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American Friends of Ateret Cohanim/Jerusalem Chai

....Making the Old City young Again



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 Parashat Chukat / פרשת חקת Candle Lighting in Jerusalem 7:08 PM, June 26, 2015 9 Tammuz 5775

36th Anniversary Dinner A Great Success



Guests of Honor Mark & Naomi Rubin with their family, Bernie & Ann Hoenig and Mati & Etya Dan with guest speaker Ambassador John Bolton, Chairman, Dr. Joe Frager, Executive Vice President Shani Hikind, members of the Executive Council Mel Wadler and Dr. Paul Brody, and guests.



Ambassador John Bolton & Chairman Dr. Joseph Frager

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The Yemenite Village Video Shown at the Dinner



(Kfar HaTeimanim)
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MATI DAN, FOUNDER



Mati Dan, Ateret Cohanim

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Guest of Honor Mark Rubin urging attendees to get more involved with Jerusalem



Orchideä



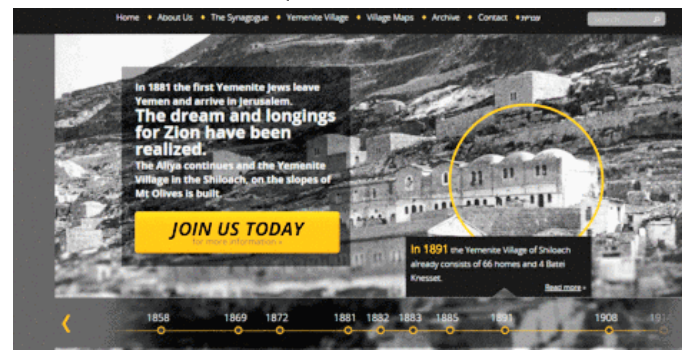
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The New Yemenite Village Website
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Our current projects in the Old City of Jerusalem and areas adjacent to the Old City actualize our mission of "Making the Old City, Young Again"

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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

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 Beit ha-Mikdash -The Well of Torah

In our parsha the Jewish people are singing a song about the well of Miriam. While on basic level the Jews were praising Hashem for their miraculous water source, there are deeper explanations as well.

In general, we find at least two sets of associations with wells and water. First, water is a symbol of Torah as per the pasuk: "All who are thirsty should go to the water"[1] which the Gemara interprets as a reference to Torah study.[2] Second, a well in particular represents the Beit ha-Mikdash. In his commentary on the story of Yitzhak digging the three wells and his confrontations with the Pelishtim, the Ramban[3] notes that the story foreshadows the history of the Batei Mikdash.

The fact that the Torah and the Beit ha-Mikdash share a symbol fits with the inherent connection between the two. The Ramban explains that it is from the Beit ha-Mikdash that Torah, the word of Hashem, emanates. Torah, in its most pristine form can only come from the Sanhedrin that sits in the Beit ha-Mikdash and is privy to the unique divine spirit that exists there. The Beit ha-Mikdash is the well from which the living waters of Torah can flow.

It is for this reason that the destruction of the Beit ha-Mikdash is associated with a loss of Torah. Megilat Eichah mourns for the loss of Torah.[4] The Gemara identifies the exile of the Jewish people as the single biggest source of the diminishment of Torah study in world history.[5] In several places the Vilna Gaon elaborates on the qualitative and quantitative decrease in Torah learning that commenced with the destruction of the Beit ha-Mikdash. For example, at the end of each Shemonah Esrei we pray that "the Beit ha-Mikdash be rebuilt

speedily in our days and that He should grant us our portion in Torah.” The Vilna Gaon explains that this indicates that there is an inextricable link between the return of the Beit ha-Mikdash and our ability to find our portion in the Torah.

[6] Perhaps it is for this reason that the well of Miriam is associated with the rebuilding of the third Beit ha-Mikdash. The prophet Zecharya foretells that in the end of days, “living water will emerge from Yerushalayim.” [7] The Pirkei de-Rebbi Eliezer identifies the source of this water as the well of Miriam that will reappear and be situated in the Beit ha-Mikdash, from which the waters will flow. [8] From the Beit ha-Mikdash – the deepest well in the world – will the pure and fresh waters of Torah flow.

May we merit the rebuilding of the Beit ha-Mikdash and the return of the highest levels of Torah.

- [1] Yeshaya 55:1.
- [2] Ta'anit 7a.
- [3] Ramban Bereishit 29:2.
- [4] Eicha 2:9.
- [5] Chagigah 5b.
- [6] Pirush of Gra to Shir ha-Shirim 6:4.
- [7] Zecharya 14:8.
- [8] Perek 34-35.

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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, including the Old City, Maaleh HaZeitim, The Yemenite Village (Shiloach) and Kidmat Zion



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

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