi Howie ‘79 and Chaya Balter for their generous support and close involvement with the Kollel Gavoha.

Yoni Siegal z”l Memorial Scholarship Award

The first Yoni Siegal z”l Memorial Scholarship has been awarded to a post-college student from the United States. The Scholarship Fund was established by Jerry and Rosalind Siegal, the parents of alumnus, Yoni ‘79, together with family and friends, in commemoration of Yoni’s first Yahrzeit on 11 Av.

The grateful recipient said: “The Gush VBM played a substantial role in allowing me to grow in learning throughout college. In addition, it also allowed me to feel that I was somewhat a part of Gush. Still, I yearned to become a part of it in earnest, to delve deeper into the mekorot of the shiurim I was listening to and reading online, and to contribute to the vibrancy of the beit midrash. My pull towards the Yeshiva was deep and insatiable. It is no exaggeration to say that every day of my four years of college, I looked forward to one day learning at Gush…

In my final year of college, I was confronted with the deeply distressing possibility that I would not be able to go to Gush due to financial constraints. I thought long and hard about whether there were more feasible alternatives that could be just as valuable but kept coming up short. Now that I am here, I can say with complete confidence that there is nowhere else I would rather be and nothing else I would rather be doing.”

Migdal Oz - Beginning a Second Decade of Activity

students, including 7 from overseas, and 6 Shana Gimme students, for a total of 112 students, and over 700 alumni.

In honor of its 10th anniversary, a festive and inspiring reunion took place last winter, attended by over 500 alumni. A successful program for alumni took place last May, and a weekly study day for women was initiated this year. A Shabbaton with Mrs. Rozenberg is planned to become an annual event, as well as shiurim and other events for Migdal Oz alumni overseas.
The inauguration of Harav Mosheh Lichtenstein as Rosh Yeshiva took place at the Yeshiva on the 29th of Tishrei 5769, in the presence of the Roshei Yeshiva, Ramim, talmidim, alumni and honored guests. Harav Mosheh delivered the opening shiur of Choref Zman on Masechet Ketubot.

Harav Yehuda Amital, founding Rosh Yeshiva, has officially retired but plans to continue teaching in the Yeshiva and remaining involved. Five years ago, Harav Amital initiated the steps to choose his eventual replacement, in order to ensure the orderly transfer of leadership and provide the proper balance of continuity and innovation in the future.

Harav Yaakov Medan and Harav Baruch Gigi began serving as Roshei Yeshiva alongside the veteran Roshei Yeshiva – Harav Amital and Harav Aharon Lichtenstein – in 5766 and they are now joined by Harav Mosheh.

Harav Mosheh came on aliya with his family in 1971 from New York when he was 10 years old. He studied at the Netiv Meir High School in Jerusalem, and then spent a year studying with his grandfather, Rav Joseph Ber Soloveitchik zt"l. From 1979-1985, he studied in the Hesder Program at Yeshivat Har Etzion, serving in the Armored Corps. He was ordained by the Israeli Rabbinate and holds a degree in English Literature from Hebrew University. Harav Mosheh has been a Ram in the Yeshiva since 1992, and heads the Yeshiva's Kollel Gavoha. While on sabbatical in Cleveland in 1997, he served as Rosh Kollel of the Torah MiTzion Kollel. He also taught at Bruria, an advanced program for women in Jerusalem, from 1992-1997. He is married to Michal and they have three children – Yehudit, Bruria and Rahel.

Chessed Programs

Yeshivat Har Etzion believes that the study of Torah should be accompanied by involvement in the community. While in Yeshiva, both the Israeli and overseas talmidim participate in a wide range of voluntary activities on behalf of those in need, such as:

Shalvah and Aleh - working with children with special needs in Alon Shevut and Jerusalem

Big Brother Program – interacting with and serving as role models for children

Chevruta Program - studying one-on-one with children in the Yeshiva's Beit Midrash

Shabbatonim and Chanuka and Purim parties at Children's Homes in various locations throughout the country

Shabbatonim in communities with new immigrants from Ethiopia

Yom Kippur Services for secular communities, kibbutzim and absorption centers across the country
Religious Services and Holiday Celebrations - at the local army base  
Boger Me’ha’Yishuv - meeting with the elderly in their homes in Alon Shevut  
Nikayon Etzion – collecting plastic bottles and cleaning neglected public areas of Gush Etzion  
Kfar Shaul Psychiatric Hospital – talking to and befriending patients  
Keren Koby Mandel - Big brother program for children from families who have suffered terrorist attacks  
Simcha La’Yeled - Melava Malkas with hospitalized children  

The Yeshiva is grateful to Dr. Mendy and Rikki Snyder Gross, parents of Zachary ‘06, and alumnus Lenny Gross ’92 for their generous contributions towards the enhancement and development of the Chessed Programs at the Yeshiva.

“Yeshivat Har Etzion has changed me in two very fundamental ways. It has helped me develop and cultivate my love of learning Torah, and provided me with the resources needed for my religious growth.”  

Robert Balis ’07 from Toronto 2nd Year Student
Herzog College, founded 35 years ago, is the largest teachers' training college for the religious Zionist community in Israel, with a student body of 1,300. Herzog students have the highest matriculation and psychometric scores of any teaching college in the country. Tracks of study include Tanach, Oral Law, Jewish Thought, Hebrew Literature, Hebrew Language and Land of Israel Studies.

Under the direction of Prof. Shmuel Shilo, Herzog College is in the process of adding new B.Ed. and M.A. programs in diverse fields such as Theater, Film, English and Special Education, as well as a B.Ed. program for teachers working in Israel's non-religious public schools. These programs will increase enrollment from 1,300 to 3,000.

Also noteworthy:
- Herzog’s Tevunot Publishing Co. has published over 150 titles.
- Summer Tanach Seminars are attended by 3,000 people a year.
- Herzog’s Da’at (www.daat.ac.il) is the largest Jewish Studies site on the web, with over 350,000 hits a month.

Summer Programs at Yeshiva

This summer, the Yeshiva hosted Touray Tanach, run by the National Council of Young Israel for high school youth from all over North America. The talmidim spent four weeks studying at Yeshivat Har Etzion, under the guidance of Rav Ari Cutler of Modiin and Rav Jesse Horn ’96 of Jerusalem. Over the course of their stay, the campers were treated to talks by the Roshei Yeshiva and shiurim by Rav Moshe Taragin, Rav Yair Kahn, Rav Doniel Schreiber and Rav Daniel Rhein. In addition, they spent several days on Tanach-based tiyulim throughout the country, led by Rav Menachem Leibtag. They also learned b’chevruta with current talmidim of the Yeshiva.

The Yeshiva also hosted 35 campers and madrichim of the Mach Hach program for a week, hosted a Shabbaton for 45 NCSY Kollel campers, led by Rav Moshe Taragin, and other visiting groups from England and South Africa.

The Yeshiva is proud to be an address for visiting groups and a source of spiritual inspiration for those from near and far.
Learning on the Job

Outreach

The Yeshiva hosted approximately 1,500 visitors last year, including groups of non-religious soldiers and high school students, many of whom were visiting Gush Etzion and a yeshiva for the first time. The visitors enjoyed a guided tour of the Yeshiva, followed by joint learning of textual sources and discussion with Yeshiva students on topics of interest. According to Rav Yitzhak Levy, Mashgiach Ruchani of the Yeshiva, beyond the Kiddush Hashem element of these visits, presenting the Yeshiva to others forces the talmidim to do some serious introspection and to better appreciate the opportunity given to them to study in Yeshiva.

Another form of outreach is “Pilpul”, a monthly Torah publication produced by Har Etzion talmidim specifically for youth, with a distribution of 4,000 to religious educational institutions throughout Israel. Also noteworthy are the 1,121 issues of “Daf Kesher”, the weekly Torah newsletter sent to Yeshiva talmidim at their army bases, that have been published to date.

1. Lunch & Learn with R’ Moshe Lichtenstein, hosted by Shai Gerson ’96, Board member and Danny Saks ’86, Treasurer of Etzion Foundation
2. Lunch & Learn with R’ Yehuda Amital at Clifford Chance, NY, hosted by Eli Weber ’81
3. Lunch & Learn with R’ Moshe Taragin at Kaye Scholer, NY, hosted by Terry Novetsky ’80
4. Lunch & Learn with R’ Aharon Lichtenstein at York Capital, NY, hosted by Dan Schwartz ’85
5. Lunch & Learn with R’ Moshe Lichtenstein at the offices of Fried Frank, NY hosted by Hillel Silvera ’91, Corporate Secretary of Etzion Foundation
7. Lunch & Learn with R’ Aharon Lichtenstein at York Capital, NY, hosted by Dan Schwartz ’85
8. Purim shiur by Rabbi Jonathan Rosenblatt ’77, of the Riverdale Jewish Center, proud parent of Shmuel ’08

If you are interested in hosting or joining a Lunch & Learn program please contact Yoel Weiss at: yoel@haretzion.org
The Yeshiva’s Israel Koschitzky Virtual Beit Midrash, which has been bringing the Yeshiva’s Torah to thousands of subscribers worldwide for the past 14 years, has recently undergone a facelift. The new look has a more pleasant interface, is better organized and has improved navigational tools, making it easier to access the 10,000 Torah articles in the archives. The design was implemented by David Suna ’83 of David’s Consultants Internet Development Company.

A subscriber wrote: “I have been receiving Rabbi Tamir Granot’s lectures on ‘Faith and Holocaust’. I am amazed each week at the profundity of thought contained in each lecture. I want you to know how enlightening and educating your lectures are. I do not know anything about the Yeshiva, however, if these classes are representative of the quality of thought and teaching, it must be a truly great institution.”

New Look for Israel Koschitzky Virtual Beit Midrash
www.vbm-torah.org
Yeshivat Har Etzion gratefully acknowledges the generous support that helps us continue to grow, improve, and enhance Jewish life around the globe.
The Darkaynu Program, now in its third year at Yeshiva, is a program for talmidim from overseas with special needs, combining learning at their own level with growth in personal, social and vocational skills. The program was created to give these young men a chance to experience a year in Yeshiva and Israeli society. They live in the Yeshiva dorms, study, daven and celebrate Shabbat and chagim together with the Yeshiva, and learn b’chevruta and go on tiyulim with overseas talmidim. Besides their learning program, Darkaynu talmidim volunteer each week – at a soup kitchen in Jerusalem, a bakery/café in Efrat, at a petting zoo, and at local libraries. Once a week, they eat dinner and spend time with an adopted family from Alon Shevut as well as an occasional Shabbat. In addition to providing a special
opportunity for the participants, the program deeply enriches the development and sensitivity of all the students.

Saul Gallick, Shana Bet talmid from England: “It is a huge zechut to have Darkaynu in our midst. Yeshiva is a place where it is sometimes all too easy to forget about the world around us. Harav Amital says that the reason for the large windows in the Beit Midrash is so that we can see out and others can see in...Personally, I can say that I have already grown in many ways through my chevruta with Meir, a Darkaynu talmid, and I look forward to the friendship continuing for a long time to come.”

Yoni Jesner z”l Elul Program

The Yoni Jesner z”l Elul Program enables Yeshivat Har Etzion alumni from the United Kingdom to study at Yeshivat Har Etzion during Elul Zman.

The Yeshiva is grateful to Steve and Renée Adelsberg for supporting this Program. The Adelsbergs’ son David ’01 was a chevruta and dear friend of Yoni z”l, and they are also the parents of alumnus Sammy ’05 and parents-in-law of Ruben Gober ’97. Renée said, “In creating such a program it was our hope that the memories of Yoni, along with those values that were important to him, will leave a lasting impression on the talmidim that took part in the learning. Yoni was a brilliant talmid, devoted and loyal friend, hilarious prankster, and natural leader...as well as a spiritual, tolerant and committed Jew. He was an exemplary role model in every sense of the word.”

On September 19, 2002, Yoni Jesner z”l, 19, of Glasgow, Scotland, and his cousin, Gideon Black, both Shana Bet students at Yeshivat Har Etzion, were traveling to Tel Aviv when a suicide bomber boarded their bus. Gideon was moderately injured. Yoni was mortally injured and died of his wounds the next day, 14 Tishrei. His family donated his organs for transplant and he is buried in Jerusalem.

Yoni was involved in all aspects of Jewish life in Scotland. He ran Bnei Akiva and the Jewish youth council, was a Jewish studies teacher, volunteered in the chevrah kadishah, helped run the youth and adult services in his synagogue, prepared boys for their bar mitzvahs, and had a nightly chevruta with the Av Bet Din of Glasgow. He was planning to begin medical training in London after completing his yeshiva studies, with the intention of moving to Israel to work as a doctor.

Simchat Beit HaShoeva

For the first time, the Yeshiva hosted a Simchat Beit HaShoeva celebration for overseas talmidim and their visiting parents, as well as alumni who have made aliya and their families. Among the honored guests were Julius and Dorothy Berman, President of the Etzion Foundation, and their extended family, and Heshie and Harriet Seif. Refreshments were served in the Sukka, built especially for this event. Following singing and dancing, shiurim were given by Harav Mosheh Lichtenstein and Rav Yair Kahn. We hope this will become an annual tradition!
Mrs. Dorothy Berman, President of the Etzion Foundation, welcomed the large crowd of alumni and friends of the Yeshiva, who gathered on April 2, 2008 in celebration of 40 years of activity of Yeshivat Har Etzion, Israel’s largest Hesder Yeshiva and outstanding institution of Torah study.

Harav Lichtenstein praised Harav Amital, noting that, “As a parent, I am deeply grateful to Harav Amital for the Yeshiva which he established, nurtured and guided, and for his educational impact and warm personality, a fusion of visionary and pragmatist.”

Harav Amital, visibly moved, discussed the significance of 40 years and remarked on the Yeshiva’s involvement with and dedication to the community at large. “Forty years have gone by, but the Torah we learn here is still relevant,” he said. On a personal note, he thanked the Kadosh Baruch Hu and admitted that he never dreamed of becoming a Rosh Yeshiva, but the memory of all those who perished in the Holocaust gave him the strength to establish the Yeshiva and persevere. He expressed his appreciation and gratitude to Harav Lichtenstein for joining him at the helm of the Yeshiva, and concluded by saying that although he is retiring as Rosh Yeshiva, “I am the oldest talmid in the Yeshiva and I will keep learning and teaching.”

Ethiopian Leadership Training Program

Yeshivat Har Etzion’s Ethiopian Leadership Program at Herzog College is the only one in Israel that trains Ethiopian immigrants to serve as sorely-needed rabbis, teachers and community leaders within their community. Due to recent cutbacks in government funding, there was an urgent need to find alternative sources of funding in order to maintain the program. The Yeshiva is deeply grateful for the generous contributions of: Kathryn and Paul H. Wallach in memory of their parents, Sandy and Nathan Kahn, Congregation Bnai Israel, Adena and Ezra Dyckman and the Chessed Program of the Yeshiva of Flatbush.

“This vital program provides an ideal setting for training future leaders for the Ethiopian...
Arye Colton ‘81, Chairman of the Board, alumnus and proud parent of talmid, Yaakov, thanked his predecessors, most recently David Landes ’73, as well as Yoel Weiss, Executive Vice President, Dorothy Berman, President of the Etzion Foundation, Shirley Schuster, Executive Director, Rabbi Seth Grauer ’96, Alumni Coordinator, and Dr. Meyer Brayer, Executive Director in Israel, for their dedication and tireless efforts on behalf of the Yeshiva.

Rabbi Jeffrey Kobrin ’92 moderated a panel discussion with the Roshei Yeshiva, focusing on the Yeshiva’s vision and future growth. Dessert and dancing were followed by a lively tish with Harav Amital.


The Yeshiva impacted my life course immeasurably. Rav Amital directly drove my decision to make aliyah; Rav Lichtenstein and Rav Amital dramatically sharpened my ethical sensibilities and opened my eyes and mind to the complexity of human experience, Judaism and Halacha.”

Michael Eisenberg ’89
Benchmark Capital

community and equips the participants with the necessary skills to successfully grapple with bridging the gaps,” states Rav Mahbrato Solomon ’88, Program Coordinator, who also directs the Ethiopian Department of the Prime Minister’s Office.

The program, now in its tenth year, includes weekly training and guidance at Herzog College,

intensive classes in Halacha, Ethiopian culture and various methodologies to bridge gaps with Israeli culture and Jewish tradition, as well as classes in Tanach, Jewish Thought, Psychology, and Pedagogy, leading towards Bachelor of Education degrees.

Mrs. Esti Rozenberg with Migdal Oz alumnae
Marriages
Yossi ‘77 Yeinan (Winiarz) and Yehudit Chana Elbinger
Doniel Ehrenreich ‘91 and Dr. Leah Spinner
Menachem Danishefsky ‘99 and Gail Sugarman
Yoni Miller ’99 and Rebecca Keys
Rafi Lefkowitz ’00 and Vered Zafrany
Amichai Pearlman (’00 Hesder) and Temima Schnitzer
Eli Isak ’00 and Emily Lerer
Menachem Danishefsky ‘99 and Thea Leibtag on the marriage of Bini and Frayda Laufer
Nathan ‘78 and Yocheved Lindenbaum on the marriage of Yehoshua ‘01 and Yocheved Schwartz
Zev (Billy) ‘78 and Karen Levine on the marriage of Netta and Chanan Ben Ichay
David ‘82 and Bonnie Weinberg on the marriage of Ariella and Avraham Shukron
Alan ‘82 and Tzafiria Wecker and Yehuda (’73 Hesder) and Sara Neumann
Cera Blonder on the marriage of their children, Drora and Gideon
Danny and Tova Rhein and Yeshiva Accountant Chaim and Sima Schmell on the marriage of Raheli and David, former madrich in Darkaynu Program
Ezra and Itta Bick on the marriage of Shraga and Tefat, son of Avia and Elishava Hacohen and grandson of Yedaya Hacohen, Director of Yeshivat Har Etzion

Births
Yehuda ‘78 and Tamar Biala Mirsky, Nofet Shira, Jerusalem
Howard ’81 and Malca Jachter, Hillel Shlomo Zalman, Teaneck, NJ
Lawrence ’85 and Nehama Teitelman, twins: Temima Etta and Binyamin, New Hyde Park, NY
Lior ’85 and Drora Arussy, Ronya Yisrael, Fair Lawn, NJ
Meir ’86 and Dahlia Nordlicht, Yaacov Tzvi, New Rochelle, NY
Doniel ’86 and Aviva Schreiber, Shmuel Nachum, Alon Shevut
Julian ’87 and Dawn Marsden, Yonatan Yehuda, Beit Shemesh
Assaf ’88 and Leora Bednarsh, Yechiel Yaakov, Alon Shevut
Yaki ’88 and Sara Blau, Meira Tova, Teaneck, NJ
David ’89 and Tzofia Schorr, Avraham Chaim, Ramat Beit Shemesh
Barry ’95 and Kally Kislowicz, Aviad, Beachwood, OH
Alan ’95 and Naomi Moss, Yonatan Aryeh, Melbourne, Australia
Dovi ’95 and Ginat Friedmann, Noa Hannah, Hong Kong
Micky ’95 and Rena Siev, boy, Ramat Beit Shemesh
Benji ’96 and Emily Rickman, Yisschor Yosef, Manchester, England
Michael ‘96 and Miriam Weiss, boy, Brookline, MA
Jeremy ‘97 and Jessica Rosenblum, Benaya Chanan, Riverdale, NY
Dovi ’97 and Sharon Schamroth, Avraham Chaim, Ramat Beit Shemesh
Jarred ‘97 and Joanne Myers, Hadar Hodaya, Johannesburg, South Africa

Marriages of Children
Menachem ‘72 and Rena Schrader on the marriage of Tirza and Baruch Perlman
Menachem Chaim ’72 and Rena Schrader on the marriage of Tirza and Baruch Perlman
Alan ’72 and Brenda Pritzker on the marriage of Menachem and Sarah Gold
Danny ‘75 and Susan Wolf on the marriage of Raheli and Yehiel Cohen
Shlomo ’75 and Chevi Schrader on the marriage of Pinchas Yair and Tzvia Blonder
Eli ’75 and Sharon Lerner and Carl ’79 and Adina Sherer on the marriage of Meira and Avraham Yaakov Sherer
Menachem Chaim ’77 and Thea Leibtag on the marriage of Bini and Frayda Laufer
Nathan ’78 and Yocheved Lindenbaum on the marriage of Yehoshua ’01 and Yocheved Schwartz
Zev (Billy) ’78 and Karen Levine on the marriage of Netta and Chanan Ben Ichay
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Julian ’87 and Dawn Marsden, Yonatan Yehuda, Beit Shemesh
Assaf ’88 and Leora Bednarsh, Yechiel Yaakov, Alon Shevut
Yaki ’88 and Sara Blau, Meira Tova, Teaneck, NJ
David ’89 and Tzofia Schorr, Avraham Chaim, Ramat Beit Shemesh
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Dovi ’95 and Ginat Friedmann, Noa Hannah, Hong Kong
Micky ’95 and Rena Siev, boy, Ramat Beit Shemesh
Benji ’96 and Emily Rickman, Yisschor Yosef, Manchester, England
Michael ‘96 and Miriam Weiss, boy, Brookline, MA
Jeremy ‘97 and Jessica Rosenblum, Benaya Chanan, Riverdale, NY
Dovi ’97 and Sharon Schamroth, Avraham Chaim, Ramat Beit Shemesh
Jarred ‘97 and Joanne Myers, Hadar Hodaya, Johannesburg, South Africa

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Births of Grandchildren

Ahron ’72 and Miriam Adler on the birth of Shiloh Gershon, to Ahuva and Tamir Gavriel and Binyamin to Yehuda and Yael Adler
Elyakim ’72 and Sara Krumbeen on the birth of three grandchildren: Amichai Naftali to Achinoam and Yedida Lange; Ehud to Uri and Miriam Kerem (Krumbeen); and Yocheved Bracha to Chava and Gershon Bass
Menachem ’72 and Rina Schrader on the birth of Uriya Yehoshua, to Menachem and Michal Schrader
Josh ’75 and Shira Schreier, on the birth of Yael, to Avishai and Nomi Binyamin and Michal Schrader
Eli ’75 and Sharon Lerner, on the birth of a granddaughter to Ezra and Faige Lerner
Michael ’77 and Debra Berkowitz on the birth of Nava, to Kalman and Dikla Berkowitz
Menachem ’77 and Thea Leibtag and Shuki and Efrat Reiss on the birth of Gilad to Leah and Yedidya Reiss ’03 H
Ari ’78 and Judy Auerbach on the birth of a granddaughter to parents Ezra and Nili Auerbach
Carl ’79 and Adina Sherer on the birth of Yoni, to Avigayil and Levy Baruch Sheinfeld
David ’80 and Ziva Schapiro on the birth of Avia, to Nati and Tamar Schapiro
Ezra and Itta Bick, on the birth of Doron, to Batsheva and Roi Stern
Yishai Fredman (Michael ’77 and Lisa), Efrat
Elyasaf Chiot (Yitzhak ’79 and Debbie), Jerusalem
Shoshana Becker (Meier ’80 and Judy), Efrat
Eli Schapiro (David ’80 and Ziva), Beit Shemesh
Binyamin Yedidya Fischman (David ’81 and Debbie), Ontario, Canada
Adi Calanit Freedman (Binyi ’81 and Dorret), Efrat
Eumedah Oster (Howie ’82 and Marc), Ginot Shomron
Mordechai Chaim Weinberg (David ’82 and Bonnie), Noaf Ayalon
David Jotkowitz (Alon ’82 and Debby), Beit Shemesh
Zvi Rapport (Shimon ’82 and Lisa), Mitzpe Netufa
Noam Beller (Daniel ’82 and Arny), Raanana
Dini Kitsberg (Daniel ’83 and Judith), Jerusalem
Yehoshua Yaakov Clark (Eli ’84 and Judy), Beit Shemesh
Benjamin Schwartz (Daniel ’85 and Debbie), NYC
Avi ’86 and Devorah Lubner, Yeshaya Daniel, Alon Shevut
Shmuli ’86 and Dinah Kraus, Chana, Bondi, Australia
Eliyahu Gluch (Ariel ’86 and Debbie), Beit Shemesh
Elyashiv Horovitz (Jonny ’86 and Michal), Elazar
Elyahu Gluch (Ari ’86 and Debbie), Beit Shemesh
Zecharia Blau (Yitzchak ’86 and Noa), Alon Shevut
Avi Chaim Zelig Marsden (Julian ’87 and Dawn), Beit Shemesh
Eli ’87 and Shifra Steindler, Bat Chen, Acco
Ben ’06 Koliel and Aviva Thwaites, Eliana Rachel, Jerusalem
Donny ’02 and Arielle Rosenberg, Eliana Sara, Riverdale, NY
Jeremy ’02 and Chavi Schwarzbaum, Pinchas, NYC
Shmuli ’03 and Dinah Kraus, Chana, Bondi, Australia
Craig ’03 PC and Deborrah Lubner, Yeshaya Daniel, Alon Shevut
Nadav ’04 PC and Shifra Steinberger, Bat Chen, Acco
Zach ’99 and Penina Abramowitz, Naftali Jacob, Riverdale, NY
CD ’99 and Leora Lazear, Eitan, Jerusalem
Gershon ’98 and Gabi Strauchler, Efrat Miriam, Riverdale, NY
Menachem ’98 and Carol Lazar, Rachel Emma, Silver Spring, MD
Gershon ’98 and Gabi Strauchler, Efrat Miriam, Riverdale, NY
Yitzchak Elchanan Krengel (Yisrael ’88 and Sara), Alon Shevut
Yaakov Neustadter (David ’87 and Leah), Netanya
Ariel Walles (David ’87 and Chana), Modiin
Eli Benuck (Moshe ’87 and Marnie), Beit Shemesh
Elyashiv Horovitz (Yitzhak ’86 and Michal), Elazar
Racheli Topp (Kalman ’86 and Jordania), Woodmere, NY
Eitiam Weinberg (Menachem ’90 and Gila), Alon Shevut
Dana toov to Harav Moshe and Michal Lichtenstein on the bat mitzvah of Bruria and to grandparents Harav Aharon and Tovah Lichtenstein.
Mazal Tov to CEO of the Yeshiva, Yoni and Orna Holzer on the bat mitzvah of Chen

Eliyahu Gluch (Ariel ’86 and Debbie), Beit Shemesh
Elyashiv Horovitz (Jonny ’86 and Michal), Elazar
Elyahu Gluch (Ari ’86 and Debbie), Beit Shemesh
Zecharia Blau (Yitzchak ’86 and Noa), Alon Shevut
Avi Chaim Zelig Marsden (Julian ’87 and Dawn), Beit Shemesh
Eli ’87 and Shifra Steindler, Bat Chen, Acco
Ben ’06 Koliel and Aviva Thwaites, Eliana Rachel, Jerusalem
Donny ’02 and Arielle Rosenberg, Eliana Sara, Riverdale, NY
Jeremy ’02 and Chavi Schwarzbaum, Pinchas, NYC
Shmuli ’03 and Dinah Kraus, Chana, Bondi, Australia
Craig ’03 PC and Deborrah Lubner, Yeshaya Daniel, Alon Shevut
Nadav ’04 PC and Shifra Steinberger, Bat Chen, Acco
Zach ’99 and Penina Abramowitz, Naftali Jacob, Riverdale, NY
CD ’99 and Leora Lazear, Eitan, Jerusalem
Gershon ’98 and Gabi Strauchler, Efrat Miriam, Riverdale, NY
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Ariel Walles (David ’87 and Chana), Modiin
Yaakov Neustadter (David ’87 and Leah), Netanya
Binyamin Yedidya Fischman (David ’81 and Debbie), Ontario, Canada
Adi Calanit Freedman (Binyi ’81 and Dorret), Efrat
Eumedah Oster (Howie ’82 and Marc), Ginot Shomron
Mordechai Chaim Weinberg (David ’82 and Bonnie), Noaf Ayalon
Daniel Jotkowitz (Alon ’82 and Debby), Beit Shemesh
Zvi Rapport (Shimon ’82 and Lisa), Mitzpe Netufa
Noam Beller (Daniel ’82 and Arny), Raanana
Dini Kitsberg (Daniel ’83 and Judith), Jerusalem
Yehoshua Yaakov Clark (Eli ’84 and Judy), Beit Shemesh
Benjamin Schwartz (Daniel ’85 and Debbie), NYC
Avi ’86 and Devorah Lubner, Yeshaya Daniel, Alon Shevut
Shmuli ’86 and Dinah Kraus, Chana, Bondi, Australia
Eliyahu Gluch (Ari ’86 and Debbie), Beit Shemesh
Ari ’87 and Shifra Steindler, Bat Chen, Acco
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Moshko Awarded Prize for Zionism

In a gala ceremony held at the City of David amphitheater on Jerusalem Day, Moshe “Moshko” Moskovic, co-founder of Yeshivat Har Etzion, together with Harav Yehuda Amital, was one of three recipients of this year’s Moskowitz Prize for Zionism. The prize was established by Dr. Irving and Cherna Moskowitz, benefactors of many prominent Jewish settlement enterprises in and around Jerusalem, and was awarded to Moshko “for over sixty years of activity and dedication in the areas of education and settlement; for his personal role in the establishment of communities and educational institutions throughout Israel, and particularly for his central role in establishing and making the communities of Gush Etzion prosper.”

Avi Chai Fellowships for Two Har Etzion Alumni

Rabbi Dov Linzer ’84, Rosh Hayeshiva and Dean of Yeshivat Chovevei Torah Rabbinical School in NY, was recently awarded a three-year fellowship by Keren Avi Chai, in order to develop an educator track at YCT to parallel the yeshiva’s rabbinical track.

Aharon Horwitz ’98 was awarded an Avi Chai Fellowship together with Ariel Beery. They are co-founders and co-directors of the Jerusalem-based PresenTense Group for socially-minded entrepreneurs. Their winning fellowship proposal is to expand their flagship project, PresenTense magazine, and the PresenTense Institute for Creative Zionism (PICZ).

The Avi Chai Foundation, endowed by Zalman C. Bernstein z”l, supports programs that encourage the perpetuation of Jewish traditions, as well as mutual understanding among Jews of different religious backgrounds and levels of observance.

Grinspoon-Steinhardt Award for Excellence in Jewish Education

Rabbi Seth Grauer ’96, a Rebbe at Ramaz Upper School and coordinator of its Israel Guidance Office, received a Grinspoon-Steinhardt Award for Excellence in Jewish Education, which honors outstanding classroom-based teachers working in formal Jewish educational settings throughout North America.

Rabbi Grauer has a law degree from Fordham Law School, is currently the assistant rabbi at the 5th Avenue Synagogue in Manhattan and is pursuing a doctoral degree at the Azrieli School of Education at Yeshiva University.

Wexner Fellowship

Zev Nagel ’00-01 is the recipient of a Wexner Fellowship, which was awarded for his studies at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University. Formerly, he was a speechwriter at the Permanent Mission of Israel to the United Nations. The purpose of the Wexner Fellowship is to encourage promising candidates to successfully meet the challenges of professional Jewish leadership in the North American Jewish community.

“Observing both Rav Lichtenstein and Rav Amital in action, one could not help but be overwhelmed by the harmonious sight of togetherness between the national and the personal side, as well as in the ritual and the social side of Torah. To me, at least, it was picture perfect...”

Rav Ahron Adler ’72
Rabbi Emeritus, Nove Orot Community Synagogue, Ramot, Jerusalem
Visiting Community Rabbi, Tiferet Yisrael, Zurich