

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



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Parashat Parashat Toldot / פרשת תולדות Candle Lighting in Jerusalem 4:01 PM, Nov 13, 2015 Kislev 1, 5776



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 Constantly Emerging Yerushalayim

When a hunger afflicted the Land of Israel, Yitzhak considered migrating to Egypt as his father did before him. Hashem, however, appears and assuages his fears. Hashem tells Yitzhak to remain in the Land as it is destined to belong to his numerous descendants. The reason that Hashem gives for these blessings is Avraham's righteousness: "Since Avraham obeyed My voice, and observed My safeguards, My commandments, My decrees, and My Torahs."

On the surface, Hashem is referring to the commands that He relayed to Avraham in the previous parshiyot. The midrash, however, teaches that Avraham intuited all of the six hundred and thirteen commandments and observed them all of his own volition. Different amora'im describe the extent of Avraham's knowledge of the future Torah. Rabbi Simon states:

Avraham had knowledge even of the new name that the Holy One, blessed be He, will in the future give to Yerushalayim. For it is written "Avraham called the name of that site, 'Hashem will see' and it is written "And the name of the city

Taking a Break from the Terror

Ateret Cohanim entertains our children with a special Animal Show at the Beit Wittenberg Activity Center



from that day shall be 'Hashem Is There" (Yechezkel 48:35) and it is written "At that time people will call Yerushalayim "The Throne of Hashem." (Yirmiyahu 3:17).

According to Rebbi Simon, Hashem extolled Avraham's greatness for accurately predicting the future name Yerushalayim.

A noteworthy point which emerges from this passage is the timeline of the city's name and descriptions. While we are familiar with the fact that the name Yerushalayim developed over time, this midrash quotes eschatological verses in the context of the naming process. It seems that a complete description of Yerushalayim will only materialize in the end of days. The city that was first called "Shalem" and then "Yerushalayim" will only in the times of Mashiach become known to all as the seat of Hashem's terrestrial kingdom.

This idea contains an important lesson about Yerushalayim and perhaps about all things of significance and sanctity. The fact that the "true Yerushalayim" will only be revealed in the end of time underscores the fact that there is still work to be done.

Our job in this world is twofold. First, like Avraham, we need to intuit and understand what the endgame is – to be able to conjure an image of what the ideal Yerushalayim will be. But then, also like Avraham, we need to transition from dreams to actions, to develop and execute concrete steps towards the realization of our great vision. Paradoxically, we need to become active participants in a process of redemption that is inexorable. Avraham Avinu saw long ago what the ideal Yerushalayim will be, but it is our job to make that vision a reality.

May we soon see the complete Yerushalayim!

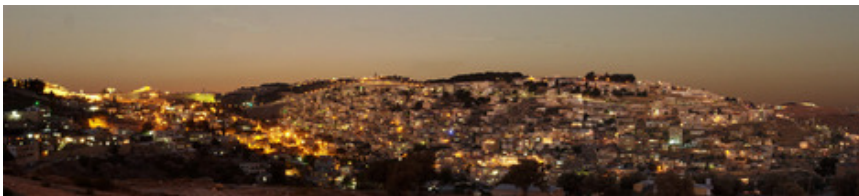
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View of Jerusalem from the Yemenite Village



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Sponsor the monthly shiur in memory of Rav Nechemiah Lavi hy'd on Sefer Nechemia: \$360

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- 1) Security projects, emergency/medical equipment in compounds, self defense classes for youth, cameras, lighting, pepper spray
- 2) Beit Wittenberg Family needs - auxiliary help for families in Beit Wittenberg affected psychologically and traumatized by recent terror attacks.
- 3) Youth activities in the Old City and its environs.
- 4) Renovation and dedication of apartments in the area to add Jewish families or students.
- 5) Major restoration of Beit Wittenberg as a monumental heritage house (Mark Twain also stayed in the building in 1867)

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

AMERICAN FRIENDS OF ATERET COHANIM



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

Now, more than ever, We need YOU to help us
Protect the Children living in East Jerusalem

PARTNER WITH
AMERICAN FRIENDS OF ATERET COHANIM

block by block
courtyard by
courtyard
neighborhood
by neighborhood.



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Making the Old City young Again

Your donations help us keep the children smiling click here



5776 - תשע"ו May it be the year of "The City - Jerusalem" (עיר), and her residents. (יושביה')

May G-d's City - Yerushalayim, be rebuilt and restored to its previous glory for the Jewish People.

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

 **Build Jerusalem**

To learn more from Build Jerusalem

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Keep Jerusalem on your cell phone

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