

American Friends of Ateret Cohanim/Jerusalem Chai ...Making the Old City young Again



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Parashat Shoftim / פרשת שופטים Candle Lighting in Jerusalem 6:36 PM, August 21, 2015 Elul 6 5775

JM in the AM with Ateret Cohanim this Week
to listen to the complete show, [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](#)

The Holy City of Justice

Our parsha opens with the command to establish courts "in all of your cities that Hashem your God gives you." The Gemara derives from these words that courts must be functioning in all cities of the Land of Israel and the provinces of Jewish communities in the Diaspora. The import of this obligation seems to be that courts are part of the fabric of Jewish society, no matter where these communities are located.

With this in mind it is interesting that just a few verses later we read of the High Court, the Court of Courts, which is situated in Yerushalayim. Apparently, the Holy City cannot suffice with a regular court like other locations - it needs a higher order of justice. What is necessary all over the world is amplified in Yerushalayim. There seems to be a special connection between judgement and justice, and Yerushalayim.

This connection is expressed in several ways. The Midrash Tanchuma at the beginning of our parsha comments that "Yerushalayim was only destroyed due to a perversion of law." While presumably "Yerushalayim" in this context should be taken as representing all of Israel, it is striking that the language of the midrash describes Yerushalayim as being particularly sensitive to injustice. This sensitivity is also expressed in the first perek of Yeshayahu. One of the focuses of Yeshayahu's negative description of the Yerushalayim of his day, is the lack of justice:

How the faithful city has become a harlot! – she had been full of justice, righteousness lodged in her, but now murderers.

Republican Presidential Candidate Mike Huckabee visits Kidmat Zion and Ateret Cohanim Communities



Presidential Republican candidate, Mike Huckabee, who has been to Israel over 40 times, returned once again to the Holy Land, for a short visit.

One of his first visits was with the Falic family from Israel and Florida, to Kidmat Zion and the Jewish families living in the fledgling neighbourhood. (Future project of 320 residential units).

Mike Huckabee, his son David, Kevin - a US navy seal who was a sniper in Iraq, together with the main TV personality from "Duck Dynasty", were all met by Daniel Luria (Executive Director of Ateret Cohanim) in Kidmat Zion. Daniel took the group to the Border Patrol base in Abu Dis and then the group was hosted by Ateret Cohanim and the Falic Family to a wonderful bbq with the families of Kidmat Zion, in the beautiful forested area and peak of Kidmat Zion, called Givat Chaim. (Dedicated for Simon Falic's father, Fima Chaim Falic z"l.)

Huckabee spoke about the importance of Jerusalem remaining under Jewish sovereignty and how unrealistic and even impossible it would be to divide the city and have 2 authorities governing such a small stretch of territory or land.

Huckabee has reiterated on many occasions that "LAND FOR PEACE" doesn't work, that Israel has a right to have very secure and safe borders and that Jews have the right to live anywhere in their Homeland. He also spoke about the 3500 year bond with the whole Land of Israel.

The justice of the past is contrasted with the current lawlessness. Later in perek, the rectification of the sin is described in the following terms:

Then I will restore your judges as at first, and your counselors as at the beginning; after that you will be called 'City of Righteousness,' Faithful City.' Zion will be redeemed through justice, and those who return to her through righteousness.

It is through a return of this heightened sense of justice that Zion will be redeemed.

This sensitivity expresses an important theme of Yerushalayim. The sanctity of the city, its proximity to the Shechinah and palpable sense of holiness cannot be severed from an increased appreciation of the importance of the interpersonal relationships that are the basic fabric of society. Closeness with the Shechinah and growth in our relationship with Hashem, must have a corresponding effect on our relationships with other people. This city both binds us with Hashem, but also with each other.

1. Devarim 16:18. Translations of pesukim are from the Stone Tanach.
2. Makkos 7a.
3. Devarim 17:8-13.
4. Midrash Tanchuma, Shoftim perek 1.
5. Yeshayahu 1:21
6. Yeshayahu 1:26-27.

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See our Jerusalem!

No other candidate in the past or present has spoken with so much love towards Israel and so much conviction about the Jewish People's eternal rights to the Land of Israel and the total failure of the 2 State solution.

Today 8 Jewish families live in Kidmat Zion, which was established 10 years ago. Plans are afoot to build a neighborhood of 280-300 residential units.

The properties (parcels of land) in the area were purchased by a Jewish organization "Agudat HaDayarim" between the years 1917-1923. Many of the properties located today in Abu Dis, where Arabs have built illegally on old Jewish property.

The future Kidmat Zion neighbourhood will be built on the parcels of land within the Jerusalem municipal boundaries, east of Mt Olives.

For those interested in helping fund some of our security projects in Kidmat Zion, [please click here](#).

[Donate Now](#)

For those interested in being involved in the future Kidmat Zion building project and real-estate opportunities, please contact Daniel Luria in Israel only via email - djjerusalem@gmail.com

Stop Iran Now Rally September 1

#stopiranrally stopiranrally.org

STOP IRAN NOW

JOIN OUR RALLY
TUESDAY 5:30PM - 7:30PM
SEPTEMBER 1

In front of the offices of Senators Schumer & Gillibrand
780 Third Ave, At 49th St. NYC

**SEN. GILLIBRAND:
DON'T SURRENDER AMERICA - JOIN SEN. SCHUMER**

"THE BEAUTIFUL CRY OF
DEATH TO AMERICA
UNITES OUR NATION."
-HASSAN ROUHANI
PRESIDENT OF IRAN

ORGANIZED BY THE STOP IRAN RALLY COALITION AND THE JEWISH RAPID RESPONSE COALITION

www.stopiranrally.org

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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"



Nachum Segal With Daniel Luria



Jerusalem Flag in disrepair over Beit Yonatan, [click here](#) to help purchase a new flag



and call:
Senator Charles Schumer (D-NY) 202-224-6542
AND THANK HIM

*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 centred around religious educational institutes.
 Lehitraot BaAretz





Keep Jerusalem on your cell phone

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A phone app and companion for your trip to Israel. The Kotel Compass App (Available in the ISTORE or ANDROID MARKET is free and you can book your tour from the App.

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