

AL HAARETZ — Perspectives on Eretz Yisroel

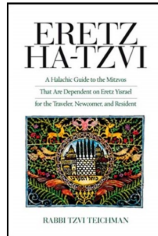
Living in, Settling, and Building Up the Land
Issue 7 (Index of 1—6) • 19 Adar (Vayakhel-Pekudei—Vayikra) 5780

Toras Eretz Yisroel

Excerpts from Contemporary Seforim on Torah & Mitzvos,
 Halachos & Minhagim of Eretz Yisroel

All HaAretz issues 1-6 featured the following—

- Mourning the Destruction [3 parts]
- Yom Tov Sheni in Eretz Yisrael [2 parts]
- Purim



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Eretz Ha-Tzvi - A Halachic Guide to the Mitzvos That Are Dependent on Eretz Yisrael - For the Traveler, Newcomer, and Resident, by Rabbi Tzvi Teichman, Feldheim 2007

New Book Launch →→→→→→→→→→→→→→→→

ERETZ CHEMDAH: An Inside View

VOLUME I – NISSAN 5780

Perspectives & Experiences of
 —and Tips from—

Frum English Speakers Living in Eretz Yisroel

Eretz Chemdah: An Inside View

Various Perspectives and Experiences
 of English Speakers Living in Eretz Yisroel

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Great and Simple Environment

Shaul Klein
 Yerushalayim

Soul Connection

Pinchas Winston
 Telz-Stone

Finding Our Place in Eretz Yisroel

Aryeh and Shoshana Weinberg,
 Ma'aleh Amos

It's a Package Deal

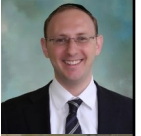
Shira Yael Klein
 Beitar Illit

This Is Our Own

Yosef Zev Braver
 Romema, Yerushalayim

Ratzon HaShem

Yekusiel A.
 Gush Etzion



All these and more can be seen in the new book

ERETZ CHEMDAH: An Inside View

Includes submissions from 22 immigrants from diverse
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This sheet contains Divrei Torah and requires *genizah!*

Eretz Rechavah: A Tour Guide's Focus In the Expanse

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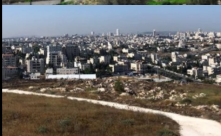
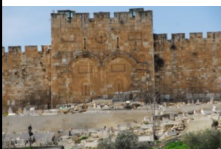
1. **Sha'ar HaRachamim**—A double gate within the eastern wall surrounding Har HaBayis.
2. **Givat Shaul**—Shaul Hamelech's capital city.
3. **Isha HaShunamis** [Shunamite Woman]—site of her home in the village of Shunem.
4. **Tayelet—Haas Promenade**—view of *Har HaZeisim*, *Nachal Kidron*, the Old City, as well as many of the new neighborhoods of Yerushalayim.
5. **Har Tavor** [Tavor Mountain]—central to the story of the war between Barak and Sisera and subsequently *Shiras Devorah*.
6. **"LeBeis Ha'tekiah,"** "the house of [trumpet] blowing"—inscribed stone that had been part of a balcony on Har HaBayis.

by Tour Guides:

Pinchas Abramowitz—Pinabramowitz@gmail.com

Shlomo Meir Eisenman—Israelbymeir@gmail.com

Shmuel Ribiat—shunemeruv@gmail.com



Eternal Covenant: History Tidbits (Issues 1–6)

- **5461 (1700)** – Rav Yehuda HaChassid (the second) arrived in Yerushalayim leading an entourage of well over five hundred followers. He had made his way from Poland, with many joining him on the way. He himself died a few short days after his arrival, but he had already managed to buy a parcel of land near the Ramban *shul* for the purpose of building a *shul* for the Ashkenazi community.
- **5501 (1741)** – The Ohr HaChaim HaKadosh, Rav Chaim ben Attar, arrived in Eretz Yisroel with a group of his *talmidim* and their families. They started out in Acco and eventually made their way to Yerushalayim, in which he established his *yeshiva*.
- **5537 (1777)** – R' Menachem Mendel of Vitebsk leads a large group of *chassidim* to Eretz Yisroel, establishing themselves in Tzefas and then later in Teveriah.
- **5668 (1808)** – A group of *talmidim* of the Vilna Gaon—led by R' Yisroel of Shklov—immigrate to Eretz Yisroel, establishing themselves in Tzefas.
- **5597 (1837)** – Thousands were killed in an earthquake in Tzefas and Teveriah. Many survivors reestablished themselves in Yerushalayim. In a *hesped*, the Chasam Sofer said that the earthquake also occurred because people neglected Yerushalayim and chose to settle in other places of Eretz Yisroel at a time when it was already possible to settle Yerushalayim.
- **5634 (1874)** – The courtyard neighborhood of Meah Shearim was established. It was one of the first neighborhoods in Yerushalayim to be built outside of the Old City.
- **5739 (1878)** – Petach Tikva is founded as an agricultural settlement by religious Jewish pioneers associated with the Yishuv haYashan.
- **5654 (1894)** – Beit Knesset Moussaieff was the first building built in the Bukharan Quarter in Yerushalayim. It continues to serve as the central Sephardi shtieblach.
- **5674 (1913)** – A group of several *rabbonim*—including Rav Yosef Chaim Sonnenfeld—made a month-long tour of all of the settlements in the Upper and Lower Galilee, to promote and encourage Torah observance by the mostly unobservant settlers of those communities.
- **5680 (1920)** – San Remo conference – Britain receives mandate for establishing a national home for the Jewish people in Palestine, leading the Ohr Somayach to state that there is no fear of [transgressing] the *shalosh shevuos* [three oaths] anymore.
- **5694 (1934)** – The Zichron Meir neighborhood of Bnei Brak was established. It was named for Rav Meir Shapira of Lublin (the originator of the Daf HaYomi program). In 1947, his *yeshiva*, Yeshivas Chachmei Lublin, was reestablished here by his *talmid*, Rav Shmuel HaLevi Wosner, who was also appointed as *rav* of the neighborhood at the suggestion of the Chazon Ish.
- **5699 (1939)** – Yeshivas Kol Torah was founded by Rav Yechiel Michel Schlesinger and Rav Boruch Kunstadt, both from Germany. Originally geared for *talmidim* from Western Europe, it was the first mainstream Charedi *yeshiva* to teach in Hebrew.
- **5704 (1944)** – Yeshivas Mir of Yerushalayim was established by Rav Eliezer Yehuda Finkel. They were later joined by a group of *talmidim* from the original Mir *yeshiva* in Europe that had been in Shanghai during the war
- **5704 (1944)** – Yeshivas Ponevezh of Bnei Brak is established by the Ponevezher Rav, R' Yosef Shlomo Kahaneman *ztz"l*, with seven *talmidim*.
- **5770 (2010)** – The Churva Shul (Churvas Rabbi Yehuda HaChasid) is reconstructed and resumes to function as a *shul* and *beis medrash* after laying in ruins since being destroyed by the Jordanians in 5708 (1948).

Eretz Tovah: Quotes from Our Torah Personalities (Issues 1-6)

Question: Does one fulfill a *mitzvah* according to the Ramban every moment he lives in Eretz Yisroel, or only when he first comes to settle?

Answer: Every moment.

Question: If we say that every moment one lives in Eretz Yisroel he fulfills a *mitzvah*, is this specifically when one comes from *chutz laAretz* to Eretz Yisroel, or also if he was born in Eretz Yisroel?

Answer: Also if he was born here.

- Q&A with Rav Chaim Kanievsky *shlit"a*

Since immigrating with his family at the age of six, Rav Chaim Kanievsky (b. 1928) has never left Eretz Yisroel to visit other countries.

While walking, R' Nosson Tzvi Finkel—the Alter of Slabodka—bent down several times to remove stones from the [Chevron] road. His escorts thought that it was his intention to remove obstacles from the *reshus harabim*. When they asked him if they understood his intent, he looked at them with questioning eyes and told them, "It's an explicit Gemara: 'Rabbi Chanina would fix its obstacles.' Rashi explains, 'Flattens out and fixes the obstacles of the city for the love of the Land [of Eretz Yisroel], for it was beloved to him so he would make sure that there wouldn't be a bad reputation on the roads.'"

R' Nosson Tzvi Finkel (1849-1927) sent *talmidim* to establish the Knesses Yisroel *yeshiva* in Chevron in 1924, and he immigrated to Eretz Yisroel soon after.

The Chazon Ish asked the [American] tourist the question, "Have you come to settle in the Land?" The tourist gave a negative response. He asked him, "Is it permissible to leave the Land?" The tourist became confused and said, "I heard that if one comes to the Land with prior intent not to settle in it, he is allowed to leave it."

The Chazon Ish responded in a disappointed tone, "How strange, how strange! You are toiling to find a way how to leave the Land at a time when we are all purposefully exerting ourselves to find ways with which to come to the Land!"

R' Avrohom Yeshaya Karelitz—the Chazon Ish (1878-1953) immigrated to Eretz Yisroel in 1933, choosing to settle in Bnei Brak and instill Torah in the New Yishuv.

... "the substantial efforts for our Holy Land, in which we are all obligated. Besides the fact that all applied work will be a salvation and redemption for our holy Land, in which every small act is a great *mitzvah*..."

Rav Isser Zalman Meltzer (1870-1953), Rosh *yeshiva* of Etz Chaim from 1925, was involved—together with his brother-in-law Rav Moshe Mordechai Epstein—in the purchase of the land upon which the city of Chadera was established.

"You have acted with foolishness. If you were already there [in Eretz Yisroel] you should have stayed and settled there."

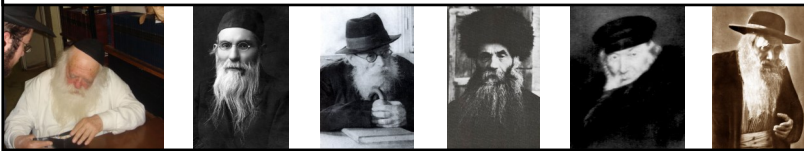
— The Chofetz Chaim's words to his son, R' Aryeh Leib, after the latter came back from a visit to Eretz Yisroel in 1924.

The Chofetz Chaim, Rav Yisroel Meir HaKohen Kagan (1838–1933), started the process of his unsuccessful attempt to immigrate to Eretz Yisroel in 1925. He had already sent his *seforim* and utensils, and planned to settle in Petach Tikva.

"Many times have I directed that the religious Jews in the diaspora be instructed that anyone who has the ability to come to Eretz Yisroel and doesn't, will have to account for his failure in the future world."

Rav Yosef Chaim Sonnenfeld (1848–1932): in 1921 he was involved in the establishment of the Eidah HaChareidis and served as its first *Gaava*"d.

References in previous issues



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Editing team — Yoel Berman - yberman613@gmail.com/053-319-1618; Shlomo Wrubel - translating, editing and layout - s_wrubel@live.com; Tzvia Ehrlich-Klein - editor of TO DWELL IN THE PALACE, an anthology on life in Israel; and author of ON BUS DRIVERS, DREIDELS AND ORANGE JUICE and additional titles, available at Jewish bookstores and online.

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