

2023 SPRING FUNDRAISER SEVEN-PART VIRTUAL SERIES

# WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS:

*Seven Iconic Images in the History of  
Israel, and the Stories Behind Them*



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# WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS:

*Seven Iconic Images in the History of  
Israel, and the Stories Behind Them*



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## GREETINGS FROM RABBI MEIR SOLOVEICHIK

In 2023, Israel and the Jewish world prepared to mark two very different anniversaries. The first was the seventy fifth-year since the founding of the Jewish state. In recognition of this moment, Shearith Israel presented a lecture series titled “*Worth a Thousand Words*,” focusing on some of the most enduring images in Israeli history, those that truly captured the wonder of the Israeli founding, the heroism of its citizens, and the miraculous nature of Jewish history.

The second anniversary was the passing of fifty years since the Yom Kippur War, a moment that bespeaks the vulnerability of Jewish life, and the fact that threats lurk when one least expects them. This vulnerability was made manifest this year in the evil attack launched by Hamas. Yet as Israeli society responded, the wonder that is Israel has been made manifest before our eyes, reminding the entire Jewish world not only of the Jewish state’s resiliency, but of the way the State serves as a spiritual beacon to the Jewish world, reminding all of us about the nature of Jewish history itself.

This commemorative booklet presents some of the images discussed in the lecture series, but in a way which they are able to remind us of seven lessons that we have learned in the past several months, lessons that can inspire us in this particular time. As we study these enduring images, and ponder their relevance today, we pray for swift victory for Israel, for safety and security in its future, and for many more miracles yet to come.

*Meir Y. Soloveichik*



## LESSON

-I-

## THE MIRACLE *of* ISRAEL *and the* PERSISTENCE *of* FAITH

The image of the declaration of Israeli independence centers, of course, on David Ben-Gurion, but two other individuals on the dais bespeak a larger debate about the nature of the event. One is Rabbi Yehuda Leib Fishman-Maimon, who insisted to Ben-Gurion that the Declaration must contain a reference to God; the other is the ardently secular Aharon Zisling who refused to sign any document that explicitly invoked the Divine. In the end, Ben-Gurion chose to include language referencing “the Rock of Israel.” Nevertheless, a more explicit reference to God did make its way on to the original document: as Rabbi Fishman-Maimon signed his own name, he added the acronym for “with the help of God.”

It is not only an interesting anecdote, it is a metaphor: the founding of the Jewish state has become today the greatest sign of God’s presence in history, and the Jewish faith has itself flourished in the Holy Land. This can be seen, strikingly, from the inspiring images that we see of IDF soldiers in Gaza: marking Shabbat in tanks, kindling candles for Hanukkah, reading from the Torah in the midst of war. We are in a hinge moment, a rediscovery of Judaic identity around the world, and a time in which what is emerging among many in the IDF, the greatest fusion of fighting and faith since the Maccabees. We do not know yet what sort of future leaders will emerge from this moment, but what is certain is that it is in such moments that Maccabees are made, and leaders are formed- and that more inspiring images of Judaism will emerge in the years to come.

*(continued)*



Declaration Dais

Photo retrieved from: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Israeli\\_Declaration\\_of\\_Independence#/media/File:Declaration\\_of\\_State\\_of\\_Israel\\_1948.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Israeli_Declaration_of_Independence#/media/File:Declaration_of_State_of_Israel_1948.jpg)

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### *Rabbi Fishman-Maimon on the Declaration:*

In Jerusalem a young man sought me out and told me: Rabbi Fishman, we have an airplane waiting for you. Please come immediately. I replied: I cannot come immediately. I must get my *tallit*, *tefillin* and other items. During the trip (on the piper cub) my feet sometimes floated above my head, and my *tallit* and *tefillin* were strapped to my body. We travelled thus for almost three hours until we landed at airport close to Yaffo. I was met there by some representatives of the Jewish agency and taken to the home of Mr. Ben-Gurion. A meeting was in process and five or six people were present. I asked the purpose of the meeting, Mr. Ben-Gurion told me that they wanted to proclaim the state of Israel the following day. I called Ben-Gurion aside and asked. Have you got another airplane beside the one which brought me here? A committee was selected to draw up the wording of the proclamation and I was made a member. When the draft was completed I insisted on an allusion to God's help and a compromise was finally reached on the words "Rock of Israel."

### *Rabbi Fishman on Signing the Scroll:*

When my turn came to sign the scroll, I wrote my name just as everyone else had, but that didn't suffice for me; I wanted to add [something]. But Moshe Shertok, who was supervising the signatories, was alarmed and asked, "Rabbi Fishman, what are you doing there?" "You'll soon see for yourself," I replied. . . . He saw how I had added alongside my name four letters: bet, ayin, zayin, heh, [an abbreviation of the words] "with the help of God."

### *Historian Martin Kramer on Aharon Zisling and the Sheheḥeyanu:*

Immediately after Ben-Gurion finished reading the declaration, Rabbi Fishman recited the *Sheheḥeyanu*, the traditional blessing of thanksgiving. This wasn't spontaneous; although many would recall being surprised, it was a planned part of the program: "Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the Universe, Who has granted us life, sustained us, and enabled us to reach this occasion."

A wave of emotion swept the audience. Rabbi Fishman would later recall looking out of the corner of his eye and glimpsing, of all people, the radical Mapam heretic Aharon Zisling, who had tried to keep any hint of God out of the declaration. This is what he saw:

At the museum, when I recited the blessing in front of the nation's dignitaries—suddenly I saw Zisling remove a handkerchief from his pocket and cover his bare head."

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## LESSON

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### THE EVER-LIVING PEOPLE

The image of the Eichmann trial depicts an historically striking moment: an independent Jewish state, that did not exist during the Holocaust, was now trying one of those Nazi leaders that had devoted himself to the destruction of the Jewish people. The trial also featured a true disagreement between the judges and the prosecutor as to the content of the trial itself. Fortunately, the prosecutor, Gideon Hausner, succeeded in his vision, allowing his endeavors to embody more than a criminal prosecution, but a way in which Israelis finally began to understand what their own brethren had undergone.

But perhaps the most impactful image of all was of one of the members of the prosecutorial team, Michael Goldman-Gilad, a survivor whose own story was largely unknown by his colleagues. In the image, he sits at the table in the uniform of the Israeli police force, with a sleeve rolled up and tattooed numbers visible on his arm. It is a simultaneously simple and profoundly powerful image of Jewish endurance, of the Jews as a people that no one could destroy. As I wrote in the Wall St. Journal after October 7th, reflecting on the day on which the evil attack occurred, we Jews celebrate on Simchat Torah the beginning of the Torah again, seeing in the continuing cycle a symbol of our people's eternity. The Jew, Tolstoy reflected, "has brought down from heaven the everlasting fire and has illuminated with it the entire world. . . . He whom neither slaughter nor torture of thousands of years could destroy, he whom neither sword nor inquisition was able to wipe off the face of the earth, . . . he who has been for so long the guardian of prophecy, and who transmitted it to the rest of the world—such a nation cannot be destroyed. The Jew is as everlasting as is eternity itself."

“

*Deborah E. Lipstadt, The Eichmann Trial*

At Nuremberg, the perpetrators and their documents had been at the center; the victims had barely been a sidebar. Hausner's determination that this trial would be founded on the human story of the Jewish victims' suffering stands, from a perspective of five decades, as the trial's most significant legacy. Though the judges, who were exemplary in their conduct and judgment, dismissed it as of no forensic importance, they misjudged the lasting impact of this testimony. The survivors' presence in the witness box moved their intensely personal stories from the private to the public realm. Many survivors had, of course, told their stories before, but never had such a steady stream of them appeared on an internationally illuminated stage. Through their testimony, what happened to European Jewry was transformed in the public's consciousness. The trial and the debate that followed inaugurated a slow process whereby the topic of the Holocaust became a matter of concern not only to the Jewish community but to a larger and broader realm of people. However, before it could become something that transcended the parameters of the Jewish community, both the event and the people whose lives it had devastated had to be embraced in a far more personal, vivid, and intimate way by other Jews. That process was generated by the trial.

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*(continued)*



### The Trial

Photo retrieved from: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eichmann\\_trial#/media/File:Adolf\\_Eichmann\\_is\\_sentenced\\_to\\_death\\_at\\_the\\_conclusion\\_of\\_the\\_Eichmann\\_Trial\\_USHMM\\_65289.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eichmann_trial#/media/File:Adolf_Eichmann_is_sentenced_to_death_at_the_conclusion_of_the_Eichmann_Trial_USHMM_65289.jpg)



### Michael Goldman-Gilad

Photo retrieved from: <https://www.yadvashem.org/articles/interviews/goldman-gilad.html>

LESSON  
-3-

## THE EVER-RENEWING SPARK *of* JEWISH IDENTITY

Strikingly, among the many images from Golda Meir's life is one in which she can barely be seen, and yet it marks one of her most impactful moments. It is a photograph of her visiting the Great Synagogue in Moscow, surrounded by the multitudes of Jews who illustrated to her that their Jewish identity remained. Golda – who had not believed that such Jewish identity endured under communism – was overcome by that experience, and it inspired her to work for the freedom of Soviet Jewry for the rest of her career. To find that the spark of Judaism, of Jewishness, where one least expects it, is to be inspired; to see that spark among multitudes is to be overwhelmed. That is what makes this photo inspiring; that is what makes this image immortal. And it is a profoundly important image for our own time, for now, in recent months, we are witnessing so many Jews around the world suddenly re-embracing their identity. It is this reemerging spark that has been one of the bright lights in these difficult months.



Golda in Moscow

Photo retrieved from: [https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/86/Golda\\_Meir\\_Moscow\\_1948.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/86/Golda_Meir_Moscow_1948.jpg)



*Francine Klagsbrun, in her biography of Golda Meir, on Golda's encounter with Soviet Jews on Rosh Hashanah:*

The crowds applauded loudly, shouting “shalom” and “hurrah,” while they opened a narrow path for the Israelis to enter the building. In the balcony, crushed on all sides by women calling her name, kissing her hands, touching her dress, Golda sat stiffly, shaken to the core by the scene around her. In the tumult, she noticed that the two banners celebrating Israel that had hung in the synagogue previously were gone. That was the only outward concession to Ehrenburg’s warning. For the rest, people threw caution to the wind in their open embrace of Golda and her legation. The service over, she struggled toward the door, almost smothered by the mass of congregants pushing to see and touch her.

... When she finally reached the outside, an amateur photographer snapped a picture of her, a black hat and white face bobbing up from a quicksand of heads. It would become an underground best seller along with the earlier photograph of her presenting her credentials. When she tried to walk, she heard a din of voices calling out to her, “A gut yahr” (Happy New Year), and again and again, “Golda” and “Goldele,” and “nasha Golda” (Russian for “our Golda”). She was grateful when someone protectively shoved her into a taxi. Overwhelmed with emotion, all she could utter as she stuck her head out the window was “A dank eich vos ihr seit geblieben Yidden” (Thank you for having remained Jews).



## LESSON

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### THE WALL *and the* STORY THAT BINDS US ALL

The feeling of Jewish unity in the past few months has marked a contrast with the fractiousness of the decades that preceded them. David Rubinger’s photograph of the three soldiers at the Western Wall is powerful for many reasons, but among them is the instantiation of Jewish unity embodied by the three soldiers that stand together. The image reminds us how Jewish history – past, present, and posterity – binds us as Jews to one another. Today, suddenly, we have a deeper sense of that bond.



*Menachem Begin on seeing the Western Wall in the 1940s, when Jews were prohibited to sound the shofar at the conclusion of Kippur:*

These stones are not silent. They do not cry out. They whisper. They speak softly of the house that once stood here, of kings who knelt here once in prayer, of prophets and seers who here declaimed their message, of heroes who fell here, dying; and of how the great flame, at once destructive and illuminating, was here kindled. This was the house, and this the country which, with its seers and kings and fighters, was ours before the British were a nation. The testimony of these stones, sending out their light across the generations.

(continued)

*Naftali Lau-Lavie on bringing his brother, Israel Meir Lau, the youngest survivor of Buchenwald to the Western Wall before it was lost in 1948:*

For 50 years, I carried the responsibility passed on to me by my father before he went to his death in Treblinka. He placed in my care a weak child who was five years old, but looked like he was only three or even younger. For three years, I served as father and mother, guardian and protector, to my younger brother Yisrael Meir, or Lulek, as we called him. I often felt despair attacking me, flinging me helplessly to my destruction. I think it was the mission my father gave me to bring my younger brother to safety and to ensure the continuation of our family's rabbinic dynasty, that kept me alive and gave me the will to continue fighting for our lives rather than succumb to the horrible fate that befell the rest of our family.

...48 years earlier, when we first arrived in Jerusalem, we had stood in the same spot. Then-young Yisrael Meir had gazed at the stones of the Wall without understanding what he was seeing. This time, he was praying just two hours before his anticipated election to the highest rabbinical post in Israel. My younger brother who had risen from the piles of ashes in the death camps was chosen that day to serve as the Chief Rabbi of the State of Israel. I looked at him from up close and felt tears welling up in my eyes. As I left the Wall, I felt profound relief, as if a heavy burden had been lifted from my shoulders and my conscience. At last, an almost impossible mission had been fulfilled.

*Yossi Klein Halevi on Rubinger's Photograph:*

...I suddenly remember where I am. I feel myself, then, like one of those barefoot and wide-eyed Ethiopian immigrants, silently stepping off the plane at Ben-Gurion Airport into Zion. I recall, too, my father's wonder at the Wall, whose fragile and improbable endurance he saw as a metaphor for the Jewish people. Like him, I ask myself what it is about this strange little people that continually finds itself at the center of international attention, repeatedly on the front lines against totalitarian forces of evil—Nazism, Soviet Communism, now jihadism—all of which marked the Jews as their primary obstacle to achieving world domination. At those moments, I feel gratitude for having found my place in this story.



Three Soldiers at the Wall

Photo retrieved from: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paratroopers\\_at\\_the\\_Western\\_Wall#/media/File:צנחנים בכותל המערבי.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paratroopers_at_the_Western_Wall#/media/File:צנחנים בכותל המערבי.jpg)



LESSON  
-5-

THE CAMP DAVID ACCORDS,  
THE ABRAHAM ACCORDS,  
*and the* POTENTIAL *for*  
MORE ACCORDS *to* COME

Those journeying to Israel today will be struck by the fact that no European or American airlines are to be seen on the runway; it seems as if only El-Al planes are to be found. But a study of the electronic board outside will reveal that flights from the Emirates are still flying daily, and that the incredible achievements of the Abraham Accords endure. This is, of course, a testament to the vision of Menachem Begin and Anwar Sadat, who first made peace in the late 1970s, and showed that it was possible. There is no question that Israel's enemies seek to prevent more accords from emerging, but the endurance of recent attainments, in the face of the war, allow us to understand that the powerful potential for future accords remains.



Sadat and Begin

Photo retrieved from: [https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Sadat\\_and\\_Begin\\_clean3.jpg](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Sadat_and_Begin_clean3.jpg)

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*Letter from Menachem Begin to Jehan Sadat following the assassination of Sadat:*

Our hearts, Madame, go out on this day to you and your children and grandchildren. Anwar Sadat, of blessed memory, should have been with us to see the glory of his efforts to make peace and achieve reconciliation between the good peoples of Egypt and Israel. To prove that his memory did not die, that it will live on forever in the hearts of women and men of goodwill, we have to work for the sacred cause: “No more war, no more bloodshed, peace, salaam, shalom, between our nations.” We embrace you, our dear friend,

Aliza and Menachem Begin.

*(continued)*

*Letter from Jehan Sadat following the passing of Aliza Begin:*

Dear Menachem, I imagine your shock and feelings of helplessness when the news was broken to you of Aliza's cruel death. A lifetime of shared hopes and disappointments, of joy and sadness, suddenly smashed in a moment. Surely, only those who have suffered in the same way can understand fully what you are feeling now. Let me add my own heartfelt tribute to a grief which nothing will ever truly brush away from your heart. These are times when sympathy is not enough, but please accept the spontaneous overflow of my feelings for a great lady who I grew to love and respect. And please accept the hand of friendship and solidarity in this moment of utter loneliness which you will find difficult to live with. Remember, I too have had to travel through the bitter valley of shock and loneliness and I will remember your kindness and genuine sympathy towards me little more than a year ago. I too have felt what you are feeling now, and I too have had to find reasons to overcome despair. We share a belief in Divine Providence and that is one of the great consolations of all the bereaved. But you and my late husband shared as well a deep commitment to the cause of peace and I am certain that we owe it to the memory of our dearest to continue to serve the ideal which inspired them. Let us live, warmed by the memory of past happiness and sustained by the hope that we in our own turn may leave the world a better and a kinder place for generations to come. Take comfort, dear friend. I know that Anwar El Sadat had great confidence in your own faith in peace and human concord, and he may have differed with you on the means towards a noble end, but I am certain you were both dedicated to the same ideal of peace.

Jehan Sadat, 15 November 1982.

*Response from Menachem Begin to Jehan Sadat:*

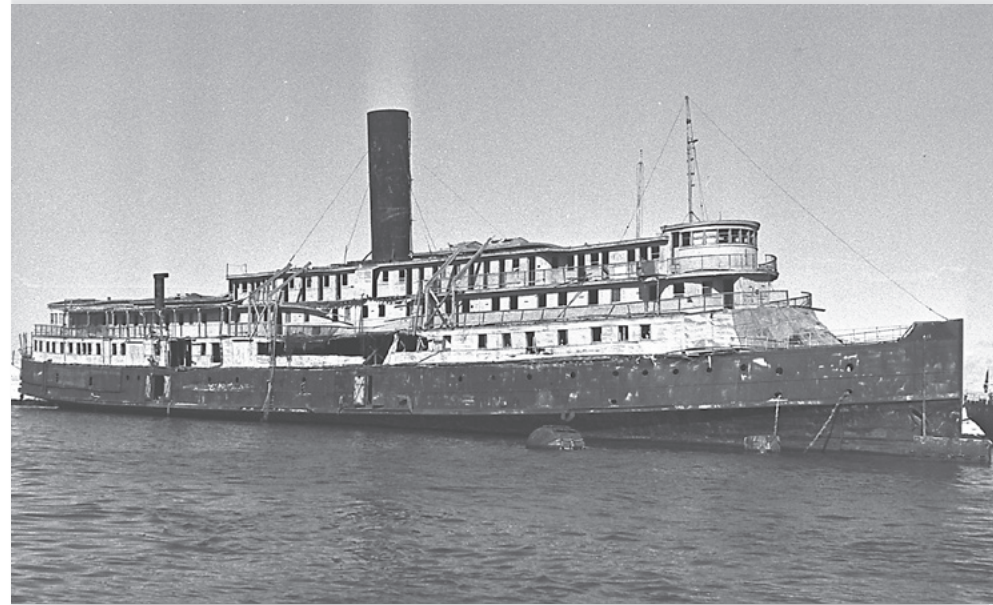
Dear Jehan, Thank you from the heart for your personal message. I will remember it all my life. In your words I have found real friendship, humanity and profound compassion. Since we met in other days for all of us you won our respect and admiration. Aliza and I often talked about you. Always remembering the courage and vision of my unforgettable friend Anwar, Aliza and I used to say to each other: but Jehan is a personality in her own right. You proved it, dear friend, to everybody for years. And all those who saw you in pain and suffering bowed their head before your dignity. Now bereavement struck my dear ones and myself. I met Aliza when she was a young girl. Except for a period of separation, as a result of my arrest in Russia, we were together for more than forty years – a lifetime... Great is our loss. I have to accept in humility and even be grateful for the years of happiness we spent together.

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LESSON  
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## WE ARE NOT ALONE

One of the striking aspects of the moment in which we find ourselves is the fact that multitudes of non-Jewish Americans, and other non-Jews around the world, stand with the Jewish people and with Israel in the current crisis. That so many see in Israel a moral, religious, and democratic beacon in the Middle East reflects one unique aspect of this period of Jewish history. It is with this in mind that we remember one of the truly remarkable members of the crew of the ship known as *The Exodus*: John Stanley Grauel, a Christian minister and Zionist, and an operative of the Haganah. His burial place can be found in Jerusalem today, and his story should serve as inspiration to Jews and non-Jews alike- especially in this moment.



The Exodus

Photo retrieved from: <https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/e/e4/EXODUS.jpeg>



John Stanley Grauel aboard the Exodus

Photo retrieved from: [https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/7/75/Crew\\_on\\_the\\_President\\_Warfield\\_%28later\\_the\\_Exodus\\_1947%29\\_before\\_its\\_departure\\_for\\_Europe.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/7/75/Crew_on_the_President_Warfield_%28later_the_Exodus_1947%29_before_its_departure_for_Europe.jpg)

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*John Stanley Grauel, on meeting Hagannah leadership in an office next to an Interfaith Zionist organization in Philadelphia*

I began to be aware of the stream of young men going in and out of the next office....I went into the office and asked the man there, who introduced himself as Bucky Karmatz, what business he was in. He said he was interviewing counselors, for a camp. 'If those tough looking guys were counselors, I'd like to meet the campers,' was my response. Bucky invited me for lunch which in this case meant sandwiches at his desk, and we talked. I found he had been informed about my work next door, even if I had not been told about his. He was running a recruiting office for the Haganah here in the States."

"Talking to Bucky, I knew I had found my niche. I would join the Haganah, the underground, to become a part of that organization to rescue those who could be helped to leave Europe. I liked that affirmation of life after the war."

...I discovered that with discretion I could continue to function as executive director of the American -Christian Palestine Committee in public, while in private I was moving around meeting people on Zionist business as discreetly as possible. I was helping to raise funds to buy guns, bullets and ships needed for the creation of a new state. Bucky called me in one day and told me that they had rounded up a great liner called the President Garfield. This was the ship the Haganah would take to Europe to pick up refugees for Palestine. With the understanding that every step of this operation from the loading of the refugees to the landing in Palestine would be opposed by the British and would have to be accomplished with as much secrecy as possible, I made my decision to join the crew. It would be a matter of some months before I would discover the ship was not the Garfield but the Warfield, a ship named after the owner of the Baltimore Bay Line and the uncle of Wallace Warfield Simpson, wife of the Duke of Windsor. This was the ship that would be known historically as the Exodus- 1947.

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## LESSON

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# THE ISRAELI FLAG *and the LOVE that ALLOWS US to SEE BEYOND SIGHT*

Every day since October 7th, the flag of Israel along with the American flag hangs from Shearith Israel, prominently illustrating how our Community stands with Israel. The colors of the flag were taken from the stripes of the *tallit*, which in turn were taken from the two colors of the *tsitsit*: blue and white. As Rabbi Joseph Soloveitchik interpreted this symbolism, the strings that are called white denote clarity, that which is self evident. They bespeak the power of the human mind to perceive, to deduce, to investigate, and to innovate. But then there is *tekhelet*, blue, representing, according to the Talmud, the furthest reaches of heaven itself. *Tekhelet*, Rav Soloveitchik said, symbolizes the perennial mysteries of life that resist rationalization. The very blueness of the sky, the Rav said is only due to the distance from which man observes it. In his words, "while the color white refers to the clearly perceptible, the blue refers to a realm that is only barely grasped." The blue of the flag, in other words, reminds us to see with love and faith.

This, in turn, reminded me of a quote from Yossi Klein Halevi, who described his interview of the photographer David Rubinger:

Rubinger's living room was a photographic gallery of his work, a reminder of why he has become our most important visual chronicler: For all his irony and disappointment, he is hopelessly in love with Israel's story. There, on the wall,

(continued)

were Israel's defining images: Egyptian President Anwar Sadat whispering to Prime Minister Menachem Begin; Begin tenderly placing a shoe on the foot of his wife, Aliza; a kerchiefed, elderly woman clutching the gravestone of her son who fell in the Yom Kippur War, while her bearded husband sits on the ground beside her, staring blankly; a slumped Golda Meir holding her head on the day her government fell...

"Which one is your favorite?" I asked him. Wordlessly, he led me into his study and pointed to the lone photograph hanging over his desk. It depicted a blind boy, a new immigrant in the 1950s; wearing a kova tembel, the conical kibbutzniks' hat, his mouth open in wonder, he strokes a relief map of the land of Israel. "I call it, 'Seeing the Homeland,'" Rubinger explained. For a photographer, blindness holds a special terror; yet this boy, Rubinger was saying, was teaching us that love provided a deeper way of seeing than mere physical sight.

Love provides "a deeper way of seeing." The flag is thus a reminder in these moments to continue to reflect love for our brethren in Israel, for the heroes that fight for the State, and for the Holy Land. And may we see with our own eyes many more inspiring images from Israel in the future.

“

*David Wolfsonn, friend of Herzl, on the flag of the Zionist Congress*

At the behest of our leader Herzl, I came to Basel to make preparations for the Zionist congress. Among many other problems that occupied me then was one which contained something of the essence of the Jewish problem. What flag would we hang in the congress hall? Then an idea struck me: we have a flag- and it is blue and white. The tallith with which we wrap ourselves and pray. That is our symbol. Let us take this tallith from its bag and unroll it before the eyes of Israel and eyes of all the nations. So I ordered a blue and white flag with the shield of David painted upon it. That is how the national flag, that flew over congress hall, came into being.

”



Raising the "Ink Flag" over Eilat in 1948

Photo retrieved from: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ink\\_Flag#/media/File:Raising\\_the\\_Ink\\_Flag\\_at\\_Umm\\_Rashrash\\_\(Eilat\).jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ink_Flag#/media/File:Raising_the_Ink_Flag_at_Umm_Rashrash_(Eilat).jpg)

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*from our*  
SPONSORS



SERIES  
UNDERWRITERS

Visionary  
Sanctity  
Independence  
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With heartfelt appreciation

*Susan & Roger Hertog*



Our deepest gratitude

*Naomi & Peter Neustadter*





With deep appreciation  
to our Rabbi,  
our other Clergy,  
and to our entire  
congregational community

*The Solomon Family*



With appreciation  
for our erudite spiritual leader,  
Rabbi Meir Soloveichik,  
and our talented hazzan,  
Rabbi Ira Rohde

*Stacey & Oliver Stanton  
and Family*





Best wishes and  
sincere thanks

*Stan & Madelene Towne*



We salute  
Congregation Shearith Israel  
and the remarkable and enriching  
work of Rabbi Meir  
and Layaliza Soloveichik

*Nicole & Raanan Agus*



With profound appreciation

*Meryl Jaffe & Adam Hurwich*



In support and in honor of my  
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*Alan Kestenbaum on behalf  
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With best wishes from  
*Gillian & Simon Salama-Caro*



Best Wishes from  
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In grateful recognition

*George Klein and Chalom &  
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Commemorating the long  
and historic continuity  
of our amazing Esnoga!

*Michael, Rachel, Helena,  
Julia, Zander*



With sincere thanks  
*The Roberts Family*



In appreciation  
*Anne & Natalio Fridman*



I thank Rabbi Meir Soloveichik and Parnas Louis Solomon for ensuring that Congregation Shearith Israel is not only the United States' oldest Jewish congregation but that it is also its most intellectually dynamic.

*Raymond D. Jasen*



Extending our deep gratitude

*Alene Schneierson & Morris Krimolovsky*



With appreciation for the wonderful  
clergy and staff of Shearith Israel

*Dr. Susan Lobel*



With warmest regards

*The Nathan Family*



*“The greatest sefer consists not of ink on parchment, but rather of words written directly onto people themselves....”*  
– Drashot HaRav

IN TRIBUTE TO RABBI MEIR SOLOVEICHIK

By your example of living a life based on Torah values, you have impacted our lives and those of future generations. Your erudition and scholarship have brought us closer to our Jewish heritage and you have touched the hearts and minds of your congregants and students. You are an exemplary role model. May you continue to go from strength to strength.

With love and admiration,  
*Sharon Dane and Gail Propp*



Thank you, Rabbi Soloveichik,  
for this marvelous program

*Ivy & Marvin Schildkraut*



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Rima Raynes,  
a true woman of valor  
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In memory of  
Ambassador Yehuda Avner and  
his deep friendship with  
Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

*Debbie & David Sable*



In honor of our granddaughter Ahuva Schechter,  
upon graduating TAG High School. She will  
iy”h be attending Michlaleh seminary in Israel.

Continue making us proud!

In honor of our granddaughter Aviva Schechter,  
upon graduating from TAG Elementary  
School. She will iy”h be attending  
TAG High School in the fall.

In honor of the Bat Mitzvah of our  
granddaughter, Chaya Schechter. She is a  
student of RYNJ in New Jersey.

Mazal tob to all our grandchildren! May they  
continue to bring us much *yiddishe nachas*.

*Carol & Alan Schechter*



*The Sisterhood* salutes  
Golda Meir and the thousands of  
women and men who  
fought for the State of Israel  
and helped bring it to this  
momentous 75th anniversary!



In honor of our daughter Karyn,  
and keep keeping up all the good work  
you do for Israel and world Jewry.

*Jeannette & Fred Bogart*

With genuine thanks

*Eva E. Deutsch*



With utmost appreciation

*Raquel & Steve Herz*

In memory of my mother,  
Helen Schimel

*David Schimel*



*Be'hatzlachah!*

*Maimon Schwarzschild*

In honor of our dear friends and neighbors  
Debbie Neumark z"l  
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*Ealan & Melinda Wingate*

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and Rabbi Soloveichik on his inspiring lecture series.

In memory of William Barest, ז"ל ברוך ב. זאב, on his *nahala*  
*Bonnie Barest and Family*

*Dor acharon l'shebud,  
v'reshon l'geulah anachnu  
Fred Baumgarten*

In remembrance of Dan's mother,  
Gloria Bettinger, on her *nahala*  
*Nava & Dan Bettinger*

With our thanks  
*Malaika & Anthony Bregman*

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Loved all your fascinating lectures - Thank you!

*Viviane Bregman*

In appreciation  
*Karen Heilig & Ivan Ciment*

To our dedicated clergy - Thank you!  
*Rose & Henry Edinger*

In memory of Theodore & Miriam Watkin  
*Faith Fogelman*

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With gratitude to Rabbi Soloveichik for  
enlightening and inspiring us  
*Reuben, Matea, and Laury Frieber*

In honor of the 5th *nahala* of  
Maurice “Moish” Friedman,  
which was on the 29th of Iyar (May 20)  
*Joyce & David Friedman*

In memory of Robert’s father,  
Nachman Shimon b. Moshe HaLevi,  
whose 38th *nahala* was on the first day of Shabuot  
*Judy & Robert Friedman*

In memory of Dr. Jacob Brener  
*Judy & Marty Grumet*

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In appreciation of our community  
*Janegail & James Kahn*

With profound gratitude  
*The Klaber Family*

Extending our best wishes  
*Joyce & Edward Misrahi*

Proud to salute Israel at 75!  
*Carla & Jonah Schein*

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*Kol hakavod* to Rabbi Soloveichik  
for continuing to inspire us!

*Esther & Bill Schulder*

In commemoration of the liberation of Lu's parents,  
Lillie and Milton Steinberg z"l,  
and in memory of our family z"l that didn't survive  
*Lu, Michael, & Talia Schulder, Ilana & Daniel Ross*

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With warm regards

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*Howard & Linda Sterling*

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*Rachel & Dr. David Vorchheimer*

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picture is worth a thousand words. Your insight, added to unique  
background information, brought these photographs to life.

*Marion & Billy Weiss*

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In gratitude

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With utmost appreciation

*Charlotte Triefus & Lloyd Zuckerberg*

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