

THE KTM

DAF PARASHA

BRINGING A TASTE OF ISRAEL TO MONTREAL



TORAH תורה
MITZION מציון

KTM MONTREAL



EKEV - THE CONNECTION TO ISRAEL

BY RAV ARI FAUST (ROSH KOLLEL)

The Jewish story is interwoven with the Land of Israel. The Torah revolves entirely around our journey towards Israel, and the books of the Neviim are all about our national life there. We are exiled from Israel and our greatest hope is to return there. We celebrate the newborn Jewish State of Israel, we rejoice in its success, and feel the pain of its failures. Israel's victories are our victories, and its losses hurt us as they are our losses. Israel is the focal-point of our aspirations - nationally and individually.

Perhaps these feelings have never been so fierce as they have been over these past 10 months since October 7. Since then, we have prayed for Israel, its inhabitants, its soldiers and the hostages; we've visited (against conventional logic which suggests not visiting a war zone), volunteered, and donated. We've perpetually checked the news (and the flight routes) concerned about the next loss and hopeful for a glimpse of positivity. Our eyes and hearts are constantly cast upon Israel.

Not only is Israel our aspiration, it is Hashem's. Not only are our eyes cast upon it, but so are Hashem's (Devarim 11:12):

אַרְצֵךְ אֲשֶׁר ה' אֱלֹהֶיךָ דָרַשׁ אֹתָהּ תָמִיד עֵינֵי ה'
אֱלֹהֶיךָ בָּהּ מֵרֵשִׁית הַשָּׁנָה וְעַד אַחֲרֵית הַשָּׁנָה.

A land Hashem, your God, looks after; the eyes of Hashem your God are always upon it, from the beginning of the year to the end of the year.

What does it mean for Hashem to "look after" the Land, or that His "eyes are always upon it"? Rashi, citing a pasuk in Iyov, understands this to mean that what happens in Eretz Yisrael is not haphazard; Hashem runs the world and provides for Israel based on what is appropriate at any given time. As Hashem tells Iyov (38:24-26):

By which way is the west wind parted, or the eastern one spread it over the Earth? Who

has cut a channel for the torrents and a way for the cloud of the thunderclaps? To rain on the Earth where no man is; a desert in which there is no man.

But if indeed it is true that Hashem runs the world, asks Rashi, then surely He "looks after" all lands, not just Israel? This is indeed the simple understanding of God's message to Iyov: Hashem is not merely the God of the Land of Israel, but of the entire universe! This philosophical question to our verses leads Rashi to introduce a ground-breaking idea:

If one can say so of God, He cares for that land alone, but through the care which He bestows on it, He cares also for all other lands with it.

Israel is the epicentre of divine intervention, the catalyst for world history. Israel may be the Land of the Jewish people, but the events occurring there - the tone and culture we create - affect all people. Our story may be a unique one, but it bears global implications. The connection towards Israel that we cultivate in ourselves and our children have far-reaching implications. Israel is the backdrop to the story of the Jewish people, and it is through the land of Israel that we interface with the broader story of humanity. Our connection to Israel is the lens through which the Jewish people impact and influence the world.

It is in this context that I am overjoyed to introduce the 5785 cohort of KTM Shlichim to our community! In addition to the Weinberg family returning for their second year, we are overjoyed that our bachurim - Itamar and Nadav - and bnot sherut - Shira and Tehilla - have chosen to dedicate a year of their lives to enhancing the Montreal Jewish community's connection to Israel through inspiring learning, engaging programming and especially through the first-person connections formed with them.

PARASHA EKEV
20 AV, 5784
AUGUST 24, 2024

CANDLE LIGHTING: 7:29 P.M.
HAVDALAH: 8:33 P.M.

THIS WEEK'S ARTICLES

EKEV - THE CONNECTION TO ISRAEL
BY RAV ARI FAUST

THE INK OF ETERNITY
BY DAVID & DANIELLE WEINBERG

MEET THE NEW SHLICHIM
ITAMAR FREIMAN
TEHILLA BORVICK
NADAV TRABELSI
SHIRA DAVID

HONOUR A FALLEN SOLDIER BY
PLANTING FRUIT TREES IN ISRAEL



[HTTPS://WWW.KTMMTL.ORG/
TREES-FOR-SOLDIERS](https://www.ktmmtl.org/trees-for-soldiers)

THE DAF PARSHA, AND ALL LEARNING AT KTM DURING THIS TIME, IS DEDICATED TO THE SPEEDY RESOLUTION OF THE SITUATION IN ISRAEL, THE RETURN OF THE CAPTIVES, THE HEALING OF THE INJURED, & THE PROTECTION OF OUR BRAVE SOLDIERS. MAY HASHEM LEAD THEM TO VICTORY, AND THEN HOME.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SPONSOR A DAF TO COMMEMORATE A SPECIAL OCCASION OR A LOVED ONE'S MEMORY - PLEASE CONTACT THE DIRECTOR AT DIRECTOR@KTMMTL.ORG.



THE INK OF ETERNITY

BY DAVID & DANIELLE WEINBERG

Since October 7th, we've witnessed a troubling surge of antisemitism, manifesting in various forms across the globe. This modern-day prejudice, often cloaked in political rhetoric or social commentary, echoes the age-old hostility that the Jewish people have faced for centuries. As we explore the Torah and its eternal messages, we are reminded that the Jewish experience, including the hardships and misunderstandings, is deeply intertwined with the teachings of the Torah—teachings that have been misinterpreted and misrepresented, sometimes leading to dangerous consequences.

“Carve for yourself two stone Tablets like the first ones.” (10:1)

Michaelangelo may have known a thing or two about painting, but when it came to Jewish anatomy he was a bit off. When he painted Moses, he gave him little horns. Michaelangelo's problem came from a mistranslation of the Hebrew word *keren*. It's true that *keren* does mean a 'horn,' but it also means a ray of light. The English word *corona*, meaning a glowing halo, is probably a derivation of *keren*.

How did Moshe get his 'horns'?

After the Jewish People heard the Ten Commandments at Har Sinai, Moshe ascended the mountain on the 7th of Sivan to receive the rest of the Torah. He came down on the 17th of Tammuz and was greeted by the sight of the golden calf. Moshe smashed the two tablets on the ground.

These first tablets were made and engraved by Hashem. They contained the entire Torah: the gemarot and the agadetot, etc.—everything that was necessary to carry out The Maker's instructions. For example, the first tablets included all the details of how to make tefillin: they had to be perfectly square black boxes made from the hide of a kosher animal. Similarly, it was on these two tablets that Hashem inscribed all the specifics pertaining to the laws of Shabbat. However, when Hashem gave Moshe the second tablets they only contained the Written Torah. The detailed instructions, the Oral Torah, was given to him verbally.

After Hashem forgave the Jewish People for their infidelity with the golden calf, Moshe ascended the mountain again on the first of Elul to receive the second tablets. He came down 40 days later, on Yom Kippur. When Bnei Yisrael saw Moshe, his face was shining with a radiant corona.

Why didn't Moshe's face shine before?

The Midrash says that when Moshe had finished writing the Torah, some of the ink that was left over in his pen touched his face, and that's where the radiance came from. However, the Torah itself says the rays of light came from speaking to Hashem. But Moshe spoke to Hashem many times before. Why only now did his face become luminescent?

And which was the real cause of the aura? The ink in the pen or speaking to Hashem?

One would think that the second giving of the Torah was a second-class affair. After all, the first tablets were written by Hashem on rock hewn by Hashem,

whereas the second tablets were the work of man, and only the writing was Divine.

It sounds like the first giving was on a higher level, doesn't it?

On the contrary! When Hashem first gave the Torah, the Jewish People were to be the vessel that would contain the Torah. Like the Holy Ark, we would hold the Torah but we would not be part of the Torah, just as a box only contains what is inside it. It's not the thing itself.

But with the second tablets, the Jewish People became part of the Torah itself.

The beams that came from the ink that was left in the pen of Moshe was the Oral Torah. Hashem put into the mind of Moshe Rabeinu—The Rabbi, the teacher of Israel—the Oral Torah. All the verbal instructions that were originally written on the first Tablets were now engraved in the mind of Moshe. Everything that is possible for a mortal understanding to attain was written in the mind of Moshe. The ink of eternity in the pen of Moshe was one and the same as Hashem talking to him.

Thus, the Jewish People became partners in the Torah. We became the parchment on which Hashem wrote with the ink of eternity.

PARNESS HAYOM :: AV

11 AV | Chaya Lieberman, in honour of the Yahrzeit of her mother, Yocheved Orbach z"l

11 AV | Renee Lieberman, in honour of the Yahrzeit of her mother, Sydell Brooks z"l

13 AV | Ian Kaufman, in honour of the Yahrzeit of his father, Moshe ben Mordechai z"l

19 AV | David Diner, in honour of the Yahrzeit of his father, Mel Diner z"l

20 AV | Gabi Cohen, in honour of the Yahrzeit of his father, Yitzchak ben Gabriel HaCohen z"l



ITAMAR FREIMAN

ZICHRON YAAKOV

Hi everyone!

My name is Itamar Freiman, 23 years old. I am the oldest of 4 (3 boys and a girl) and I live in Zichron Yaakov.

When I was 9, I moved from Israel to Boston due to my father's work and I learned in Maimonides school. In high school, I learned in Neve Shmuel in Efrat and I was a counselor in "Bnei Akiva". Over the last 5 years, I studied torah in yeshivat "Beit Vaad Latorah Har Hebron"

in Otniel between Hebron and Beer Sheva, and served in the armored corps.

I like to play basketball, play on my flute, speak with friends, hiking, skiing and ice skating. I also like to watch the Boston sports teams, mostly the Celtics. I hope you will forgive me for being a fan of the Bruins.

I am really excited to meet and get to know the community. I am sure that we will have a great year and that we can lift each other to new heights!

When Rav Ari asked me what do I want to write about I decided that I want to write about hikes in Israel. Every two weeks we will learn about a new hike in Israel. There are a couple reasons why I chose to write about this topic. The first one is that I love hiking. Another reason is that I think that through hiking you get to know your country better. Finally, the third reason is that for me hiking in Israel is zionism.

Shabbat Shalom!!!



TEHILLA BORVICK

BEIT SHEMESH

Hi everyone,

My name is Tehilla Borvick, I'm 19 and I'm from Beit Shemesh. After 12th grade, I did a year

of Sherut Leumi in Petach Tikvah. I had the opportunity to teach in a school and be a komonarit in Ezra (a youth group like Bnei Akiva). In Israel, there are

several youth groups to pick from, and they are all great.

I had a lot of fun this past year, and am really looking forward to spending the next year in

sherut with you guys in Montreal! In my free time, I like to hang out with family and friends, paint, play games, and stay active.

My family made Aliyah, and since Beit Shemesh is full of Olim, I feel very connected to the Jews abroad.

Wishing us all a great year!!



NADAV TRABELSI

LOD

Hi, I'm Nadav Trabelsi, and I'm excited to join the community!

I'm 23 years old and I'm from Lod, a city in central Israel near Tel Aviv (Ben Gurion Airport is actually located within Lod's city limits). My family has been in Israel for two generations: my father was born in Lod, and my mother in Jerusalem. I have one older brother who is currently a student.

For the past few years, I studied at the Hesder Yeshiva in Kiryat Shmona, where I combined Torah study with military service. I served as a tank commander in

the Armored Corps, a role that was both challenging and rewarding. Through this experience, I gained valuable insights into leadership and teamwork, which have contributed to my personal growth.

In my free time, I enjoy reading, hiking, and I even hiked the Israel Trail, which was an incredible adventure. I also dream of learning to play hockey at a high level—maybe I'll get some tips while I'm here! Although I don't have significant experience with Jewish communities abroad, I was inspired by my friend Avishai Seri, who shared his experiences in Montreal.

I chose to write my column about notable

rabbinic figures in Israel because their teachings and leadership have had a significant influence on my own journey. By sharing their stories, I hope to highlight the values and principles that guide us and to create a bridge between our communities. It's an opportunity for me to reflect on the positive impact these leaders have had on my life and to connect with you through shared values and aspirations.

I'm looking forward to getting to know everyone, learning together, and being an active part of the community. Thank you for the warm welcome—I'm excited for what's to come and can't wait to meet you all!





SHIRA DAVID

GIV'AT SHMUEL

Hello everyone!

I'm so excited to meet you all! I'm Shira David. I'm 18 years old and I'm from Giv'at Shmuel.

I'm the youngest of 3 kids. When I was in high school, I volunteered in Magen David Adom and Etgarim (an organization that teaches sports activities to people with disabilities).

I was also a madricha in Ezra for two years. This last year, I was the komonarit of Bnei Akiva in moshav Azri'el. I really enjoy dancing, skating, and playing piano.

I can't wait to get to know you guys and experience this year with you :)

We're going to have an amazing year together!!

COMING UP @ KTM

- Welcome to our 5785 Shlichim! If you'd like to host the Weinbergs, bachurim, or bnot sherut, please refer to the link on our weekly email or contact director@ktmmtl.org
- The 5785 Opening Shiur by Rosh Kollel Rav Ari Faust will take place on Thursday September 12 at 8:00pm in the Lieberman Beit Midrash at Hebrew Academy.
- The annual Aseret Yemei Teshuva Yahrzeit shiur by Rabbi Poupko will take place on Thursday October 10 at 8:00pm in the Lieberman Beit Midrash at Hebrew Academy.
- Bekiut Club for students in grades 4-6 begins Tuesday, October 29. Registration link will be released shortly.
- Women's Morning Beit Midrash resumes on Wednesday October 30th. Please note the new time of 9:10-10:00am!
- Watch this space for the 5785 weekly KTM night schedule, with new learning opportunities around the community!

For any questions, or for donation opportunities, Please contact Sabrina at director@ktmmtl.org



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