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American Friends of Ateret Cohanim/Jerusalem Chai

....Making the Old City young Again



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Pesach / פסח

Candle Lighting in Jerusalem 6:19 PM, April 4, 2015 Pesach 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:

**לז"נ העניע בריינע בת הרב צבי הירש ע"ה
שמואל בן הרב שמעון דוב ע"ה יצחק לז"נ**

Yerushalayim as the Beginning and End of the Seder

The text of the hagadah is mainly occupied with events of the past. We learn about Hashem's promise to Avraham, of Ya'akov's troubles and the eventual descent to Egypt. We textually and experientially delve into the story of the enslavement and redemption and with the conclusion of Dayyenu we reach the building of the Beit ha-Mikdash. The story of Maggid takes us from our humble beginnings to the apex of our history.

However, this is not the only story that our Maggid has to tell. When this apex slowly deteriorated into the destruction of the Beit ha-Mikdash and exile, the first and last paragraphs of Maggid were changed. We now contextualize this story of suffering and triumph by beginning and ending Maggid on the same wistful note. We begin with Ha Lahma Anya in which we declare that currently we are slaves in our exile and we pray that next year every Jewish seder will take place in Yerushalayim. We conclude Maggid with a prayer that we will once again be able offer the korbon pesach as is prescribed in the Torah. And many have the custom to commence Nirtzeh, the final stage of the seder, with the song "Next year in Yerushalayim!"

How are we to understand these additions to the seder? One might suggest that these mentions of our current exile and of Yerushalayim are technical in nature. We have a general obligation to "raise Yerushalayim" at the most joyous of occasions to remind ourselves that our joy cannot be complete

Pesach Message

Daniel Luria, Executive Director Ateret Cohanim

Shalom to my friends and supporters of Ateret Cohanim

I wanted to simply wish you all a Chag Sameach VeKasher and may it be a meaningful chag for you and your families when you sit together saying the Haggadah, recalling the Egyptian bondage/first exile/persecution and the subsequent miracles and walk to freedom under Hashems wings. ("Let My people go so they can serve Me.!")

We should be thankful to Hashem for those days and also for the goodness bestowed on each of us today...for the miracle of breathing, talking, functioning, loving, crying...being free in our Homeland and surviving at a personal and national level.

Nothing should be taken for granted.

At my own personal level, the last 2 months has been a very emotional, traumatic and difficult period due to health issues with my parents in Melbourne-Australia and sadly culminating in the recent passing to Gan Eden of my **Aba z"l**, at the age of 78.

I am who I am - because of my father - my ideals, behaviour, love of Am Yisrael, love of Israel & Jerusalem and acceptance of Hashems decisions. Notwithstanding enormous challenges for close to 40 years, when he was first diagnosed with cancer and told he had 6 months to live !), my **Aba** survived cancer twice, lower back, heart, hip and knee operations....with emunah, a positive attitude, willpower and always looked at the "nearly full cup".

Life - including this coming Chag Pesach won't be

while the Beit ha-Mikdash is in ruins. However, a more fundamental connection between the seder and Yerushalayim emerges from Rav Kook's commentary to the hagadah.

The hagadah records that the Chochamim maintain that even in the messianic era we will be obligated to mention yezi'at mizrayim daily. Rav Kook notes that the underlying perspective of this opinion is counter to an approach that sees history as being comprised of discrete points. Rather, all of the events of history should be seen as stages in one long, continuously unfolding process that leads to the utopian era.

In this sense, we can only properly appreciate the days of Mashiach if we remember all of the divinely guided troubles and triumphs that we had along the way that directly led to the fixing of the world. Therefore, we must remember the exodus from Egypt, the beginning of the process, even when the endgame has been realized.

And the same is true regarding the opposite direction. When we chronicle the beginning of our nation's journey and focus on how Hashem formed Am Yisrael, it is important to underscore the endgame. The miracles that we recount at the seder can only be properly understood when a broader perspective is taken and we contextualize Pesach within the epic journey of Jewish history in its entirety. The exodus is not merely a standalone event but it is what launches us in the direction of a utopian world with Yerushalayim as its capital.

Next year in Yerushalayim!

1) See, for example, Bava Batra 60b; Rashi Ketubot 8a d"ח "Sos Tasis."

2)Olat Reiyah on words "derashah Ben-Zoma."

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the same without Aba, and he wont be dressing up as Pharaoh or Moshe Rabeinu, but I will look at the amazing full life that my Aba lived, and try to appreciate the good, enjoy the moment, be thankful to Hashem for what I do have....and look at the nearly full cup.

My Aba's last words were "I love you". His last act, against medical thought and logic, was closing shut his lips to kiss his tzitzit on Shabbat morning davening. The last words that he heard were from the Torah portion about the Aron Kodesh. (Holy Ark). I told my Aba and the family around, that the essence of the Aron wasnt the gold box or rods,(Like the body) but rather the inner Divine presence, the Torah, the spirit, the Tablets...Jewish life and our connection to G-d.(The soul-neshama and a persons's deeds and actions) Hashem then took him.

I have been told by people that I can be "**comforted by Jerusalem**" or by the rebuilding of Jerusalem. I am therefore blessed and lucky to be working in that area of redeeming Jerusalem and strengthening the Jewish roots in the city - that my Aba loved so much.

I hope to be comforted.

Chag Sameach and enjoy every precious moment with family and friends.

Lehitraot from Jerusalem
Daniel

(Maybe we can meet at the front line at Yam Suf !!!)

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"

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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

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
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THE RENEWED JEWISH YISHUV OF THE OLD CITY
(MOSLEM & CHRISTIAN QUARTERS)
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MEET AT THE INBAL
THURSDAY APRIL 2, SUNDAY APRIL 12 10:00 AM

OLD CITY ATERET COHANIM WALKING

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AND/OR

NEW YEHENITE VILLAGE WALKING TOUR

(SHILOACH)
SHIL HANEGED PESACH, MEET AT JAFFA GATE
MONDAY APRIL 6, TUESDAY APRIL 7, THURSDAY APRIL 9
10:00 AM
DIFFERENT TIMES MAY BE AVAILABLE

PRIOR RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE

www.jerusalemchai.org/tours

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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

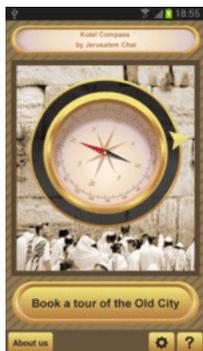
Our Mission

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.

Our Kotel Compass



Always pointing in the direction of Jerusalem (and follows the halacha in Israel). 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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תשע"ה - 5775

May it be the year of "The City - Jerusalem" (עיר), of Hashem. (ה')

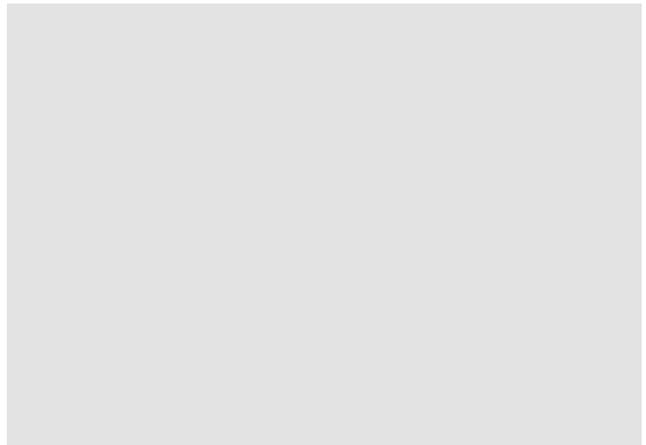
May G-d's City - Yerushalayim, be rebuilt and restored to its previous glory for Am Yisrael. Next year in a united Jerusalem with a flourishing Jewish life centred around religious educational institutes.

Lehitraot BaAretz



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