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Parashat Bamidbar / פרשת במדבר Shavuot / שבועות Candle Lighting in Jerusalem 6:53 PM, May 22, 2015 4 Sivan 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](#)

The Current Giving of the Torah

Chazal take note of the fact that the Torah was given in the desert, outside of Eretz Yisrael. As intuitively one would have expected the Torah to be given in Hashem's land, the midrashim provide several explanations for this phenomenon. One approach admits that Eretz Yisrael would have been a more ideal location but posits that there would have been technical problems. For example, if the Torah was given in the Land of Israel then it would perform have occurred in the portion of one, particular shevet and this would have caused friction amongst the Jewish people. [1] Other explanations, however, seem more fundamental and take the desert setting as an indication that on some level the Torah is open for even the nations of the world to take and is not the sole provenance of the Jewish people. [2]

Be that as it may, the initial giving of the Torah on Har Sinai represents a one-time and singular historical event. The mountain lost its holiness when the Jews left on their journey towards Eretz Yisrael. But even as the "Great Voice that does not stop" left the mountain, since the original Shavu'os the voice of Hashem still continues to reverberate. This location from which Hashem bestows his Torah moved from the ownerless desert to the center of the Land of Israel – Yerushalayim.

The Ramban describes that the Shechina which rested temporarily on Har Sinai gained a permanent residence in the Mishkan and Beit ha-Mikdash. [3] The same process is true regarding the teaching of Torah. The Rambam describes the Sanhedrin as "the essence of the Oral Law. They are the pillars of instruction from whom statutes and judgments issue forth for the entire Jewish people." [4] One would think that this body merits this description solely due to their mastery of Torah and Torah thinking. However, the Rambam stipulates that the Sanhedrin can only exercise its full powers when it is seated in its proper place – in the Beit ha-Mikdash. New teachings of Torah on the level described in the Rambam can only emanate from Yerushalayim.

And it is this continuous Giving of the Torah in Yerushalayim that will eventually affect the entire world. While

GREAT NEWS FOR FROM JERUSALEM YEMENITE BEIT KNESSET BACK IN JEWISH HANDS AFTER 77 YEARS

From Desecration in 1938 - to Redemption in 2015

Restoration has started. A beautiful experience to
return a Yemenite Synagogue back to its glory



according to some midrashic passages Hashem offered the Torah to other nations before giving it to the Jews at Har Sinai, it is clear that the nations rejected the offer. However, we are told that in the end of times the nations of the world will stream towards Yerushalayim and say: "Come, let us go up to the Mountain of Hashem... and He will teach us of His ways and we will walk in His paths." [5] What the original giving of the Torah at Har Sinai was unable to accomplish, will be achieved in the end of times from the eternal capital of Torah – Yerushalayim.

- [1]Mechilta D'Rebbi Yishmael, Masechta de-chadoesh parsha 5.
- [2]Mechilta D'Rebbi Yishmael, Masechta de-chadoesh parsha 1.
- [3]Ramban, introduction to Sefer Shemot.
- [4]Rambam hilchos Mamri 1:1-2.
- [5]Yeshayahu 2:3.

[click here for a pdf copy](#)

Our Annual Dinner June 22

AMERICAN FRIENDS OF ATERET COHANIM / JERUSALEM CHAI
 CELEBRATING 36 YEARS OF ATERET COHANIM JUNE 22, 2015 6:00 PM TERRACE ON THE PARK
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אתם חייבים לבוא ולראות בעינים אבל בנתיים אשלח מעט תמונות.



זו תמונה של ילדים לומדים בתוך בית הכנסת. איך אני יודע שזה בתוך בית הכנסת? שים לב לשתי הנישות מאחורי הרב ולאור הבא מן החלון שנמצא משמאל. זה בדיוק מה שאנו



By the grace of G-d, Baruch Hashem, on the morning of 17th Iyar 5775 (6th May 2015) Jewish life returned to the Beit Kneset, and it was returned to Hekdesh Benvenisti.

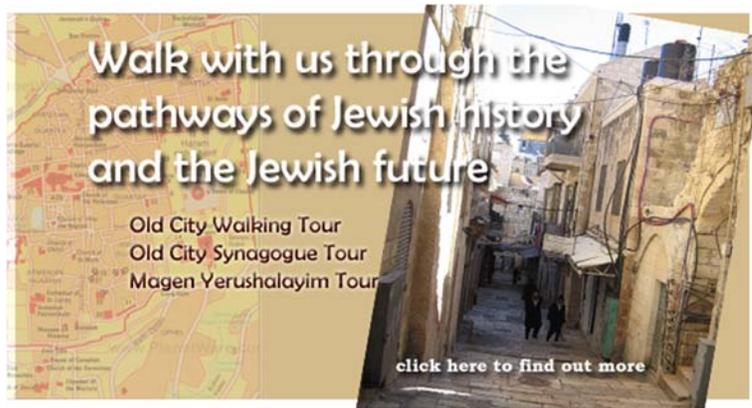
Although only part of the original Synagogue has been returned (Some of the Arab families who have illegally squatted in the old Synagogue are no longer in the premises, while others remain), it is still the amazing realization of a dream.

The Beit Kneset and its adjoining buildings are located adjacent to Beit HaDvash and in close proximity to Beit Yehonatan (named for Jonathan Pollard), both buildings with Yeshiva students, and Jewish families.

The Beit Kneset complex (partially) has returned to its rightful heirs after 77 years !!

Donate Now

It has been redeemed and after some future serious restoration and renovation work, the sweet sounds of daily prayers, Jewish learning and Jewish life in general, will once again be heard from the Beit

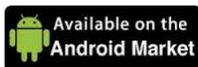


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Knesset complex.

The old Yemenite Synagogue will G-d willing service the Yeshiva students in the area (Kolel Yehoshua Rohr-Ometz Yishecha) and also the Jewish families and Yeshiva students, currently living nearby, in the Shiloach neighbourhood. (Beit Yehonatan, Beit HaDvash, Beit Frumkin and Beit Ovadia). (*Note: Needy Jewish families may also move into the complex, as this is one of the aims of the original Yemenite Hekdesh (Benvinisti))

For more general information about the Synagogue and Kfar HaShiloach (Kfar HaTeimanim): www.yemenitesynagogue.com
Stay tuned for Dedication Opportunities

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"

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

... "רחל מבכה על בניה" ויש תקווה לאחריהם... "Rachel Weeps For Her Children... There is Hope For Your Future..." (Jeremiah 31: 14... 16)

The Carl Freyer 2nd Tribute ROSE & REUBEN MATTHEW 2nd

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ISRAEL DAY CONCERT

SUNDAY, MAY 31, 2015 • 2:30-7:30PM • 13TH OF SIVAN 5775
CENTRAL PARK'S SUMMER STAGE • FREE ADMISSION • RAIN OR SHINE
 ENTER PARK AT 5TH AVE. & 72ND ST.

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THE CONCERT WITH A MESSAGE

"לזרוע אתן את הארץ הזאת... לך אתננה ולזרועך עד עולם" בראשית יב'... יג'...
 "To Your Offspring, I Will Give This Land... To You I Will Give It And To Your Descendants Forever" Genesis: 12:7... 13:15

CELEBRATE OUR ETERNAL BOND WITH THE UNDIVIDED CAPITAL OF ISRAEL - YERUSHALAYIM and the heroic families and communities of Yehuda, Shomron, The Jordan Valley and The Golan Heights.

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22 years
 לפני 22 שנה
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FOR SECURITY REASONS, NO LARGE BAGS OR BACKPACKS WILL BE ALLOWED AT THE CONCERT!

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.



5775 תשע"ה -
 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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