

American Friends of Ateret Cohanim/Jerusalem Chai

....Making the Old City young Again



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Parashat Tzav / פרשת צו Candle Lighting in Jerusalem 6:15 PM, March 28 2015 Shabbat HaGadol 5775

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:

יינע בת הרב צבי הירש ע"ה הלז"נ העניע בר
שמואל בן הרב שמעון דוב ע"ה יצחק לז"נ

Eliyahu ha-Navi and Anticipating the Redemption

In this week's haftorah we read of Eliyahu ha-Navi appearing before the final "day of Hashem, great and awesome." Chazal describe that Eliyahu will be the harbinger of redemption and will announce the imminent arrival of Mashiach ben David.[1] According to many sources, Eliyahu will have an even more active role in the redemption process than just a herald. For example, the Ramban, in his disputation with Pablo Christiani, describes that Eliyahu's role will be to anoint Mashiach as the king.[2] Jewish tradition has always associated Eliyahu with messianic developments.

In this context, it is interesting to note an anomaly regarding Eliyahu's known career. In Sefer Melachim, Yerushalayim is mentioned close to one hundred times and is a place of both kings and prophets. Eliyahu, however, never seems to step foot in the holy city. He spends his time in King Achav's northern kingdom which was based in Shomron. The duel with the prophets of Ba'al, arguably the highlight of his prophetic career, takes place at Mt. Carmel in the Galilee. He ascends to the heavens on the eastern side of the Jordan River. It is fascinating that specifically Eliyahu, the prophet of the periphery, should become the one who brings the Jewish people back to their capital – to Yerushalayim.

Perhaps this dichotomy presents us with an enduring message regarding the process of the redemption. While there is utmost significance in living and being active in Yerushalayim, everyone, no matter one's location, has a role in bringing the Shekhina back to its home. This role can manifest itself in many ways, but the most basic level is the cultivation of the mindset that has kept Judaism alive throughout the long centuries of exile – *Tziyiyah Le-Yeshu'ah*, anticipating the redemption.

We might live in a far-flung exile, engrossed in the details of our lives, but part of our minds' eye should always be directed towards Yerushalayim. We should think about the current state of the city and dream of how the city will look under the leadership of Mashiach in the future utopian era. And that future vision should be viewed as a distinct and real possibility that can become reality at a moment's notice.

It is Eliyahu, the one who never steps foot in Yerushalayim, who teaches us the importance of this level of anticipation. The Gemara records the following story:

R. Yehoshua ben Levi asked Eliyahu ha-Navi: "When will the Mashiach come?" Eliyahu answered him: "Go ask [the Mashiach] himself!" R. Yehoshua ben Levi asked "And where is he sitting?" Eliyahu responded "at the gate of Rome."... R. Yehoshua ben Levi went to the Mashiach. He said to him... "When is master coming?" The Mashiach answered him: "Today!"

R. Yehoshua ben Levi said to Eliyahu: "He lied to me, for he said to me 'I am coming today and he has not come!'" Eliyahu said to R. Yehoshua ben Levi: "This

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

Thursday, April 2, 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.



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

The New Yemenite Village Website click the picture to learn more



is what he was saying to you: "Today if you heed His voice."^[3]

Eliyahu ha-Navi is teaching us that even at the gates of Rome one must view the coming of Mashiach and the rebuilding of the Beit ha-Mikdash as a daily possibility. Even when we live in the periphery, our focus should still be on our eternal capital.

[1] See, for example, *Pesikta Rabbati* (Ish-Shalom) piska 35.

[2] *Kitvei ha-Ramban* Volume 2, (Chavel), 306.

[3] Sanhedrin 98a. Translation follows the text of the Vilna Gaon and the translation of the Schottenstein edition.

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THE OLD CITY OF JERUSALEM IS CALLING
THIS PESACH VISIT THE CITY OF OUR ANCESTORS: OUR JERUSALEM

SHIELD OF JERUSALEM TOUR
PART DRIVING PART WALKING
VISIT NEW JEWISH NEIGHBORHOODS AROUND THE OLD CITY AND THEN WALK IN THE RENEWED JEWISH YISHUV OF THE OLD CITY (MOSLEM & CHRISTIAN QUARTERS)
THIS TOUR WILL BE OFFERED BEFORE & AFTER PESACH
MEET AT THE INBAL
THURSDAY APRIL 2, SUNDAY APRIL 12, 10:00 AM

OLD CITY ATERET COHANIM WALKING TOUR (RENEWED JEWISH YISHUV PLUS ZERUB BAH'S CAVE, MOSLEM AND CHRISTIAN QUARTERS) AND/ORS
NEW YEMENITE VILLAGE WALKING TOUR (SHILOACH)
CHOL HAMOED PESACH, MEET AT JARFA GATE
MONDAY APRIL 6, TUESDAY APRIL 7, THURSDAY APRIL 9
10:00 AM
DIFFERENT TIMES MAY BE AVAILABLE

PRIOR RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE
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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"

Donate Now

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 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 - 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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