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MORESHET MAGAZINE

A Publication of Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim



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The Mosseri Family
In memory of
Raymond Mosseri A"H

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Mission Statement

Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim is a Sephardic post-high school yeshivah located in Jerusalem, dedicated to preparing young men for college, business and life with a strong foundation in Torah and misvot. Rooted in the rich traditions of Aram Soba and guided by the timeless Sephardic values of our ancestors, we strive to cultivate future leaders—Bnei Torah—who will carry their experience of living and learning in Eres Yisrael into every aspect of their lives.

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The Nature of the Rabbi Student Relationship According to HaRambam *by Rabbi Harold Sutton*

The Gemara in Erubin 54b records a story of R. Pereida who repeated his lesson to his weak student over 400 times. The Gemara describes this in order that we should understand and appreciate the dedication and commitment a teacher must have for their students. HaRambam in Hilkhot Talmud Torah 4;4-5 codifies this approach and says "A Rav that teaches and his students do not comprehend, he must not get angry or mad at them, rather he must review it and teach it again many many times until the student understands." A rabbi must not only possess great patience in instructing his students but also a tremendous amount of love and dedication to ensure they succeed in their studies. The student, in turn, will then learn to trust his rabbi and not be embarrassed to ask many questions until he understands. The first and most fundamental ingredient in the student/rabbi relationship is mutual love and respect for each other. This will allow the student to be vulnerable with the rabbi and not shy to ask questions.



The second element, HaRambam continues with in describing the relationship, is a complete commitment from the side of the Rabbi to the student's success. The rabbi must not tolerate anything less than the students best effort. Mediocrity or laziness in terms of effort, cannot be tolerated because the teacher is totally committed to bringing the student to reach their potential.

Finally HaRambam ends with an important note. "A Rabbi must not act in a light headed manner with his students. He should not joke with them too much... so that the students will retain their awe for their Rabbi and be able to learn from him faster." The rabbi who has an infinite amount of care and love for his students must always be careful to maintain boundaries. The boundaries will ensure that he will be able to command their respect which will enable them to succeed in their intellectual pursuits.

In conclusion HaRambam includes three important elements in the Rabbi/Student relationship: total and mutual dedication and love which will allow the student to fully trust their rabbi, a commitment from the rabbi to not accept anything less than the student's best effort and the erection of boundaries by the rabbi in order to maintain a level of respect and awe for the rabbi which will allow the student to truly learn from their rabbis and achieve their potential.



Rabbi Harold Sutton, born & raised in Brooklyn NY, received Semikha from Hakham Ovadia Yosef, Hakham Meir Mazuz and Hakham Shimon Alouf. He earned a degree in Psychology from YU and studied towards a Master's degree in Judaic studies at NYU. He served as the Rabbi of Bnei Yitzhak, Rosh Yeshivah of Sephardic Rabbinical College and Rosh Yeshivah of Magen David Yeshivah before making Aliyah and founding Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim where he currently serves as Rosh Yeshivah.

Recent Highlights

Celebrating Hanukkah 5785



Lighting the first candle outside the home of our Rosh Yeshivah, Rabbi Harold Sutton



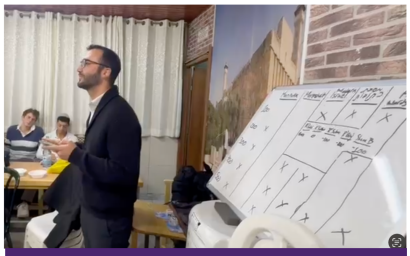
On the 6th night of Hanukkah Rabbi & Mrs. Sutton hosted us in their home for a Hanukkah party



On the 6th night of Hanukkah Rabbi & Mrs. Sutton hosted us in their home for a Hanukkah party



On the 7th night of Hanukkah, Rabbi & Mrs. Tessler for opened their home for us to celebrate together



Rabbi Benjamin organized his famous Jeopardy game for a night of trivia, laughter and surprises



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On the final day of Hanukkah, we had a special breakfast where we heard Dibre Hizzuk from Danny M. Massry (Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim Class of 2021) & Sammy Weinwurzel (Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim Class of 2024).

Special breakfast was graciously sponsored by The Srour Family for Refuah Shelema of Mordechai Ben Chava

Recent Highlights

Congrats on our student's Siyumim!



Mabrook to Elliot Koren on his siyum of Masekhet Berakhot!

Siyum was graciously sponsored
By Jonathan & Rita Koren
In honor of Elliot



Mabrook to Felix Hadef on his siyum of Masekhet Megillah!

Siyum was graciously sponsored
By Monica & David Hadef
In honor of Felix



Mabrook to Jojo Zeitoune on his siyum of Mishnayot Seder Nezikin!

Siyum was graciously sponsored
By Virna & Morris Zeitoune
In honor of Jojo

Tiyul to Arad Area













On our tiyul to the Arad Area of Israel, we got to take part in constructing a new neighborhood in the south.
The morning consisted of lifting heavy rocks to create clear pathways while we got some intense MMA training in the afternoon.

Recent Highlights

Thanks for Visiting!



Rabbi Dr. David Hertzberg from
William S. Levine Family Shoah Institute
Yeshivah of Flatbush



Rabbi David Nakash from
YDE Rabbi Shaul J. Kassin
Boys High School



Rabbi Avi Churba from
Yeshivah of Flatbush
Joel Braverman High School

Arayat of Raymond Mosseri A"H













To mark the second year since the passing of Mr. Raymond Mosseri A"H, Albert R. Mosseri, Sally Mosseri, Solomon R. Mosseri and Mark S. Mosseri (Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim Class of 2024) visited our Yeshivah for a special afternoon of learning. After Rabbi Sutton and Mark spoke about the unique qualities that Mr. Mosseri A"H embodied- we broke up into Habrutot and learned Hilkhot Talmud Torah from HaRambam with mazza and refreshments Leiluy Nishmat Rahamim ben Mazal. All of this, of course, took place in our Raymond Mosseri A"H Bet Midrash.

Afternoon of learning and food was graciously donated by The Mosseri Family in memory of Mr. Raymond Mosseri A"H

Torah By Our Students

Building a New Reality from Darkness *by Robert R. Falack*

Oftentimes, we dismiss plausible realities when they seem insurmountable, either due to a lack of faith or understanding. While this is ubiquitous to all humanity, it is a pattern especially ingrained in Jewish history and offers important lessons for us today.

Sefer Shemot begins by telling us the story of how Bnei Yisrael were enslaved by Egypt. G-d reassures Moshe that He will free the nation from under Pharaoh's hand. This follows Moshe's initial request for Bnei Yisrael to travel to the desert for three days, which Pharaoh countered by increasing their workload—removing their straw supply but maintaining the same brick-building quota. As Bnei Yisrael complained, their reality of freedom grew slimmer and slimmer. Yet, as we know, the exact opposite occurred and furthermore, according to Hazal the fact that the slavery got more difficult shortened the time of the slavery.

Similarly, in 1948, just three years after the Shoah, the state of Israel was born. Jewish history is filled with similar moments. David defeating Goliath, the Maccabim overcoming the Greeks, and countless others where the odds were overwhelmingly against us. Yet, again and again, the Jewish people emerged victorious.

Time and time again, G-d has shown us that things are not always as they seem, and there are greater forces at work. This idea is reflected in the story of the blessing of Yaakob and Esav: **"הַקֹּל קוֹל יַעֲקֹב וְהַיָּדַיִם יְדֵי עֵשָׂו"** "The voice is the voice of Jacob, but the hands are the hands of Esau." (Bereshit 27:22) Yitzhak, blind physically and to the full picture, did not realize that Yaakov needed the blessing to give rise to the Jewish people. Likewise, as we navigate this world, we often do not understand why events unfold as they do.

There will always be setbacks and a situation at hand which seems impossible to understand. Often, the greatest challenges occur just before the greatest blessings. As it says in Masekhet Berakhot Yerushalmi Daf 4:2:

"רבי חייא רבא ורבי שמעון בן חלפתא הוו מהלכין בהדא בקעת ארבל בקריצתה וראו איילת השחר שבקע אורה. אמר רבי חייא רבה לר' שמעון בן חלפתא בי רבי כך היא גאולתן של ישראל בתחילה קימעא קימעא כל מה שהיא הולכת היא רבה והולכת."

Rabbi Hiyya the Great and Rabbi Shimon ben Halafta were walking together at dawn, seeing the light of Ayelet HaShahar Rabbi Hiyya said "So is the redemption of Israel: at first, it comes little by little, and as it continues, it grows greater and greater."

Since the darkest part of the night precedes sunrise, Rabbi Hiyya likens the process of redemption to that of light emerging from darkness. Fittingly, after the plague of Hoshekh, complete darkness, came the plague that ultimately redeemed Bnei Yisrael, leading them out of Egypt.

The message is clear: just as setbacks like the removal of straw in Egypt preceded redemption, so too will we prevail through today's challenges, such as the terrors of October 7th. It is our duty as Jews to remember that amid darkness, "Hashem is the only truth."

"אין שום מצוי אמת מלבדו כמותו"
(רמב"ם הלכות יסודי התורה פרק א, הלכות ג-ד)

May we continue to pray for the safe return of our hostages and soldiers. Amen.



Robert R. Falack graduated from Yeshivah of Flatbush Joel Braverman High School in 2024 and is currently a student at Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim.

Torah By Our Students

Our Relationship with Hashem *by Bruce Zekaria*

Parashat Vayera starts the back and forth between Moshe and Pharaoh, and details seven of the ten plagues. Rashi actually opens up with an interesting question. The first Pasuk says, "וידבר אלוקים אל משה ויאמר אליו אני י-ה-ו-ה." Rashi asks why does Hashem speak to Moshe (in the first half of the pasuk) using the name אלוקים? This bothers Rashi because our rabbis explain that this name is used to describe strict judgment by G-d. He answers that Hashem is responding to Moshe's complaint in the previous Parasha, Shemot, because he told Hashem that he had only made things worse for the Jewish people.

In the second half of the Pasuk G-d tells Moshe that he is Hashem. His 4 lettered name which represents mercy, meaning he is trustworthy to reward those who follow in his ways. The mission that he has sent Moshe on is to fulfill the promise made to the Abot in the Brit Ben haBetarim.

As you can see, G-d's many names represent the different ways in which he reveals himself. HaRambam explains that while the Abot knew the א-ד-נ-י, this name represents miraculous intervention by G-d which wasn't something the Abot had witnessed. Rather, the Abots' relationship with G-d was the thought the name ש-ד-י meaning, שאומר לעולם די - the one who to the world ENOUGH. This tells us that although they understood G-d watched over them and helped them, they experienced this through natural means. Bnei Yisrael however, witness a series of supernatural events which break free from nature. Obviously this is something rare and worthy of a unique name. This will be necessary in forging Hashem's unique relationship with the Jewish people. It's also worth noting that we can learn out an important character trait through the strategy Pharaoh used to enslave the Jews. Pharaoh intended on keeping the Jews so busy that they wouldn't have time or the ability to think and strategize against him. Zehirut is the quality of looking at your actions to see if they're correct. Logically this is something everyone should do but why isn't done? The Yetzer Hara keeps us busy (even with good things), not giving us time to ponder our actions, just like Pharaoh.

To quote the Ramban in his famous Letter for the Ages, "review your actions every morning and evening, and in this way live all your days in repentance."



Bruce Zekaria graduated from Hillel Yeshivah High School in 2024 and is currently a student at Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim.

Mishmar @ Moreshet



On January 2nd, Rabbi Meir Goldwicht, a Rosh Yeshivah of Yeshiva University gave Hizuk to the boys coming back from Hanukkah break, encouraging them to take advantage of their prayers and learning for the rest of the zman.



On January 9th, Rabbi Yaakov Tessler gave over some life lessons, establishing strong relationships with Rabbis, mentors and students.
Mishmar was graciously sponsored by our dear alumnus Danny M. Massry



On January 16th, Rav Yosef Zvi Rimon, an internationally acclaimed posek, shared inspirational stories of heroic soldiers and the sacrifice of their families throughout the war.
Mishmar was graciously sponsored by our dear alumnus Martin Cohen



On January 23rd, Rabbi Ricky Cohen spoke to the boys about the importance of constantly building, and finding inner peace in life by always striving to be better.

Blending Torah, Leadership and Business
Jacob S. Mosseri

A Year of Transformation

For Jacob S. Mosseri, his time at Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim from September 2021 to June 2022 wasn't just a year of learning—it was a year of becoming. It was at Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim where Jacob developed the tools to integrate Torah values into every facet of his life, from business to leadership to his personal journey. "Perspective" is the word Jacob uses most often to describe his experience—the ability to see challenges and opportunities alike through the lens of Torah and Yirat Hashem.



From the Bet Midrash to the Boardroom

Even before arriving at Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim, Jacob was already managing Deco Gear, a division of his family's business. Throughout the year at the yeshivah, he continued to grow the brand while immersing himself in Torah. Afterward, Jacob pursued a degree at Yeshiva University's Sy Syms School of Business, where he honed his skills further, balancing rigorous Torah study in the morning, business classes in the afternoon, and late-night work sessions.

Jacob's leadership acumen soon earned him the role of President of the Sy Syms Student Council. In this capacity, he works tirelessly to enhance student life by approving event budgets, planning activities, and collaborating with deans and YU leadership to represent the student body. Throughout, Jacob remains steadfast in letting his Torah values guide his decisions, ensuring that every initiative reflects the principles he holds dear.



Growing Wealth, Guided by Torah

As Jacob prepares to graduate this May, he envisions a future where his business ambitions are firmly rooted in Torah values. He plans to carefully structure his days around consistent Torah learning, attending minyan, and engaging in meaningful acts of Hesed. For Jacob, the integration of values and professional growth is a guiding principle as he looks toward the next chapter of his life.

Lessons That Shape a Leader

Jacob's time at Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim left a lasting impression. He recalls learning HaRambam's Hilkhot Deot with particular fondness, drawn to its practical roadmap for personal and spiritual growth. But some of his most memorable experiences came outside the Bet Midrash—dancing on Yom Yerushalayim, hiking through Israel's breathtaking landscapes, and breaking through physical and mental limits alongside his peers.

His year in Israel wasn't just about learning—it was about connection. By immersing himself in the culture, engaging with local families, and truly living the rhythm of Eres Yisrael, Jacob came to see Israel not as a destination, but as a home.

Alumni Spotlight

Advice for the Next Generation

To current and future Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim students, Jacob offers three pieces of advice:

1. Master the basics. Build a strong foundation in Torah by learning Humash cover to cover.
2. Dream big, plan smart. Use your time in yeshiva to think deeply about your mission in life and how Torah will guide you to achieve it.
3. Stay consistent. Commit to daily learning, whether it's 20 minutes or a set seder. The discipline you build now will carry you forward.

A Life of Purpose

For Jacob, Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim wasn't just a stepping stone—it was a launchpad. The values, lessons, and relationships he built there continue to inspire him as he strives to grow his business, lead his community, and live a life that reflects Hashem's will.

Jacob's story is a reminder that true success isn't measured by numbers alone—it's about building a legacy of Torah and purpose, one that inspires others and strengthens the community for generations to come.

On the Horizon

We have so much planned for the coming weeks!

If you would like to sponsor any of the available items below in honor or in memory of a loved one please reach out to Mark S. Mosseri at mark.s.mosseri@gmail.com

Note that dates are subject to change

	Dates*	Sponsor
Three Day Tiyul to Elat	February 9th-11th	The Oved Family
Tu Bishbat Seder Berakhot	February 12th	Available: $1,800.00
Tu Bishbat Planting in memory of Rabbi Shani's son, Ori Shani H"YD	February 13th	Available: $2,600.00
Friday Night Oneg Shabbat	February 21th	Available: $201.00
Shabbat Morning Kiddush & Class	February 22th	Available: $360.00
Shabbat Seuda Shelisheet & Shmooze	February 22th	Available: $360.00
Rosh Hodesh Adar Breakfast	February 28th	The Hanan Family In honor of Rabbi Tessler
Issue of Moreshet Magazine	Next Issue	Available: $1,800.00
Thursday Night Mishmar	Weekly	Available: $501.00 $1001.00 for Deluxe
Week of Learning	Weekly	Available: $3,600.00

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