

We announce with sorrow the passing of

Mr. Norman Luria (Lourie)

Nachum Ben Yitzchak Izak

beloved father of Daniel Luria, Executive Director of
Ateret Cohanim

Daniel has asked that we learn mishnayot, l'zecher his
father's neshama

to be completed by the shloshim, April 12, 2015

Please [click here](#)

Jerusalem Divrei Torah

The centrality of Jerusalem to the Jewish People is indisputable and is the core of our mission. Our Divrei Torah by [Rabbi Yosef Bronstein](#) focus on Jerusalem and its connection to the weekly Torah portion. For a pdf to discuss at the Shabbat table, please [click here](#). To sponsor a Dvar Torah please [click here](#)

This week's Dvar Torah sponsored by the Essrog Family:

לז"נ העניע בריינע בת הרב צבי הירש ע"ה
לז"נ יצחק שמואל בן הרב שמעון דוב ע"ה

Hearing Hashem Calling

Sefer Vayikra opens with Hashem calling to Moshe. The midrash describes the paradoxical nature of Hashem's "voice":

From the Tent of Meeting – this teaches us that the Voice stopped and would not leave the Tent of Meeting. One might think that this is because it was low. But the pasuk states: "And [Moshe] heard the Voice." What is the meaning of "the Voice?" It is "the Voice" that is clarified in Scriptures.... "The Voice of Hashem with power, the Voice of Hashem with glory, the Voice of Hashem breaks cedar trees." [1]

Hashem's voice was thunderously deafening, and yet spatially circumscribed. Despite the grandeur and majesty of Hashem's calling, it was not heard out of the Mishkan. What is the message of this enigmatic calling? Why would Hashem's loud and clear calling be only discernable in the Mishkan?

Perhaps we can glean a general lesson regarding Hashem's interaction with His world. While Hashem is constantly sending us clear messages, it is often difficult for us limited human beings to attune ourselves to the

Pre Pesach Kaytana (Camp)

Once school ends in Nissan, our children need a supervised and safe environment to play. American Friends of Ateret Cohanim sponsors a week long pre-Pesach Kaytana (Camp). A sampling of the programming follows:

Sunday, March 29 - Arts & Crafts

Monday, March 30 - Field Day

Tuesday, March 31, Bicycle with Ido Sofer,

Find the Afikomen

Wednesday, April 1, Ethiopian Culture, All ages AC

Thursday, Mystery Trip to "Extreme Park" Zikit

Help us with your donation to our Pre-Pesach Kaytana

[click here](#)

Flower's Gate Playground and New Rooftop Playground for Beit Gavriel



Our children need to get outside, run and play and be children. Our Flowers Gate Children's Playground is the perfect antidote to escape from

the stones and rocks (human missiles) thrown at them as they venture outside to play. Our playground is in need of a drastic facelift.

divine bandwidth. The Shelah ha-Kadosh writes that Hashem speaks to us even through the medium of rustling leaves and chirping birds, but human beings usually do not have the receptors to understand them. [2] The teachings of Sefer Vayikra were directed towards Moshe, but were only intelligible to him when he was inside a sanctified setting. Moshe needed the sacred space of the Mishkan in order to attune himself to this calling of Hashem.

We find a similar phenomenon with other divine callings. The Gemara relates that Rabbi Yosi once entered one of the ruins of Yerushalayim and reported hearing the following:

I heard a heavenly voice that was cooing like a dove and saying: 'Woe is to me that I destroyed My house and burned My temple and I exiled my children among the nations. [3]

Inside the ruins of Yerushalayim, Rabbi Yosi became aware of the enduring pain of the Beit ha-Mikdash's absence. In that environment he became attuned to the enormous gaping hole in our existence and felt the vacuity of a world that is lacking a central home for the Shekhina. It was only then that he was able to hear the voice of Hashem expressing that pain and pleading with His children to rectify the situation.

Similar to Rabbi Yosi, we need to sensitize ourselves to be able to hear these constant divine callings. Whether it be by traveling to Yerushalayim and seeing the ruins, learning about the centrality of the Beit ha-Mikdash or any other means, we need to actively teach ourselves how to be spiritually receptive to the loss of the Beit ha-Mikdash. Only then will we be motivated to work towards its rebuilding.

[1]Sifra to Vayikra 1:1 quoted in Rashi.

[2]Shelah, parshat Noach, haga'ah to Torah Or.

[3]Berakhot 3a. Translation is based on the text that is attested to in the overwhelming majority of manuscripts as opposed to the printed Vilna Shas. See <http://daf-yomi.com/DYItemDetails.aspx?itemId=17067> for an analysis of the different versions of this Gemara.

[click here for a pdf copy](#)

**Book a Tour With Us [CLICK HERE](#)
See our Jerusalem!**

Our Kotel Compass

We are now planning a rooftop playground for Beit Gavriel..More information to follow



Help us improve the safety and purchase more toys and equipment so our children can be children.

Thank You

Marco Rubio Speaks to the Senate and the American People on US - Israel Relations after the Israeli Election

**The New Yemenite Village Website
click the picture to learn more**

Our current projects in the Old City of Jerusalem and areas adjacent to the Old City actualize our mission of

"Making the Old City, Young Again"



Today, the walled city of Jerusalem (the Old Yishuv) and the areas immediately adjacent to it, have come back to life with children and families due to the work of Ateret Cohanim. The miracle that was the rebirth of the State of Israel in 1948, the reunification of Jerusalem in 1967 and the continued growth of the Jewish community in these areas, are constant reminders of the eternity of our religious belief. Help Us Continue Our Work

**Established in 1978,
This year is our "double**



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chai" year

American Friends of Ateret Cohanim
/ Jerusalem Chai

Our Mission

The Old City is home to nearly 35,000 people.. The Jewish population of the Old City numbers 5000 of which 4000 reside in the Jewish Quarter. The additional 1000 are living and learning in the area of the Old Jewish Quarter (Referred to as the Moslem and Christian Quarters in East Jerusalem)

For nearly four decades, the efforts of American Friends of Ateret Cohanim/Jerusalem Chai have been instrumental in meeting the social, recreational, and educational needs of the families and Yeshiva students who have returned to areas that were once predominantly Jewish.

תשע"ה - ה' 5775

May it be the year of "The City - Jerusalem" (עיר), of Hashem. (ה')

May G-d's City - Yerushalayim, be rebuilt and restored to its previous glory for Am Yisrael.

***Next year in a united Jerusalem with a flourishing Jewish life centred around religious educational institutes.
Lehitraot BaAretz***

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