



הארגון העולמי של בתי הכנסת
והקהילות האורתודוקסיות
World Organization of Orthodox
Communities and Synagogues

איחוד בתי הכנסת
והקהילות בישראל
Union of Synagogues and
Communities in Israel



Bs'd Tishrei 5779 [September 2018]

"Bein Keseh Le'Asor" 5779

Between the "Hidden" and the "Tenth" exonerate us in judgement, in the illumination of life to the illumination which we bring to your greatness and glory, for "You are the source of light, Your light illuminates all other lights"

Dear Friends:

Shalom and Greetings from Jerusalem.

As per our annual tradition, we are honored to, once again, send you our informative newsletter, "Bein Keseh le'Asor", which briefly surveys the highlights of 5778. This year's newsletter will also include happenings scheduled for 5779, pertaining to the Jewish nation and the Jewish state, in it's 71st year to the establishment and independence of the state of Israel, as an autonomous in its historic homeland, in the land of Israel.

We pray that the following prayer continues to be fulfilled:

" And they will praise You amongst the masses, and those who are distant will hearken and come close".

With blessings for
Gmar Chatima Tova

Eliezer Sheffer

Israel in Figures - Rosh Hashana: Selected Annual Data 2018

- On Rosh Hashana 5779 the Jewish population of Israel is estimated at 8.907 million inhabitants. The population is expected to proliferate to ten million inhabitants by the end of 2024, and to fifteen million inhabitants by the end of 2048 and to twenty million inhabitants by the end of 2065.
- The Jewish population numbers 6.625 million residents [74.4% of the entire population]. The Arab population is about 1.864 million residents [20.9%]. Others in the population number 418,000 residents [4.7%].
- Since last Rosh Hashana, the Jewish population increased by 162,000 souls.
- During the past year 175,000 babies were born.
- Approximately 29,000 people were added to the census through the immigration/ emigration balance, including 25,000 new olim.



Jewish Population

Aged 20 or older level of religious observance according to self report:
 44.3% secular, non religious
 21.4% traditional, mildly religious
 12.3% traditional-religious
 11.5% religious
 10.2% "ultra" orthodox [charedi]

Education and academia

Projection of students: By 2023 the number of students in the educational system is expected to be 1.94 million. An additional 180,000 students as compared to 2018 [growth rate 10%].

Students in the Educational System: 2.6 million students in the educational system. Approximately 1.7 million in school. 830,000 in pre elementary education. Approximately one million in elementary education. 717,000 in secondary education.

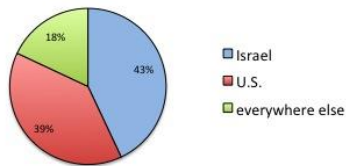
Higher Education: 266,9,000 student were enrolled in academic colleges, teachers colleges and universities in 2017-2018, of which 40.6% were men in the gamut of degrees.



89% of the population is satisfied with their lives

Life Expectancy: Women- 84.6, Men- 80.7

Global Jewish population distribution



Jews in the World:

Israel: 6,625,000 Jews. United States:5,700,000. France: 453,000. Canada: 391,000. Great Britain:290,000. Russia: 172,000. Argentina: 180,000. Germany: 116,000. Australia: 113,000.

In many of the diaspora communities, Jewish Torah education is on the rise.

Aliya to Israel

In 2017 26,357 olim came to Israel: 62% from the former Soviet Union, primarily Russia and Ukraine, 12% from France, 10% from the United States.



The information above is based on data from the Central Bureau of Statistics



Synagogues and Community Batei Midrash

In the State of Israel there are over 10,000 synagogues wherein there are approximately 1.5 million congregants, men women and children, in the varying prayer traditions. In addition, there are hundreds of community *Batei Midrash*, in the synagogues, in which there is ongoing learning of congregants, parents and children.

Torah from the land of Israel: "... for Torah will shine forth from Zion"

More than 10,000 *Yeshiva* students and thousands of young women from the religious communities in the Diaspora spend a year studying in *Yeshivot*, seminars, colleges and *Ulpanot* in Israel.

The World of Torah

According to the researchers and the experts, there has never been an historic period that has had the quality and quantity of *Torah* learning as there is today. There are 130,000 *Yeshiva Bochurs* learning in *Yeshivos*, *Hesder Yeshivot*, *Mechinot* and *Kollels*.



Jews and Judaism in Digital Communication, Internet sites and Social media

Tens of thousands of Jews all over the world continue to establish thousands of Internet sites which include Torah classes and Judaic studies. In addition, "applications" are introduced for online learning of Judaic studies in all languages.

Tradition, Jewish Culture and Jewish Literature

Interest in Jewish culture and traditions is growing amongst many in Israeli society. Tens of thousands of men, women and children participate in study sessions, conferences, happenings and prayer sessions on holidays and Shabbat. In the past few years, thousands of volumes were published on Jewish Law, Jewish Thought and Torah Literature, including thousands of Responsa in Jewish Law and Religious Worldview, material that can be found on social networks and online



"My House will serve as a House of Prayer for all the nations"

Over 11,000,000 people from Israel and from nations, all over the world, visited Jerusalem this past year and prayed at the Wailing Wall.

