

American Friends of Ateret Cohanim/Jerusalem ChaiMaking the Old City young Again



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Parashat Eikev / פרשת עקב Candle Lighting in Jerusalem 6:44 PM, August 14,2015 29 Menachem Av 5775

We Need Your Help to Stop the Deal!

Together We Can Change Senator Gillibrand's Position

Contact her and urge her to change her vote.

[CLICK HERE](#) to send a letter
call her office at 212-688-6262

And Call Senator Cory Booker (D-NJ) 202-224-3224,
he has yet to announce

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](#)

Hashem's Choice and Our Effort

In our parsha the Torah teaches about the crucial nature of having a central place of worship. As opposed to the practice of the Canaanites and the Jews prior to the building of the Beit ha-Mikdash, the ideal form of worship can only take place in the enigmatic "place that Hashem will choose."^[1] This phrase which occurs sixteen times in parshat Re'eh emphasizes that it is up to Hashem to choose the place of His worship. The Jewish people are kept in the dark until some point in the future when Hashem will choose a specific location in the Land of Israel.

The notion that the Beit ha-Mikdash is the place of Hashem's choosing is underscored by the Rambam's categorization. As an extremely precise writer who often patterned his formulations on the language of Tanach and Chazal, the Rambam had several options for the title of the section of his Mishneh Torah which deals with the laws of the Beit ha-Mikdash. Perhaps, "The Laws of the Beit ha-Mikdash" would have been the most intuitive. However, in the wake of the recurring phrase from this week's parsha, the Rambam entitles this section "The Laws of Beit ha-Behirah" (The House of the Choice). This title emphasizes that it is Hashem who ultimately chose the location and the structure to be His own.

Givat Chaim

Pinnacle of Kidmat Zion Dedicated.

Simon Falic (Miami) recently dedicated a new area within Kidmat Zion to be called Givat Chaim, after his father Chaim (Fima) ben Dov (Boris) HaCohen Falic z"l.



The extended Falic Family dedicating Givat Chaim in memory of his father



Simon and Channah Falic with the matriarch of the Falic family, Nily Falic and Border patrol police near Kidmat Zion

A huge children's playground is to be built in the area for the children of Kidmat Zion and the nearby neighbourhood of Maaleh HaZeitim.

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

With this in mind, it is important to look at how the Rambam[2] describes the location of the altar:

The Altar is [to be constructed] in a very precise location, which may never be changed... Isaac was prepared as a sacrifice on the Temple's [future] site, as it is said: "Go to the land of Moriah,"... It is universally accepted that the place on which Dovid and Shlomo built the Altar, the threshing floor of Oman, is the location where Avraham built the Altar on which he prepared Yitzhak for sacrifice. Noach built [an altar] on that location when he left the ark. It was also [the place] of the Altar on which Kayin and Eivel brought sacrifices. [Similarly,] Adam, the first man, offered a sacrifice there and was created at that very spot, as our Sages said: "Man was created from the place where he [would find] atonement." [3]

In this Halacha, the uniqueness of the Temple Mount stems not only from Hashem's direct choosing, but from a list of great people who imbued it with sanctity through their actions. It was the sacrifices and efforts of Adam, Noach, Avraham, Yitzhak, Dovid and Shlomo that actualized the latent potential of Hashem's choice location.[4]

This combination of a heavenly choice and human effort, of Beit ha-Bechirah with the history of human sacrifice, is the story of the Beit ha-Mikdash. May we merit to be the next link on the chain that brings out the unique nature of Hashem's ideal location.

[1]Devarim 12:5.

[2]Rambam, Hilchos Beit ha-Bechirah 2:1.

[3]Translation is based on the one found at http://www.chabad.org/library/article_cdo/aid/1007195/jewish/Beis-Habechirah-Chapter-2.htm.

[4]The contrast between the Rambam's title "Beit ha-Bechirah" and his list of humans who sacrificed there is pointed out by the Lubavitcher Rebbe, *Likutei Sichot* volume 19, pg. 140. The Rebbe, though, takes this contrast in a slightly different direction.

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Senior Administration and Educators from Yeshiva Har Torah visit the Yemenite Village



Rabbi Ahron Rosenthal, Assistant Principal at Yeshiva Har Torah joined his colleague Rabbi Silverman on an extensive tour of the Yemenite Village. Rabbi Rosenthal writes to Daniel Luria: *Today was a fantastic tour. "We were held spellbound the entire afternoon as you gave us an in-depth and informative tour. It was a great zechut to see first hand the hard work that your organization does." "Specifically of interest was the future playgrounds that are to be built in Kfar HaTeymanim and the Old City." "We davka are looking for something that kids can relate to and that doesn't have to do with bomb shelters and terrorists."*

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 - djerusalem@gmail.com

Join Nachum Segal, host of JM in the AM when he tours Kfar HaTeimanim on August 19



Click the image above or [here to tune in](#)

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"



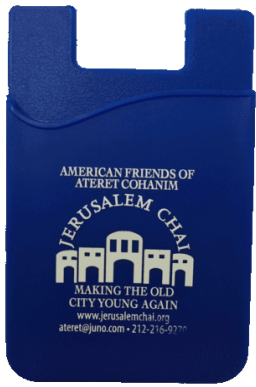
and call:
Senator Charles Schumer (D-NY) 202-224-6542
AND THANK HIM

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



American Friends of Ateret Cohanim / Jerusalem Chai

Our Mission



Keep Jerusalem on your cell phone

Please send us your name, address and current email address and we will send you this American Friends of Ateret Cohanim / Jerusalem Chai cellphone wallet absolutely free [click here](#)

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

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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American Friends of Ateret Cohanim/Jerusalem Chai
248 West 35th Street
New York, NY 10001
US

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