The Yeshiva launched celebrations of its 50th year with an extraordinary full-day event on Chol Hamoed Sukkot. More than 4000 people, including friends of the Yeshiva, alumni and their families, ascended to Yeshivat Har Etzion to take part.

Adults were treated to shiurim, discussion panels, and an open sukkah with the Roshei Yeshiva, while children were treated to fun activities such as bouncy castles, pita baking, mosaic making, “fishing” plastic fish in the famed Gush pond, a play, and more. There was a family-oriented scavenger hunt in which participants had to explore the campus and learn new things about the Yeshiva in order to solve clues. There were also hikes to points of interest nearby and nostalgic tours given by students from the first years of the Yeshiva. Large sukkot were erected across the campus in order to feed all the visitors. Later in the day, alumni gathered in the Beit Midrash and all three Roshei Yeshiva spoke about their vision for the future of the Yeshiva. After that, participants walked to a nearby hilltop for the closing ceremony.
The closing ceremony was a very moving event, that featured songs by the choir, remarks from the Roshei Yeshiva and Yeshiva founder Moshe “Moshko” Moskovic, and a few short presentations, including a hilarious skit in which the wife of a Gush alumnus described life married to a “Gush guy.” There were also some inspirational and humorous video clips, including a tribute to alumni serving in the rabbinate, a video about the founding Roshei Yeshiva zt”l, an appreciation of the Yeshiva’s dedicated office, kitchen, and maintenance staff, and a salute to Yeshiva alumni who have made aliya.

A month prior to the event, alumni gathered in the Beit Midrash together with the Yeshiva talmidim to film a medley of Yeshiva songs, in the “Koolulam” style. That video was also shown at the closing event. After the ceremony, everyone danced with their friends and rabbis, seemingly not wanting the night to end.

Those in attendance ranged from the original talmidim from the first class of 1968 to the infants of recently married talmidim, demonstrating the powerful and enduring influence the Yeshiva continues to play in the lives of its alumni.

Many of the speakers pointed out that this event was clearly a tribute to the...
founding Roshei Yeshiva zt’l in whose merits the Yeshiva became a beacon of Torah that has educated thousands of alumni who are active in all areas of life and spread Torah to the wider community; sadly they were not able to witness this celebration of their legacy. An emotional moment at the closing ceremony was a salute to the wives of the founding Roshei Yeshiva, who were in attendance, and who gave their hearts and so much of their personal lives to the Yeshiva. **CEO Yoni Holzer** noted that in advance of the 50th year, several meetings were held with alumni to discuss the best way to mark the occasion. The consensus was not to rent a stadium or hire major stars, but to create a fun content-filled event at the Yeshiva fitting for people of all ages. Yoni added, “The actual event succeeded beyond anything we had imagined...the moving and uplifting closing ceremony left everyone with a special feeling, one that can only be described as a once-in-a-Yovel experience!”

Pictures are available on the Yeshiva website and videos of the closing ceremony and all the shiurim and panels are available on the Yeshiva’s YouTube channel.
New Semicha Program

This year the Yeshiva began a new Semicha program that will ordain young scholars planning to go into the rabbinate or Jewish education in Jewish communities worldwide. The program is directed by Rav Rafi Eis ’98 and is geared toward post-collegiate students, alumni and non-alumni alike, who would like to benefit from the Yeshiva’s approach to pesak halacha, especially as the world of pesak and cultural issues have become more complex.

The 3-year program combines an intense halacha shiur that emphasizes practical applications with courses in important rabbinic skills such as leadership training and pastoral psychology. Fellows in the program can also take advantage of the full offerings of the Yeshiva in Gemara, Tanach, and Machshava, as well as the education classes at Herzog College.

Rav Eis explains, “As the Yeshiva is celebrating turning 50, it wishes to build upon its significant accomplishments and to reach more Jewish communities across the globe. We want the next generation of religious Zionist Jewish leaders to be immersed in Torah and engaged with the world so they can inspire their communities to greater Jewish living and learning.”

Torah for Alumni in College

Gush alumni in colleges overseas are often interested in continuing to learn Gemara on a high level but struggle to find a framework that would help them do so. To address this need, this year YHE Kollel fellow Avigdor Rosensweig ’09 began giving a live online shiur twice a week, sponsored by an anonymous donor in memory of Rabbi Bentzion Hartman z”l. Avigdor distributes source materials in advance that the alumni prepare in chavruta on their respective college campuses before meeting up online. There are currently over 20 students taking advantage of technology to tap into the Torah of Yeshivat Har Etzion from afar, and we expect more to join in as the program develops next year.

To participate in sponsoring this growing program, please contact office@haretzion.org

Hebrew U & YHE

Many Israeli talmidim wish they could continue learning in Yeshiva even after they’ve completed five years of Hesder, but the need to get a university degree prevents them from doing so. In response, the Yeshiva recently began a program that enables post-Hesder talmidim to learn in the Yeshiva part-time while attending Hebrew University.

This special program allows highly-motivated talmidim to combine serious Torah learning with their demanding university schedules. We have no doubt that these talmidim will contribute greatly to all of Am Yisrael, and are proud to be able to support them in their goals.

Rav Ezra Bick with post-Hesder talmidim still learning in Yeshiva while enrolled in university
Year Six for “New” Hesder

In 2013 the Yeshiva began offering the “new” Hesder, an alternate track that allows its participants to learn in Yeshiva for two years and then do a full 3-year army service. Noting that the first group was about to finish their 5 years of service, a special program, Yelchu MiChayil El Chayil (Going from Strength to Strength), was organized by Rav Asaf Chaim Baharav ’15K to welcome back these graduates to Yeshiva and provide a framework and religious guidance.

Mini Seminars

This year there is a new program at the Yeshiva: mini Yemei Iyun. The idea is to take a topic that’s being informally discussed in the Beit Midrash, and have the Yeshiva staff and guest speakers dedicate a full afternoon to analyzing the topic in greater depth.

The first Yom Iyun, in October, focused on the question “Why Learn Gemara?” with the intent of discussing what may seem to some an outsized emphasis on Gemara, even in a Yeshiva where learning Tanach is greatly valued. Rav Ezra Bick spoke about the emotional impact that learning Gemara has had on him since his first days as a 16-year-old in the shiur of HaRav Aharon Lichtenstein zt”l at YU. Rav Azarya Berzon, founder of the Mevaseret institutions, spoke about the role of the Oral Torah in avodat Hashem. Rosh Yeshiva Rav Mosheh Lichtenstein spoke about the importance of Gemara in our mesora.

The second Yom Iyun took place in November, and it focused on the derech of Rosh HaYeshiva HaRav Yehuda Amital zt”l. Rav Yosef Zvi Rimon ’86H, Rav of Alon Shevut Darom, shared many illustrative anecdotes about HaRav Amital’s derech. Rav Amnon Bazak spoke about HaRav Amital’s emphasis on humanity and “menschlichkeit.” Rosh Yeshiva Rav Mosheh Lichtenstein discussed HaRav Amital as a Rosh Yeshiva.

Eli Weber, Director of the Dr. William Major Overseas Program, said, “The programs were very successful on their own terms, with great speakers on interesting topics, but they were even more successful in the long run, as attested by the many conversations generated afterwards.”

Visitors at Yeshiva

The program even has participants who were not in Yeshiva before doing their army service but who have chosen to join the already large number of Hesder talmidim that stay in the warm Yeshiva environment for a sixth year. Rav Baharav notes, “They did a full and meaningful service to the nation and country. Now is the time for them to return to spiritually recharge their batteries, by renewing their Torah learning and by joining us as we strengthen our avodat Hashem together.”

Rav Asaf Chaim Baharav ’15K, center, with two participants from the Year Six program

Gedaliah Friedenberg, a long-time friend of the Yeshiva, meeting with Rav Tzvi Chaim Kaye and Aharon Wasser ’08H during a family visit to the Yeshiva

Rafe ’97 and Sharon Sasson and family visit the Yeshiva to celebrate the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Barbara

Rabbi Betzalel Posy ’92 in the Beit Midrash with Rav Moshe Taragin and Rav Dovid Gottlieb, during his month-long stay in Yeshiva during Elul

If you are coming to Israel with your community, school, or family and would like to visit the Yeshiva, please contact office@etzion.org.il
IDF Chief of General Staff Visits

IDF Chief of General Staff Lt. Gen. Gadi Eisenkot visited the Yeshiva in September. He received a tour of the Yeshiva and its library, met with the Roshei Yeshiva and then later with ten of the Yeshiva’s cadets in the IDF Officers Course.

The Chief of Staff spoke to all the talmidim in the Beit Midrash about the IDF’s mission and its role in safeguarding the security of Israel and Israeli society. He spoke of the challenges facing the army and noted that he was happy to hear from the Yeshiva cadets that they were able to maintain their values while serving with fellow citizens from other streams of Israeli society. He said, “A moral army is a stronger army.”

Rosh Yeshiva Rav Yakov Medan said, “The army has a very important role to play in creating cohesion in Israeli society, and we must all contribute to the task of fulfilling this mission.”

After the visit, the Chief of Staff sent a letter of thanks to Rav Amichai Gordin:

Dear Rav Amichai Gordin,

I wanted to thank you and the staff of Yeshivat Har Etzion and Midrashet Migdal Oz for arranging my successful visit. I was happy to meet youth, soldiers, and commanders who were educated in the Yeshiva and Midrasha and are taking part in ensuring the security of Israel. The lively discussion taking place between the IDF and Israeli society is an integral part in maintaining the population’s faith in the IDF and in the IDF’s image as an army of its people.

Wishing a Shana Tova and Gmar Chatima Tova,
Lt. Gen. Gadi Eisenkot

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Nobel Prize Winner Prof. Yisrael Aumann spoke to talmidim on Motzei Shabbat, December 1, as part of a series of student-organized lectures taking place on Saturday nights in the Yeshiva. His fascinating shiur discussed how the Gemara’s guidelines for the distribution of limited funds follow the rules of game theory.

Prof. Yisrael Aumann speaking to talmidim about game theory in the Gemara

Raphi Schorr ’93 and his son Noam in the Beit Midrash. Rafi was one of 57 alumni in attendance this past November for the twentieth Bar Mitzvah day, a biannual event in which Yeshiva alumni bring their bar mitzvah aged sons and grandsons to the Yeshiva to meet the Roshei Yeshiva and enjoy a special day of learning and fun.
New Sefer Torah

On November 8, Avner and Orit Avivi, parents of Aviad ‘14H, donated the Yeshiva’s first Sephardic Sefer Torah in memory of their son, Evyatar z”l. Israel’s Chief Rabbis Rav Dovid Lau and Rav Yitzchak Yosef spoke at the Yeshiva to mark the occasion. Pictures and videos are available on the Yeshiva website.

Chanukah with New Olim

In what has become an annual tradition, overseas alumni who recently made aliya were invited to join the Yeshiva’s Chanukah mesiba. All the talmidim of the Yeshiva were treated to a dvar Torah by recent oleh Rav Benji Levy ‘04MTA. The alumni and their families participated in candle lighting and dancing in the Beit Midrash, which was followed by a festive meal accompanied by a shiur from Rosh Yeshiva Rav Mosheh Lichtenstein.

Gift of Life

Each year the Gift of Life organization comes to the Yeshiva to take mouth swabs from talmidim and enter them into the organization’s bone marrow/stem cell database. This past August, one of the talmidim matched a 53-year-old woman battling leukemia. This is the 18th match made in the Yeshiva, a staggering number. A representative of the Gift of Life organization commented, “It’s well known that 18 is a special number in Judaism, the numerical equivalent of chai, or life.” The Yeshiva is truly honored to be a part of this life-saving effort.

A Miracle of Survival

Anna Rosenthal and her sister Serena Perl z”l were prisoners in Auschwitz, Birkenau, Ravensbruck, and NeuStadt-Glebe from March 1942 to May 1945, outsmartering death too many times to count. Anna’s grandson Adam Hoffman ‘18 and Serena’s great-grandson Doniel Fodiman ‘18 are both current talmidim at the Yeshiva. Zippy Fodiman, Doniel’s mother, said, “If they could have known during those unthinkably dark times that they would live to send grandchildren and great-grandchildren to the Jewish homeland to learn Torah, would they have believed it? Every tale of survival is a miracle. This one is ours.”
Second Yahrtzeit of Marcos Katz z”l

On 20 Tammuz, the Yeshiva hosted the family of Marcos (Mordechai) Katz z”l for an event in honor of his second yahrtzeit. The extended Katz family, including Mrs. Adina Katz, gathered for a meal in the moadan with the Roshei Yeshiva and Yeshiva administration. The family was addressed by Yeshiva founder Moshe Moskovic who recalled how the Katz family was willing to support the Yeshiva even when the Yeshiva was first setting out and many donors were still hesitant.

Dr. Tovah Lichtenstein, wife of HaRav Aharon Lichtenstein zt”l, spoke about how the Katz family is part of the Yeshiva family, as evidenced by the Katz family coming “home” to the Yeshiva each year for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. She also mentioned the special connection the Katz family had with HaRav Yehuda Amital zt”l. The family was presented with copies of the new sefer of Rav Pini Cohen explaining the Yom Kippur service of the High Priest (see p. 24).

Following lunch, the family joined Yeshiva talmidim and staff in the Katz Torah Library for shiurim by Rosh Yeshiva Rav Mosheh Lichtenstein, Rosh Yeshiva Rav Baruch Gigi, and Rav Shlomo Brin in memory of Marcos Katz.

In addition, this year’s annual Yom Iyun for alumni that takes place during the Aseret Yemei Teshuva between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur was dedicated to the memory of Marcos Katz z”l. Over 100 alumni came to take part in learning focused on Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur and Sukkot, including shiurim by all three Roshei Yeshiva.
Overseas talmidim on Motzei Shabbat after an inspiring Shabbaton in the Old City of Jerusalem

"Kfar" is a program that brings South African high school students to Israel. The students spent a week in Yeshiva, and are seen here on a tour of the Biblical Museum of Natural History with the Yeshiva’s South African and Australian talmidim and Rav Pini Cohen, top left.

Talmidim with the five turkeys they prepared for the student-run Thanksgiving feast, held at midnight so that no one should have to miss night seder.

Reunion of Hesder 2012 alumni in Yeshiva for Parashat Vayigash
Letter from a Commander

A talmid serving in the IDF and his commander were dealing with the issue of eating and sleeping in the sukkah, an issue that is not always easily resolved. The commander wrote a note to the rabbis in the Yeshiva:

What a talmid you have. So sweet and understanding, and especially understanding of complexity. He is mekadesh Shem Shamayim (sanctifying the Name of Heaven). Blessed are you to be fortunate enough to have a talmid like this, and fortunate am I to have a soldier like this.
This year’s Revava Chanukah seminar in memory of Riva Koschitzky z”l was dedicated to the topic of “Medicine and Halacha” and took place on December 4-5, shortly after Riva’s tenth yahrtzeit. Dozens of alumni and Gush Etzion residents joined the Yeshiva students to learn from an extensive array of expert rabbis and doctors.

The event began with Dr. Bashi Colton, sister-in-law of Riva z”l, talking about how the topic was an appropriate legacy for Riva, who was a paragon of ethical behavior. Rosh Yeshiva Rav Mosheh Lichtenstein thanked the Koschitzky family for sponsoring this annual event and gave a general introduction to the topic. Prof. Alan Jotkowitz ‘82, Director of the Jakobovits Center for Jewish Medical Ethics, Associate Director for Academic Affairs of the Medical School for International Health and Medicine at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, and a Senior Physician at Soroka University Medical Center, spoke on “Methodological Considerations in Medicine and Halacha.” Rav Prof. Avraham Steinberg, Israel Prize Winner, author of The Encyclopedia of Jewish Medical Ethics, Editor-in-Chief of the Talmudic Encyclopedia, and Pediatric Neurologist at Shaare Zedek Medical Center, spoke on “Establishing the Time of Death.”

Rosh Yeshiva Rav Baruch Gigi gave a shiur on “Medical Actions to Prevent a Public Health Crisis.” Rav Ze’ev Weitman ‘71H, Rav of Alon Shevut and Rav of Tenuva, spoke on “Choosing the Gender of a Child in Halacha, Ethics, and Law.” Rav Dr. Mordechai Halpern, Director of the Dr. Falk Schlesinger Institute for Medical-Halachic Research, Editor-in-Chief of the ASSIA Journal of Jewish Medical Ethics, and a physician at Shaare Zedek Medical Center spoke on “The Obligation to Seek and Give Medical Care and its Limits.” Rav Shabtai Rappaport, former Yeshiva Ram and Rosh Beit Midrash at Bar-Ilan University, spoke on “Logic and Experience in Deciding Medical Procedures.”

For many years, the panel discussions have been a highlight of the Yemei Iyun. On the first day, Rav Dr. Benny Lehman moderated a panel on “Between Mental Health and Physical Health” with Rav Dr. Ilai Ofran, Rav of Kibbutz Yavneh and a clinical psychologist, Rav Dr. Avraham Kanai ‘86H, Rav of Mitzpeh Ramot and a clinical psychologist, and Prof. Yisrael Strous ‘98MTA, Director of Mental Health Centers at Maayanei Hayeshua Hospital. The second day’s panel, titled “Medicine and Halacha in Practice: A Report from Doctors in the Field” featured Rav Dr. Judah Goldberg ‘96, Emergency Medicine at Shaare Zedek Medical Center, Dr. Ruth Kanai, an expert in family health at the Serigim Health Clinic, and Dr. Itai Moskowitz ‘01H, Resident in Internal Medicine at Ichilov Medical Center. The panel was moderated by Rav Shlomo Brin.

Videos of the event are available on YouTube by searching Revava Yemei Iyun Chanukah 2018.

In honor of the eighth yahrtzeit of founding Rosh Yeshiva HaRav Yehuda Amital z”l on 27 Tammuz, 5778, Rav Yoel Amital ‘69H, son of HaRav Yehuda Amital z”l, delivered a shiur to the Yeshiva on the topic of mezuzah. Following the shiur, Akiva Brin ‘03H, grandson of HaRav Amital z”l, spoke about HaRav Amital’s educational approach, and what it means to him to be following HaRav Amital’s path. Yeshiva Ram Rav Michael Edrei taught mishnayot whose first letters spell out the name Yehuda. Videos of the event are available on the Yeshiva’s YouTube channel.

Eighth Yahrtzeit of HaRav Yehuda Amital z”l
Shabbatot BaKehila
The Yeshiva has been organizing Shabbatot BaKehila (Shabbat in the Community), in which Yeshiva staff go to an Israeli town and give shiurim in the different shuls there. Rosh Yeshiva Rav Yakov Medan was the scholar-in-residence in Yad Binyamin on June 22-23. Rav Shlomo Brin was the scholar-in-residence in Shoham on July 6-7. Rosh Yeshiva Rav Baruch Gigi and Rav Menachem Leibtag were the scholars-in-residence in Ra’anana on September 7-8.

Teshuva Lectures
Rav Yair Kahn gave a pre-selichot shiur at Darchei Tzion in Modi’in on “The Source and Significance of Selichot” on September 1. Rosh Yeshiva Rav Mosheh Lichtenstein gave a shiur about the sound of the shofar to the Kollel Yad Binyamin in Katamon on September 6. Rav Ezra Bick gave a shiur on teshuva at the Shirat Ganim Shul in Jerusalem on September 17.

Book Launches
To mark the publication of “Return and Renewal: Reflections on Teshuva and Spiritual Growth” by HaRav Aharon Lichtenstein zt’l and Rav of the Ohel Yona Menachem Shul in Beit Shemesh, spoke on “The Repentance of Beinonim.” Dr. Yael Ziegler spoke on “David, Shlomo, and the Power of Teshuva.” Rav Mendel Blachman, Senior Ram at Kerem B’Yavneh, and Rav Moshe Taragin at the Great Synagogue on Hoshana Rabba

Participants in the erev limmud that took place in honor of the release of “Return and Renewal”

Leil Hoshana Rabba
Over 350 people came to learn at the Yeshiva’s Hoshana Rabba learning event at Jerusalem’s Great Synagogue, which continued into the early hours of the morning. The event was organized in coordination with Yeshiva University in Israel. Yeshiva University President Rabbi Dr. Ari Berman ’87 spoke on “Celebrating Success and Transitioning Through Life: Uncovering the Layers within the Holiday of Sukkot.” Rav Moshe Taragin spoke about “Arba Minim and Their Metaphors.” Rav Mendel Blachman, Senior Ram at Kerem B’Yavneh Yeshiva, spoke on “Tishrei: From Awe and Trepidation to Song and Dance.” Rav David Ebner, spoke on “Pleading the Fifth: Musings on the Middle of Maimonides’ Hilchot Teshuva.” Rav Mayer Lichtenstein ’81H, son of HaRav Lichtenstein zt”l and Rav of the Ohel Yona Menachem Shul in Beit Shemesh, spoke on “Zeman Simchateinu: Israel is the Happiest Country in the World.”

Public Lectures
Rosh Yeshiva Rav Mosheh Lichtenstein spoke on “The Spiritual Challenges of a Bewildered Society” at Beit Midrash Eretz Hemdah in Ra’anana at an event celebrating its tenth anniversary on September 16.

Rosh Yeshiva Rav Yakov Medan spoke on “Rachel’s Death and Burial” in Chashmonaim on October 16.

Rosh Yeshiva Rav Yakov Medan continued his bi-weekly series on Rambam Hilchot Melachim at the Shitbalach in Katamon.

On November 20, Rav Amichai Gordin spoke on a panel on “Joint Service: The Religiously Observant and Women in the People’s Army” at the annual conference of the Israel Democracy Institute.

On November 25, Rav Moshe Taragin and Rabbi Yitzchak Etshalom ’83 gave pre-Chanukah shiurim in Chashmonaim.
The First Decade
1968–1977

- 1968: The Yeshiva is established in Kfar Etzion
- 1969: Alon Shevut is established
- 1970: HaRav Aharon Lichtenstein moves to Israel and joins HaRav Yehuda Amital as Rosh Yeshiva
- 1972: The Yeshiva moves to Alon Shevut
- 1973: Beit Midrash building is dedicated
- 1972: “The Machon” Yaakov Herzog Teachers Training Program is established next to the Yeshiva
- 1972: Yom Kippur War breaks out
- 1973: The Yeshiva loses eight of its students: “Eight Princes”
- 1975: Minister of Defense Shimon Peres visits Yeshiva
- 1976: Prime Minister Yitzchak Rabin visits Yeshiva
- 1976: Yeshiva students help with their presence in the establishment of Yeshivat Birkat Moshe in Ma’ale Adumim
- 1976: Be’er Sheva becomes the new home of the Yeshiva
- 1977: Beit Shemesh becomes the new home of the Yeshiva
The Second Decade
1978-1987

- 1978-1987: The Second Decade
- 1981: Torah crowns from Newark, NJ are moved to the Yeshiva library
- 1982: Minister of Education Yitzchak Navon visits Yeshiva
- 1983: The Marcos & Adina Katz Torah Library opens
- 1984: Lebanon War breaks out, Yeshiva students take part
- 1985: Efrat is established
- 1986: The library of Etz Hachaim in Amsterdam is transferred to the Yeshiva
- 1988: First intifada breaks out; the road to Gush Etzion is fraught with stone throwing
- 1989: The first volume of “Daf Kesher” is printed
- 1990: President Chaim Herzog visits Yeshiva
- 1991: The Yeshiva pond gets goldfish

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The Third Decade
1988-1997

A group of students who learned about their Judaism in secret, among them Baruch Berman z”l, MK Zev Elkin, Knesset Speaker Yuli Edelstein, and Gush Etzion Mayor Shlomo Ne’eman, join the Yeshiva amid a wave of aliya from Russia

The first Yemei Iyun B’Tanakh take place, at first just for teachers, but eventually for the community at large

A heavy snow hits Gush Etzion, leaving the area isolated and without electricity

Yeshiva students help with their presence in the establishment of Yeshivat Yerucham

HaRav Yehuda Amital is appointed as a Minister Without Portfolio in the Israeli government, and is accompanied by a bodyguard in the Beit Midrash

The Stella K. Abraham Beit Midrash for Women opens in Migdal Oz

The Israel Koschitzky Virtual Beit Midrash is founded

Yeshiva founder Moshe “Moshko” Moskovic lights a torch at the Mt. Herzl ceremony at Israel’s 50th anniversary

The tunnel road connecting Yerushalayim and Gush Etzion opens

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The Yeshiva pond gets goldfish

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Torah crowns from Newark, NJ are moved to the Yeshiva library

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1986 1989

1990

1991

1993

1995

1996

1996

1996
The Fourth Decade
1998–2007

1999
- A program for Ethiopian students opens in Yeshiva on the heels of Operation Moses

2000
- Second intifada breaks out; traveling on the roads in Gush Etzion becomes dangerous and at times impossible

2001
- The Yeshiva’s Kollel Gavoah (advanced Kollel) opens

2003
- 60 Kollel apartments are acquired by the Yeshiva from the Housing Department

2005
- HaRav Yaakov Medan and HaRav Baruch Gigi are inaugurated as Roshei Yeshiva

2005
- Second Lebanon War breaks out

2006
- The Darkaynu Program for Special Students opens in cooperation with Ohr Torah Stone

2006
- The “Preparation for Life” program for fifth year Hesder students begins
The Fifth Decade
2008–2017

2008
HaRav Mosheh Lichtenstein is inaugurated as Rosh Yeshiva

2009
The Yeshiva Guest House opens

2010
HaRav Yehuda Amital zt”l passed away

2013
The “New Hesder” track is established in the Yeshiva

2013
Yeshiva offices are expanded

2015
HaRav Aharon Lichtenstein wins the Israel Prize

2015
Nearby elementary school is named “Carmei Yehuda” after HaRav Yehuda Amital zt”l

2018
A festive dinner takes place honoring Yeshiva founder Moshe Moskovic on his 90th birthday

2018
The “Tzurim” program to train Yeshiva students to be teachers is founded in cooperation with Herzog College

1998-2007
The Fourth Decade

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2006
The “Tepper Porch” is dedicated as a memorial for those who fell fighting for Gush Etzion in 1948

2013
4000 people gather in the Yeshiva on Chol Hamoed Sukkot to mark the Yeshiva’s jubilee

2018
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4000 people gather in the Yeshiva on Chol Hamoed Sukkot to mark the Yeshiva’s jubilee
USA

Rav Amnon Bazak spoke at a lunch-and-learn at the office of Hillel Silvera ’91 at Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP in NYC on “The Torah Reading of Rosh Hashanah” on August 28.

In August, Rav Amnon Bazak gave shiurim to alumni of the Yeshiva and Migdal Oz at Yale, Brandeis, Maryland and Penn universities.

Rav Amnon Bazak being introduced by Sarah Wertheimer ’17MO

Rav Moshe Taragin was the scholar-in-residence at Congregation Brothers of Israel in Long Branch, NJ, the shul of Rabbi Nasanayl Braun ’92, father of Avi ’18 and Tova ’18MO, on October 12-13.

Rav Menachem Leibtag made trips in October and November to speak at shuls and communities across the east coast. He was the scholar-in-residence at Kol Israel Congregation and Congregation Beth Torah in Brooklyn, NY on October 12-13, at Congregation Torat Emet in Columbus, OH on November 2-3, and at Young Israel of Toco Hills in Atlanta, GA on November 9-10. He also gave shiurim at Congregation Rinat Yisrael in Teaneck, NJ, at Lincoln Square Synagogue in NYC, at Anshei Chesed in Boynton Beach, FL, the shul of Rabbi Avi Billet ’96, at Boca Raton Synagogue, FL, at the Young Israel of Hollywood, FL, at Lower Merion Synagogue, PA, and at Young Israel of Scarsdale, NY. In addition, Rav Leibtag gave shiurim to alumni of the Yeshiva and Migdal Oz at Yale, Harvard, Brandeis, NYU, Columbia, Penn, and YU.

Eli Weber was the scholar-in-residence at the Lower Merion Synagogue, PA on November 9-10.

Motzei Shabbat of the alumni Shabbaton in Teaneck

On Shabbat Parashat Vayetzei, November 16-17, Rosh Yeshiva Rav Mosheh Lichtenstein, Rav Danny Rhein, and Eli Weber were in Teaneck, NJ at Eli Weber, Rosh Yeshiva Rav Mosheh Lichtenstein, and Rav Danny Rhein meeting with parents of current talmidim at the Bergenfield, NJ home of Elissa and Michael Katz, parents of current talmid Benjy ’18, on November 17

Rav Amnon Bazak with Yeshiva and Migdal Oz alumni at Penn

Rav Amnon Bazak gave a shiur at the Brookline, MA home of Jeremy and Joyce Wertheimer, parents of Sarah Wertheimer ’17MO, on “Sending Yishmael Away and Sacrificing Yitzchak” on August 29.

Rav Amnon Bazak being introduced by Sarah Wertheimer ’17MO

Eli Weber was the scholar-in-residence at the Lower Merion Synagogue, PA on November 9-10.

Motzei Shabbat of the alumni Shabbaton in Teaneck
Congregation Rinat Yisrael for the annual Gush alumni Shabbaton. Over 80 alumni participated in the complete program, and dozens more joined at various points to enjoy the shiurim, Yeshiva ruach, and camaraderie of old friends.

**Rav Moshe Taragin** was the scholar-in-residence at Young Israel of the Main Line in Bala Cynwyd, PA on December 14-15. Rosh Yeshiva Rav Mosheh Lichtenstein was the scholar-in-residence at Congregation Agudath Sholom in Stamford, CT and spoke at an oneg at the home of Gil ‘87 and Shani Orbach, parents of Ami ‘16. Rav Dovid Gottlieb was the scholar-in-residence at Congregation Or Torah, the shul of Rabbi Zvi Engel ‘92, and Congregation Chovevei Tzion in Skokie, IL.

**Rav Dovid Gottlieb** gave a shiur on “Appreciating Hashem and Ourselves; The Two-Sided Coin of Religious Growth” at the home of Andrew and Ruth Koshner, parents of Aaron ‘16 in St. Louis, MO.

**Rav Moshe Taragin** spoke between Mincha and Maariv on 10 Tevet at Congregation Bnai Yeshurun in Teaneck, NJ and later at a special tefillah program at Young Israel of North Woodmere, the shul of Rabbi Yehuda Septimus ‘94, on December 18.

**Rav Moshe Taragin** was the scholar-in-residence at the Green Road Synagogue in Cleveland, OH on December 21-22.

**SOUTH AFRICA**

Rabbi Daniel Kaplan ‘03MTA introducing Rosh Yeshiva Ray Baruch Gigi before his shiur at the Mizrachi Night Kollel in Johannesburg on August 20

Rav Dovid Gottlieb giving a shiur on “The Kingship of Hashem on Rosh Hashanah”

**UK**

**Rav Dovid Gottlieb** was the scholar-in-residence at Mizrachi UK, as well as Stenecourt and Yavneh in Manchester on Shabbat Shuva, September 14-15, delivering 13 shiurim in 2 days.

**Rav Tzvi Chaim Kaye** gave shiur and a Machshava Q&A at the evening Beit Midrash of Ner Yisrael of Hendon on November 1. On Friday night, November 2, he gave a tish at the home of Michael ‘91 and Suzi Jaeger. On Shabbat day he took part in a meal for alumni at the home of Anthony and Julie Cohn, parents of Eitan ‘15, Gav ‘15, and Elny ‘15 Cohn. On Motzei Shabbat he spoke at a Melave Malka for high school students that was held at the home of Binny ‘08 and Elizur ‘10 Schimmel.

**CANADA**

Rav Moshe Taragin speaking at a father-son learning event at Yeshivat Or Chaim in Toronto on December 16

**New Office**

The Canadian Friends of Yeshivat Har Etzion has moved from Montreal to Toronto. We thank Inika Blackman for her many years of service, and warmly welcome Leba Grauer, the new coordinator. Our new contact information appears on the back cover.

Rav Dovid Gottlieb giving shiur to Yavneh Yeshiva High School students
AUSTRALIA

Dr. Tovah Lichtenstein went on a highly successful speaking tour of Australia for two weeks in November, accompanied by Hillel Mann, Director of Institutional Advancement.

Dr. Lichtenstein had a very busy schedule in Melbourne, including delivering many talks about her father, Rav Yosef Dov Soloveitchik zt”l, and her husband, HaRav Aharon Lichtenstein zt”l. There was an incredible turnout — over 1,400 people attended Dr. Tovah’s talks during her 6 day trip. Dr. Tovah spoke at Mizrachi Melbourne multiple times, as well as at an alumni meeting at the home of Adam Feldman ’96, a Bat Mitzvah ceremony, a group of tenth graders at Leibler Yavneh College, the home of Dr. Michal Kaufman, and a lunch-and-learn at the office of L1 Capital. Dr. Tovah also spoke at seuda shlishit to a standing room only crowd on the topic of “Make aliyah or stay to strengthen the community?”

In Sydney, Dr. Tovah spoke at an event for the women of the community at the Jewish Learning Centre. She spoke in the Mizrachi Community, at the Jewish Learning Centre, at the Moriah School, at Masada College, and at Kesser Torah College. She also visited the Central Synagogue, as the guest of Rabbi Levi Wolff and shul president Michael Rothner.

Dr. Tovah spoke to a full capacity seuda shlishit at Mizrachi on the topic of “The Zionism of Rav Soloveitchik.” Dr. Tovah ended her stay in Sydney with a speech about Rav Soloveitchik, after being introduced by the president of the Mizrachi community, Michael Goldberg ’93MTA, who shared some anecdotes about his time in Yeshiva and his connection to the Lichtenstein family.

Dr. Tovah Lichtenstein speaking at a lunch-and-learn at L1 Capital

HONG KONG

Dr. Tovah Lichtenstein was a guest of the Ohel Nechama community, the shul of Rabbi Asher Oser ’90. Dr. Lichtenstein spoke at a lunch-and-learn for the women of the community, and visited the Carmel School headed by Mrs. Rachel Friedmann, mother of David Friedmann ’95.

Dr. Lichtenstein’s visit to Hong Kong is on the heels of Dr. Yael Ziegler and Rav Moshe Taragin visiting the community as scholars-in-residence.

A special thanks to all the families that hosted Dr. Tovah and made her feel at home away from home.
Yemei Iyun B’Tanach

The 27th annual Yemei Iyun b’Tanach of Herzog College and Yeshivat Har Etzion took place in July 2018. Thousands of Tanach lovers ascended to the Yeshiva campus for 5 days of over 200 lectures, the largest conference of Tanach study in the world.

This year the Yemei Iyun were dedicated in honor of the Yeshiva’s fiftieth anniversary. There were numerous shiurim and panels on the “Tanach Revolution” set in motion by the Yeshiva. President Ruby Rivlin came to a ceremony marking the completion of the first cycle of the 929 project, in which participants learn one of the 929 chapters of Tanach each day. In addition to his remarks, he heard short shiurim from a few educators at Herzog, including Rosh Yeshiva Rav Yakov Medan teaching the first chapter of Bereishit to start the second cycle.

Every year, more and more educators from abroad come to Israel for the Yemei Iyun — and it’s no wonder. In addition to two days of classes and a day of tours in English, there was an English pedagogy day organized by Rav Dr. Shalom Berger ’77 for Tanach teachers from abroad to learn about new technologies and methods that can be used to engage students in the digital age. This year there was also a day of classes in French and a day of classes in Spanish, attracting people from even more countries around the world.

The Yemei Iyun b’Tanach are an intellectual treat and an exhilarating spiritual experience. If you’d like to partake this coming summer, the dates will be August 4-8, 2019 and registration will open on the Herzog College website shortly after Shavuot.

Bat Mitzvah Day

Bat Mitzvah day is a biannual event in which Yeshiva and Migdal Oz alumni bring their Bat Mitzvah aged daughters and granddaughters to the Stella K. Abraham Beit Midrash for Women in Migdal Oz and the Yeshiva to meet the Roshei Yeshiva and enjoy a special day of learning and fun. 41 alumni joined this past December and highlights included a shiur from Rabbanit Esti Rosenberg, Rosh Beit Midrash at Migdal Oz, a short tiyul with Rosh Yeshiva Rav Yakov Medan, and a treasure hunt in the Yeshiva library. Ariel Cohen ’06PC said, “Thank you! The Bat Mitzvah day was fantastic. I really value the way that the Yeshiva invests in its bogrim and their families.”

High School Yom Iyun

On September 13, Migdal Oz opened its doors to high school students from Gush Etzion, Efrat, Jerusalem, and Beit Shemesh, inviting them to join a Yom Iyun in preparation for Yom Kippur. From the afternoon until selichot after midnight, participants heard shiurim from scholars such as Rav Amnon Bazak, Rosh Yeshiva Rav Baruch Gigi, and Rosh Beit Midrash Rabbanit Esti Rosenberg.

Overseas News

■ The Annual Migdal Oz Erev Shira V’Hitroerut took place this past September 1 at Congregation Rinat Yisrael in Teaneck, NJ with Racheli Schmell, Overseas Director, and Rav Amnon Bazak in attendance. Rav Bazak gave a shiur on “The Idea of Teshuva in the Book of Yonah” and then led the selichot. Earlier that week, Racheli and Rav Bazak visited alumnae on college campuses.
On Shabbat Parashat Toldot, November 9-10, alumnae had the opportunity to reconnect with their wonderful Migdal Oz experience. They gathered in Teaneck with Rosh Beit Midrash Rabbanit Esti Rosenberg, and Overseas Director Racheli Schmell. Shabbat began with the alumnae davening their own inspiring Shir Hashirim and Kabbalat Shabbat “Migdal Oz style” followed by the Shabbat meal at Congregation Rinat Yisrael.

Each of the participants was invited to introduce herself and recount a favorite Migdal Oz memory. After dinner, the alumnae had an inspiring, uplifting tish at the home of Jacques and Esther Semmelman, parents of Alyssa ’17MO. On Shabbat morning after tefillah, Rabbanit Esti gave a parasha shiur and bogrot spent the afternoon schmoozing about memories from the past and challenges of the present. Seuda Shlishit was at the home of Jonathan and Devorah Schloss, parents of Miriam ’16MO, and Shabbat ended with a beautiful havdala.

Rabbanit Esti Rosenberg was the scholar-in-residence at Kehilat Rayim Ahuvim in NYC on December 14-15. On December 15, over 100 Migdal Oz supporters gathered at the Jewish Museum in New York for the Annual Migdal Oz fundraiser. After viewing the exhibits, participants were treated to a fascinating discussion on “Praying in the Modern World: Opportunities and Obstacles” with Rosh Yeshiva Rav Mosheh Lichtenstein and Rabbanit Esti Rosenberg, Rosh Beit Midrash at Migdal Oz. Yoel Weiss, Executive Vice President of the Etzion Foundation, opened the evening and the discussion was moderated by Dena Block ’04MO. Rabbanit Esti Rosenberg began by speaking about how Migdal Oz celebrates community, and how that community is based on Torah and tefillah, expressions of avodat Hashem. She also commented how wonderful it was to see so many alumnae with their parents and grandparents at the event. The proceeds of the evening went to the Educational Programs and Scholarship Fund of the Stella K. Abraham Beit Midrash for Women. We thank everyone who participated in this special evening.

Rabbanit Esti Rosenberg, Rosh Beit Midrash at Migdal Oz, and Racheli Schmell, Director of the Overseas Program, met with parents of current Migdal Oz talmidot at the home of Gabe Goldstein and Dr. Victoria Bengualid, parents of Mazaltov ’14MO, Devora ’17MO and Sara Goldstein ’18MO, on December 16.

Shana Aleph Photo Gallery

Overseas students before a Shabbaton in Keshet

Overseas students at the Kotel during their first week in Israel

Overseas students enjoy an activity organized by their madrichot
The Yeshiva is pleased to announce the Israel Koschitzky VBM Digest, a digital selection of VBM shiurim sent out weekly to subscribers. Following the request of many alumni, the pages are designed to be printed out, with the hope that people will bring them to shul, distribute them to their friends, and share a taste of the Torah coming out of Yeshivat Har Etzion. Thanks are due to Rav Dov Karoll ’95 for his efforts in this regard.

ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

Yeshiva founder Rav Yoel Bin-Nun was awarded the Rav Tzvi Yehuda Kook Prize for Torah Literature in July. Rosh Yeshiva Rav Yakov Medan spoke at the ceremony about the significance of the concept of Mori VeRabbi (“my teacher and mentor”) in Jewish tradition.

Rav Shmuel Rosenblum ’87H received his Ph.D in philosophy from Bar-Ilan University. His 459 page Hebrew thesis was on “The Thought of HaRav Aharon Lichtenstein – The Path to the ‘Broader Truth.’”

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Rabbi Ari Perl ’92 became the Vice President for Jewish Community Engagement & Education at LiveOnNY.

Benjy Singer ’92 runs the IsraelB.org online community connecting Jews all around the world to Israel, Torah, and each other.

Rabbi Barry Kornblau ’96K spoke on “The Environment and Capitalism in Jewish Tradition” at the fourth annual LAMP symposium at Georgia Tech, and he spoke at Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), an agency of the United States Department of Defense, about “Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Weapons Systems, Morality, and the Future.”

Rabbi Yair Hindin ’98 and Ben Menora ’16K each donated a kidney to help others in need.

Rabbi Dr. Yaakov Jaffe ’98 became the Dean of Judaic Studies at the Maimonides School in Brookline, MA.

Rabbi Aaron Leib ’98 became the interim rabbi at Young Israel of Oak Park, MI.

Josh Teplitsky ’98 recently published “Prince of the Press: How One Collector Built History’s Most Enduring and Remarkable Jewish Library” (Yale University Press, 2019) on Rabbi David Oppenheim (1664–1736), Chief Rabbi of Prague, and his unparalleled collection of Jewish books, all of which have survived and are housed in the Bodleian Library of Oxford.

Rav Yair Shtadler ’00H became Rosh Yeshivat Bnei Akiva in Netanya, Israel.

Rabbi Aharon Herskovitz ’02 became the rabbi of the Young Adult Minyan at Yeshurun Edgware in London.

Rav Jonathan Ziring ’06 became a Ram at Yeshivat Migdal HaTorah in Modi’in, Israel.

Rabbi Noach Goldstein ’07 was appointed Assistant Rabbi at the Jewish Center in NYC.

Rabbi Noach ’09H and Orly ’09MO Singer became the OU–JLIC campus couple at University of Chicago.

Rabbi Jacob Bernstein ’10 became the Beren Campus Rabbi at Yeshiva University and a Rebbe at Yeshiva University High School for Boys.

Rav Gedalya Fensterheim ’10K became the Rav of Sdeh Yaakov, Israel.

Sam Glauber ’12 became a Beit Midrash Fellow at SAR High School, NY.

Rav Akiva Zukerman ’12K became the Rav of Ein Hanatziv, Israel.

Rabbi Judah Kerbel ’13PC completed his Master’s in medieval Jewish history at Revel and became a Beit Midrash Fellow at SAR High School, NY.

Do you have an achievement to share? Write to us at office@etzion.org.il
Halakhah: The Rabbinic Idea of Law (English)
Prof. Chaim N. Saiman '96
Princeton University Press

This book traces how generations of rabbis have used concepts formed in talmudic disputation to do the work that other societies assign not only to philosophy, political theory, theology, and ethics but also to art, drama, and literature. In the multifaceted world of halakhah where everything is law, law is also everything, and even laws that serve no practical purpose can, when properly studied, provide surprising insights into timeless questions about the very nature of human existence. The book’s dedication begins “To my Rosh ha-Yeshiva HaRav Aharon Lichtenstein zt”l, who would have never written this book, but without whom this book would never have been written.” The book has an approbation from Rosh Yeshiva Rav Mosheh Lichtenstein.

Return and Renewal: Reflections on Teshuva and Spiritual Growth (English)
HaRav Aharon Lichtenstein zt”l
adapted for print by Rabbi Dr. Michael S. Berger ’80 and Rav Reuven Ziegler ’86
Yeshivat Har Etzion and Maggid Press

The process of repentance presents both challenges and opportunities. While self-scrutiny, confession, and commitment to change are among the most difficult human undertakings, the very process of renewing and reconnecting to ourselves and to God is a gift that can fundamentally repair us, our communities, and society at large. In his annual discourses on repentance, HaRav Lichtenstein zt”l set out to make the elusive path of teshuva more navigable. This book is a collection of twelve of these public lectures, in which HaRav Lichtenstein marshals a broad array of Jewish sources, along with classics of the Western tradition and his own sensitivity to the human condition, to examine the psychological, emotional, and spiritual elements of sin and repentance.

Bezot Yavo Aharon (English)
Rav Pini Cohen
Yeshivat Har Etzion

For many, the most difficult part of the Yom Kippur prayers is the section in which the High Priest’s Yom Kippur service in the Temple is recounted, known as the Ametz Koach. It is a long, detailed and intricate description of the process. After many years of giving a class on Yom Kippur night about this prayer, Rav Pini published a book that takes the reader through the text, citing the sources and giving context to each stage, from beginning to end.

Beyond Routine: Turning Ritual into Meaningful Jewish Practice (English)
Rav Yehoshua Grunstein ’95H
Urim Publications

Beyond Routine addresses the routine commandments and rituals in Judaism and explains how they can become more meaningful. While many know how to perform these mitzvot, some do not understand how these mitzvot can elevate their own level of holiness. Looking at these rituals in this light, one can address issues such as the significance of each custom, the emotions involved during and after, and how performing it should influence a person.

Shul with a View (English)
Rabbi Ron Yitzchok Eisenman ’79
Artscroll Press

Based on his popular column in Mishpacha Magazine, and including much new material as well, this volume allows the reader a look at the world from the perspective of a shul rabbi, brimming with unforgettable personalities, joyous events, and sometimes tragic misunderstandings.
Eternity: Jewish Values as Revealed in Nevi'im Rishonim
(English)
Rav David Milston ’83
Midreshet HaRova
A series of fascinating explorations into the Prophets, taking selected episodes from the Tanach and extracting eternal life lessons as relevant today as they were over 3,000 years ago. These essays will add insight to some familiar stories, enhance your discussions around the Shabbat table, or simply deepen your knowledge and understanding of these oft-overlooked works. The first of the two volumes is dedicated in memory of Rav Yaakov Don ’84H and Rav Micki Mark ’87H Hy”d.

Depths of Yonah: Unleashing the Power of Your Yom Kippur
(English)
Rabbi Chaim Jachter ’81 and Binyamin Jachter
Blurb.com
A fresh and thorough exploration of what is for many a highlight of the Yom Kippur service, the book of Yonah. This work blends classic, contemporary and new insights into the beloved book of Yonah with an eye as to why Yonah cuts to the core of what we should be accomplishing on Yom Kippur. Readers will emerge with a deep appreciation for the richness of the book of Yonah and invigorated for a more meaningful Yom Kippur.

Nekudat Peticha (Hebrew)
Rav Amnon Bazak
Yediot Aharonot Press
There is an ever-increasing interest in using methods of literary analysis to reveal deep layers and ideas hidden within the verses of the Torah. This sefer offers short essays on the weekly parasha, 7 for each parasha, that constitute a starting point for relevant and meaningful discussions around one central idea. The book is an effective tool for preparing a dvar Torah and an excellent introduction for those who wish to better understand the peshat (plain sense) of the pesukim.

Mizbeach Chadash (Hebrew)
Rav Tzvi Yehuda Dror ’13K
Dabri Shir
At the pinnacle of the journey from Egypt to the Land of Israel, Am Yisrael builds a mishkan (tabernacle). How does slaughtering animals and offering up their parts help one get closer to God? How is that relevant to us today? This volume details the deep and extensive way the soul is built up through the activities described in Sefer Vayikra.

Hilkhot Avelut: Understanding the Laws of Mourning (English)
Rav David Brofsky ’90
Maggid Press
Rav Brofsky integrates halachic, conceptual, philosophical, and historical analysis of the laws of mourning. Each topic begins with its primary source, and the author traces the halacha through the early and later commentaries, including relevant debates among the poskim regarding contemporary applications. At times, historical and philosophical sources, as well as traditional “lomdus,” are woven into the chapter. This valuable book also discusses the laws of aninut, burial, avelut, kaddish, and yahrtzeit. In addition to the main text, a practical compilation of the laws of mourning is included.

The Weekly Mitzva (Hebrew)
Rav Binyamin Tabory
Yeshivat Har Etzion and Maggid Press
Based on Rav Tabory’s audio and text shiurim for the VBM, The Weekly Mitzva allows the reader to understand the relevant sources and fundamental principles about a different mitzva connected to each week’s parasha. Each mitzva is analyzed in an organized and clear manner, from halakhic and hashkafic angles, making it interesting and accessible to all learners, from beginners to laymen.
Marriages
Daniel March ’92 and Sarah Stern
Adam Victor ’02MTA and Tamara Kahn
Josh Bomsztyk ’05 and Jessica Solomon
Ilan Buchbinder ’06MTA and Tzofia Leiser
Yekutiel Koschitzky ’06H and Tali Jacobson ’12MO
Moshe Miller ’06 and Nina Landa ’13MO
Michi Hayman ’07MTA and Chana Rosenthal
Max Schwartz ’08PC and Daniella Wexler
Yishai Schwartz ’08 and Shoshi Singer
Daniel Gross ’09 and Tehilla Fish ’14MO
Yoni Levenson ’09 and Leora Apfelbaum ’11MO
Elie Weintraub ’09 and Elishava Elbaz
Lenny Ash ’10 and Alona Stewart
Jonathan Schmidt-Swartz ’10 and Jordana Meisel
Joshua Victor ’10MTA and Ariella Cobb
Thomas Cohn ’11 and Alyssa Kirsch
Akiva Glazerson ’11MTA and Bima Gottlieb
Ariel Isser ’11 and Elana Horowitz
Adam Poliak ’11 and Grace Milstein
Adam Weisel ’11 and Elana ’11MO Kook
Dani Edelman ’12 and Etana Staiman
Rabbi Eli ’00 and Ilana Cohn, Akiva David
Yoni ’00 and Rochie Schwartz, Yehoshua
Rabbi Shua ’01 and Dr. Yocheved Lindenbaum, Maayan Revava
Eitan ’02 and Sarah Bendheim, Judith Ayala und Dahlia Karoline
Raphael ’02 and Anna-Leah Cooper, Yakir Ephraim Yitzchak
Yosi ’02 and Nicole Farkas, Eliana Sophia
Jonathan ’02 and Rachel Frank, Leah Ahuva
Rabbi Aharon ’02 and Shira Herskovitz, Nediva Beruria und Yehuda Aviv
Noam ’02 and Aviva Lockshin, Hannah Rose
Joshua ’02 und Yudit Samad, Tamar Ayala
Sam ’02PC und Michal Zibman, Tehilla Shachar
David ’03 und Talia Eis, Yehuda Zvi
Chaim ’03 und Nicole Grossman, Meir Elimelech
Rav Josh ’04 und Lani Berman, Avigaiel Halleli
Yoni ’04 und Debbie Grysman, Ariel Dov
Dr. Aryeh ’04 und Sora Shapiro, Ieden Davida
Joshua ’05 und Tamara Caplin, Aviad
Marc ’05 und Debbie Herman, Ayala Rachel
Meir ’05 und Shani Lindenbaum, Aharon Binyamin
David ’05 und Tamar Pruwer, Amalia Chaya
Ariel ’06PC und Cypora Cohen, Mordechai Noach Yitzchak
Avriel ’06 und Shoshi Herrmann, Ami Noam
Noam ’06MTA und Ora-Tal Korbi, Yishai
Jesse ’06 und Sarah Lempel, Frances Dara
Daniel ’06MTA und Cheron Meyrowitz, Liora
Jeremy ’06 und Alessandra Pressman, Naftali Yehuda
Daniel ’07 und Abby Bomsztyk, Lev Aron
Rabbi Noam ’07 und Shiffy ’06MO Friedman, Shachar Tzuriel
Rabbi Alex ’07MTA und Ahuva ’12MO Tsykin, Daniel Eliyahu
Jacob ’07 und Dana Warren, Nava Saphira
Rabbi Adam ’08 und Zeeva ’08MO Ariel, Lehava Chaya
Dani ’08MTA und Liara Freidus, Shlomi Yoel
David ’08 und Hannah Greenberg, Yaakov
Udi ’08 und Hadar Greenboim, Gavriel Binyamin
Asher ’08 und Miriam ’09MO Lindenbaum, Yona Liel
Rav Josh ’09 und Margot Botwinick, Boaz Calev
Gabe ’09 und Debra Falk, Chana Meital
Jesse ’09MTA und Aimee Schneider, Livi Temima
Adam ’09 und Maddie Zimilover, Joshua Tzvi
David ’10 und Leah Nagarpowers, Tiferet Malka
Rabbi Robbie ’10 und Ora Schrier, Yehuda Leib
Jonny ’11 und Shira Brull, Ori Yehuda
Yisrael ’11PC und Batya Kaplan, Elchiah Lev
Shimi ’11PC und Simone ’07MO Marcus, Malca Dorit
Shalom ’11 und Rivka ’11MO Rosenbaum, Yedidya Zev
Josh ’12 und Hodaya Blau, Eliya Chana
Daniel ’12PC und Mikhayla Reider, Tosfia Rena
Shalom Tzvi ’15K und Esther Shafier, Avigayil Tova
Eli ’17K und Avital Gastwirth, Aharon Berechiah
Former overseas counselor Elkana ’03H und Efrat Amiat, Moriya Hadar
Former overseas coordinator Elmear ’09H und Adina Maltsz, Shoham Tzuy
Former overseas counselor Ari ’11H und Tamar Reich, Shaked
Rav Yonatan Shai und Rachel Freedman, Gila Adi

Births
Avrom ’91 und Michelle Okon, Eitan Pesach
Jonathan ’95 und Esther Gruenhut, Avraham
Steven ’98 und Shira ’03MO Exler, Yair Lev
Josh ’98 und Sarah Shifra Wunder, Noam Nechemia
Justin ’99 und Michelle Goldberg, Chana Miriam
Dr. Joseph ’99 und Meredith Pick, Joshua Philip
Adam ’99 und Miriam Steiner, Leora Michal
Ayi ’99 und Chanie Wiesenberg, Yonatan Alexander
Rabbi Eli ’00 und Ilana Cohn, Akiva David
Yoni ’00 und Rochie Schwartz, Yehoshua
Rabbi Shua ’01 und Dr. Yocheved Lindenbaum, Maayan Revava
Eitan ’02 und Sarah Bendheim, Judith Ayala und Dahlia Karoline
Raphael ’02 und Anna-Leah Cooper, Yakir Ephraim Yitzchak
Yossi ’02 und Nicole Farkas, Eliana Sophia
Jonathan ’02 und Rachel Frank, Leah Ahuva
Rabbi Aharon ’02 und Shira Herskovitz, Nediva Beruria und Yehuda Aviv
Noam ’02 und Aviva Lockshin, Hannah Rose
Joshua ’02 und Yudit Samad, Tamar Ayala
Sam ’02PC und Michal Zibman, Tehilla Shachar
David ’03 und Talia Eis, Yehuda Zvi
Chaim ’03 und Nicole Grossman, Meir Elimelech
Rav Josh ’04 und Lani Berman, Avigaiel Halleli
Yoni ’04 und Debbie Grysman, Ariel Dov
Dr. Aryeh ’04 und Sora Shapiro, Ieden Davida
Joshua ’05 und Tamara Caplin, Aviad
Marc ’05 und Debbie Herman, Ayala Rachel
Meir ’05 und Shani Lindenbaum, Aharon Binyamin
David ’05 und Tamar Pruwer, Amalia Chaya
Ariel ’06PC und Cypora Cohen, Mordechai Noach Yitzchak
Avriel ’06 und Shoshi Herrmann, Ami Noam
Noam ’06MTA und Ora-Tal Korbi, Yishai
Jesse ’06 und Sarah Lempel, Frances Dara
Daniel ’06MTA und Cheron Meyrowitz, Liora
Jeremy ’06 und Alessandra Pressman, Naftali Yehuda
Daniel ’07 und Abby Bomsztyk, Lev Aron
Rabbi Noam ’07 und Shiffy ’06MO Friedman, Shachar Tzuriel
Rabbi Alex ’07MTA und Ahuva ’12MO Tsykin, Daniel Eliyahu
Jacob ’07 und Dana Warren, Nava Saphira
Rabbi Adam ’08 und Zeeva ’08MO Ariel, Lehava Chaya
Dani ’08MTA und Liara Freidus, Shlomi Yoel
David ’08 und Hannah Greenberg, Yaakov
Udi ’08 und Hadar Greenboim, Gavriel Binyamin
Asher ’08 und Miriam ’09MO Lindenbaum, Yona Liel
Rav Josh ’09 und Margot Botwinick, Boaz Calev
Gabe ’09 und Debra Falk, Chana Meital
Jesse ’09MTA und Aimee Schneider, Livi Temima
Adam ’09 und Maddie Zimilover, Joshua Tzvi
David ’10 und Leah Nagarpowers, Tiferet Malka
Rabbi Robbie ’10 und Ora Schrier, Yehuda Leib
Jonny ’11 und Shira Brull, Ori Yehuda
Yisrael ’11PC und Batya Kaplan, Elchiah Lev
Shimi ’11PC und Simone ’07MO Marcus, Malca Dorit
Shalom ’11 und Rivka ’11MO Rosenbaum, Yedidya Zev
Josh ’12 und Hodaya Blau, Eliya Chana
Daniel ’12PC und Mikhayla Reider, Tosfia Rena
Shalom Tzvi ’15K und Esther Shafier, Avigayil Tova
Eli ’17K und Avital Gastwirth, Aharon Berechiah
Former overseas counselor Elkana ’03H und Efrat Amiat, Moriya Hadar
Former overseas coordinator Elmear ’09H und Adina Maltsz, Shoham Tzuy
Former overseas counselor Ari ’11H und Tamar Reich, Shaked
Rav Yonatan Shai und Rachel Freedman, Gila Adi
Bar/Bat Mitzvahs
Shlomo ’82 and Adrianne Drazin, Yair
David ’85 and Ellen Solomon, Avraham
Tani ’86 and Tamar Benovitz, Tali and Kira
Gavriel ’87 and Deborah Shapiro, Idana and Yishai
Michael ’89 and Yaffa Eisenberg, Batsheva
Daniel ’89 and Rebecca Raye, Gilad
David ’89 and Tunie Schorr, Adin, Eli, and Daniel
Jonny ’90 and Sarit Gelberg, Yakir
Dr. Marc ’97 and Heidi Romain, Batya Sara
Arieh ’93 and Erica Halivni, Hadas and Achinoam
Raphi ’93 and Yonit Schorr, Noam
Yossi ’93 and Esti Ziffer, Yair
Rav Dr. Judah ’96 and Shayna Goldberg, Elyashiv
Jonathan ’96 and Nechama Price, Elisha
Rabbi Nasanayl ’92 and Tamar Braun, Adin, Eli, and Daniel
Rav Elichai ’01 and Havi Bitter, Yechezkel Tziyon
Dr. Asher ’02 and Ariela Orkaby, Binyamin
Rafi ’00 and Vered Lefkowitz
Ryan ’01MTA and Rosy Hollander
Raphael ’02 and Anna-Leah Cooper
Rabbi Benji ’04MTA and Renana Levy
Yaron ’05MTA and Keren Kalmonowitz
Eli ’06 and Hannah Younger
Chaim Metzger ’10
Noah Bar-Shain ’12
Amos Remer ’13
David Aaronson ’14
Aaron Schneider ’14MTA
Hillel Krief ’16
Uria Durani ’17
Zev Stochinsky ’17
Zev Wiesenthal ’17
Mordechai Shaifer ’18PC

Condolesences
To Jonathan ’74, Akiva ’79, and Gershom ’84 Patinkin on the loss of their mother, Naomi Patinkin Mirvis z”l
To Dr. Hillel Grossman ’77 and Dr. Shammai Grossman ’81 on the loss of their father, Dr. Norman Katz z”l
To Dr. Esthie Rosenblatt, Neshamah
To chef Rosni Schwartz, Yehoshua ’81H, and Rav Yoni ’84H Berlin on the loss of their father, Rav Moshe Menachem Mendel Berlin z”l
To Aryeh Fund ’78 on the loss of his father, David Fund z”l
To Allen Friedman ’79 on the loss of his father, Dr. Jack Friedman z”l
To David ’79, and Rav Beinush ’84, and Herzl ’92 Ginsburg on the loss of their father, Prof. Gilbert Ginsburg z”l
To Chaim ’80 and Meir ’86 Nordlicht on the loss of their father, Jules Nordlicht z”l
To Cemmie Green ’83 and Rabbi Daniel Green ’89 on the loss of their father, Rabbi Mordechai Green z”l
To Rabbi Davey ’86MTA and Jonty Blackman ’88MTA on the loss of their father, Julian Blackman z”l
To Rav Jonny Horovitz ’86 on the loss of his mother, Gaby Horovitz z”l
To Simon ’91PC and Howard ’92 Jackson on the loss of their mother, Hazel Jackson z”l
To Shawn Ruby ’94 on the loss of his father, Stephen Ruby z”l
To Chemi ’01MTA, Naaman ’04MTA, and Elazar ’09MTA Falkson on the loss of their father, Hirschel Falkson z”l
To Weinberg ’01MTA and Ilan ’04MTA Perez on the loss of their mother, Renette Perez z”l
To Dion ’07MTA and Alon ’12MTA Esterman on the loss of their father, Gary Esterman z”l
To Moshe Weiss ’15 on the loss of his mother, Naomi Weiss z”l
To Dr. Esthie Rosenblatt, Neshamah
To chef Rosni Schwartz, Yehoshua ’81H, and Rav Yoni ’84H Berlin on the loss of their father, Rav Moshe Menachem Mendel Berlin z”l
To Aryeh Fund ’78 on the loss of his father, David Fund z”l
To Allen Friedman ’79 on the loss of his father, Dr. Jack Friedman z”l
To David ’79, and Rav Beinush ’84, and Herzl ’92 Ginsburg on the loss of their father, Prof. Gilbert Ginsburg z”l
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To Dion ’07MTA and Alon ’12MTA Esterman on the loss of their father, Gary Esterman z”l
To Moshe Weiss ’15 on the loss of his mother, Naomi Weiss z”l

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H = Hesder   MO = Migdal Oz   PC = post-college   MTA = Midreshet Torah v’Avoda   K = Kollel   The year indicates the commencement of study