

The State of Israel

בס"ד



Iyar 5, 5708-1948 - Iyar 4, 5777-2017

As we celebrate the 69th Independence Day of the State of Israel, this Tuesday on the 6th day of Iyar 5777 [2-05-2017], we will express our joy and thanksgiving in song and praise, in rhapsody and glorification. Before us, for all to see, stands The State of Israel, a Jewish State, autonomous and empowered as it marks the 70th year to independence.

We are hopeful that our prayer to the Almighty will be fulfilled: **"A new light will illuminate on Zion, and we will all jointly and imminently benefit from its glow."**



The Nation of Israel is Alive and Well

This year 5777[2017] the Jewish World Population is **14.411** million people. **6.336** million Jews live in the State of Israel [May that number increase]. This is the first time in Jewish history that six and one half million Jews are living in Israel. Jews live in **1255** cities, villages, hamlets, settlements and kibbutzim, in their ancient homeland.



CONGRATULATIONS

This year **174,000** babies were born. 75% [population:8.7 million] of those born are native born Jews. Of the 8.7 million Jews in Israel, 55% are between the ages of 19-64. Longevity in Israel is amongst the lengthiest in the world. It stands at 80.9 years for men and 84.5 years for women.[May this number increase].



We've come to our land

This year 30,000 people made *aliya* to Israel. Most [63%] came from Ukraine and Russia, and others from France, U.S.A. and Canada, Great Britain, Ethiopia, Latin America and more.



Synagogues and Study Halls [Batei Midrash]

A million and one half Jews, men women and children, pray [each according to custom] regularly in 10,500 synagogues in Israel. In addition there have been established, and continue to be established hundreds of communal study centers, many in synagogues, providing the opportunity to maintain ongoing continuous learning to hundreds of people, including children and their parents.



The Torah World

According to the researchers and the experts, there is no precedent for the quality and quantity of Jewish learning from time immemorial, as there is today in Israel. 130,00 Yeshiva students are dispersed in *Yeshivot Gevohot*, *Yeshivot Hesder*, Pre army *Mechinot* and *Kollels*.



Torah will come forth from Zion"- Israel Torah

Over ten thousand Yeshiva students and thousands of young women from Jewish Diaspora communities spend a study year in Israel in *Yeshivot*, Seminars, colleges and *ulpanot*. Many of them ultimately settle in Israel.



Identity and Identification

56% of all the Jews in Israel self identify as follows: 24% Traditional, 12% Traditional Religious, 11% Religious, 9% Ultra- Orthodox [Haredi].



Tradition and Jewish Culture

Amongst many sectors of Israeli society, there is an increased interest in the time savored culture and traditions. Thousands of people [men, women and children] participate in "study get togethers", assemblies, happenings and prayer sessions on Holidays and special designated days of significance.



Torah Literature and Online Responsa

In Israel and in the Diaspora communities, thousands of books, novellae and monographs of Jewish thought are published annually. Thousands of Torah Internet sites have been established which include Halachic Responsa and weltanschauung clarification.

The information is based mainly on information provided by the Israel Central Bureau of Statistics.

