

The Military Yeshiva Academy of Israel

# BNEI DAVID News

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*We blesses our graduates and friends  
with a year of unity and peace,  
a year of joy, blessings, and fraternity  
among the Jewish nation and in the State of Israel*



## "...the more the multiplied & spread"

Bnei David Institutions began the current academic year with **1,200 students in all its programs – more students than ever before**. In the wake of this increased enrollment, we have expanded our educational staff and the augmented our maintenance team, **to prepare for the intake of the many hundreds of students.**

The Ma'ale Ephraim mechina students started the year with the traditional hike up Mt. Sartaba, where they each received a copy of Rabbi Sadan's book *Vayehi Yadav Emuna*. The Eli mechina students hiked up Mt. Kabir, where they also each received a copy of the book. We wish all our students a good and successful year of learning. ■



**מוסדות בני דוד**  
**BNEI DAVID INSTITUTIONS**

THE MILITARY YESHIVA ACADEMY OF ISRAEL ELI | ADVANCED YESHIVA ELI  
YESHIVA FOR DISCHARGED SOLDIERS ELI | OZ VE' EMUNA TEL AVIV  
JORDAN VALLEY BRANCH MA'ALE EPHRAIM | MIDRESHET DANIELLE FOR YOUNG WOMEN TAPUAH  
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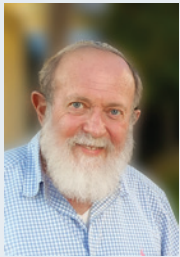
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## BNEI DAVID IN SWORDS OF IRON WAR



Thousands of Bnei David alumni are participating in defending Israel along all its borders, in the land, sea and air forces, and we have been helping them and their families throughout this year of ongoing battles. ■ Page 2





## RABBI ELI SADAN'S BLESSINGS FOR A SHANA TOVA

*Dear Friends of Bnei David,*

*As the New Year approaches, a customary greeting is "May the New Year and its blessings begin," but this year, after a very challenging beginning, a believe that as the year draws to a close, we can wish one another, "May this year and its blessings continue."*

*After witnessing the might and the courage, the determination and resourcefulness of our soldiers and our leaders, we can look at what has been happening in Lebanon in the past few weeks -capped by the elimination of the leader of Hezbollah – and could say that our might and the strength of our hands have accomplished this greatness. We are blessed to have amazing people who planned and implemented the military operations in Lebanon, while keeping in mind that it is Hashem, our G-d, who gave us the strength, the talent and the ability to accomplish these great things.*

*We are all united and standing tall before Hashem, who gave us the strength to accomplish great things. We pray that in the coming year this courage and strength will increase both in the north and south of Israel, to completely defeat our enemies, to bring home the hostages and enable our fellow Israelis to return to their homes in the north and the south. And most of all, may our unity, fellowship and love for one another continue to increase. **Together we will be victorious,** and together is also the only way we can "stand before Hashem our G-d" during these days of Selichot prayers and ask Him to continue to extend His goodness toward us.*

*In friendship and with best wishes  
for a Shana Tova,*

**Rabbi Eli Sadan**

*Dean of Bnei David Institutions*

## BNEI DAVID IN SWORDS OF IRON WAR



**Thousands of Bnei David alumni are participating in defending Israel along all its borders, in the land, sea and air forces, and we have been helping them and their families throughout this year of ongoing battles. We organized many activities to support the soldiers' families, including an Avraham Fried concert at Binyanei Ha'uma in Jerusalem.**

Sadly, 24 of our dear alumni have fallen in combat. We are in touch with their families, have produced short memorial films that will



be uploaded to Bnei David's website, and on Tu b'Shvat and at the beginning of Elul we planted trees in their memory on the hillside of the new dormitory complex. Beside each tree is a memorial plaque. On Remembrance Day for Israel's fallen, memorial pillars were set up beside Bnei David's Memorial Room, and we made a film, in conjunction with the OU, with words of encouragement for the families and for Am Yisrael. The film has been viewed thousands of times in Israel and around the world. ■



## WELCOMING OUR FIGHTERS HOME

Rabbi Ohad Tirosh, head of the Beit Midrash for discharged soldiers, and Rabbi Yoel Rechel, the director of soldier and alumni relations, launched a unique workshop for Bnei David alumni who participated in the fighting. The soldiers come for a two-day respite in Eli, where they draw strength from the spirit of Bnei David by meeting with the rabbis and discussing the difficult scenes they witnessed, and by strengthening the relationships with one another. Workshop sessions are led by Amir Dana, a psychiatrist and expert in treating post-trauma. The soldiers are also treated to dinner at Gofna restaurant in nearby Shiloh, cooked by master chef and Bnei David alumnus Yehoyada Nizri. So far two workshops have been held, and a third is being organized. Thank you to our donors and supporters who are helping us bolster our soldiers' spirits. ■



"WATCH ME & FOLLOW MY EXAMPLE"

BNEI DAVID  
IN SWORDS  
OF IRON WAR



## LAPID FUND MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS



### RECENTLY, SEVERAL BNEI DAVID ALUMNI COMPLETED OFFICERS AND COMPANY COMMANDERS TRAINING COURSES

The fighting on all the battlefronts is being led by IDF officers, including thousands of Bnei David alumni. This past June, Maj. Gen. Avi Bluth, a graduate of Bnei David's fifth cohort (1993), was appointed head of Central Command.

Avi is the first Bnei David alumnus to reach the rank of major general, and we wish him success in his new position. Recently, several Bnei David alumni completed officers and company commanders training courses. We wish them all success in waging the combat against our enemies. ■



We recently established the Lapid Fund, to provide scholarships to students whose families cannot afford tuition.

A special committee examines the scholarship applications, and with the help of our friends, we offer whatever help we can. Each year scholarships totaling NIS 750,000 are awarded.

The fund was established in memory of Bnei David's fallen, to ensure that every high school graduate who wishes to learn at Bnei David can do so, even if he cannot afford the tuition. We are grateful to our supporters who initiated the establishment of the fund, and with Hashem's help we will be able to help our students for many years to come. ■







## PROGRESS AT DERECH AVOT

This year Derech Avot mechina has 74 first- and second-year students. In June a festive graduation event was held for the students who were embarking on their IDF service. The mechina staff is in touch with the alumni for the duration of their service.

At the beginning of Elul (September) a group of Knesset members visited the mechina, to voice their support, and were very impressed by the mechina's special program and the dedication of the rabbis and teachers. ■



## MIDRESHET DANIELLE STUDENTS THANK AND REMEMBER

This year 110 young women began their studies in the pre- and post- National Service programs. At the end of June, last year's students participated in an emotional final evening event with Danielle's father, Mr. Moti Sonnenfeld.

A guest of honor at this event was Rabbanit Rachel Heber, who told the life story of her late husband, Rabbi Yeshayahu Heber, the founder of the Matnat Chaim kidney donor organization, and how she is continuing his path. The family of Yehuda Becher HY"D, who was killed on Simchat Torah, was also there and told the girls what a special person he was. His brothers sang the prayer, "My G-d, the soul you have given me," which Yehuda had recorded a week before he died. At the end of the evening, Moti wished all the girls success and they presented him with gifts they had made. Thank you Moti and the Danielle Foundation for supporting the midrasha. ■



## BLESSING FOR ISRAEL'S LEADERS AND THE IDF

The One Israel Fund donated large plaques of the prayers for the welfare of Israel and the IDF to the mechina's Beit Midrash in memory of the fallen in Swords of Iron War. We thank the fund for its initiative and partnership. ■





## GROWING WITH OZ V'EMUNA

Yeshivat Oz V'Emuna in south Tel Aviv began the academic year with 70 students. The refurbishing of classroom in the basement of the yeshiva is almost complete, and soon bookcases and new furniture will be installed. We wish the yeshiva students a year of fruitful studies and community work among the neighborhood residents. ■



## DOING MORE AT DROR

Yeshivat Dror welcomed 35 students to the Beit Midrash at the beginning of Elul. The yeshiva has grown, and with it the Beit Midrash and the dining hall. Rabbi Kfir Alon and his wife dedicated a Sefer Torah to the yeshiva, and Baruch Hashem the scroll is used for the Torah reading every week. In a crowdfunding campaign

held earlier this year, the students and local residents raised 500,000 shekels for the expansion and refurbishing of the yeshiva compound, which now has a new Beit Midrash, a house for the Rosh Yeshiva and two more converted shipping containers for housing students. We hope the yeshiva will continue to grow and flourish. ■



## BUILDING ISRAEL TOGETHER

Bnei David's Advanced Yeshiva welcomed a new cohort of 90 students. In August a "yeshiva exchange" Shabbat was held and the Bnei David students went to Shavei Hebron yeshiva. On

the way to the yeshiva, on Friday, the students stopped at Ziv Farm, near Ma'aleh Hever, and helped guard the farm and prepare some land for crops. Torah and manual labor! ■





## "LOOK AND SEE HOW GREAT THIS DAY IS"



After 35 years, the mechina students have moved into the permanent dorm buildings. The old mobile homes that served us for over 30 years were sold and were taken to found a new settlement. Where they stood we have begun to build a housing complex for married

students who have completed their IDF service.

Thankfully, we found a contractor who uses only Jewish workers, and the construction can proceed with no interruptions. We hope that the first building, of 24 apartments, will be completed by next Rosh Hashana and we are boosting our fundraising efforts so that we can meet the payments schedule and keep up the construction momentum. ■



## FORGING AHEAD WITH KEDMA

The Kedma project was established four years ago to provide Bnei David students with tools to contend with the challenges of progressive

liberalism. So far, some 100 students have completed the program, and enrollment is open for the next program, which will start in November. ■



## GIVING AND REMEMBERING IN MA'ALE EPHRAIM



We are grateful to our Ma'ale Ephraim alumni, who decided to honor the memory of their classmates, Netanel Menachem Eitan and Roi Beit Yaakov HY"D, who fell in combat in Gaza, by donating a special bookcase to the Beit Midrash, for siddurim and tefillin. Roi's father Avidan came to Ma'ale Ephraim to affix the dedication plaque. ■



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