



YESHIVAT MORESHET YERUSHALAYIM



**YEAR IN
REVIEW
5785 / 2024-25**

Mission Statement

Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim is a Sephardic post-high school yeshivah located in Jerusalem, dedicated to preparing young men for college, business and life with a strong foundation in Torah and misvot. Rooted in the rich traditions of Aram Soba and guided by the timeless Sephardic values of our ancestors, we strive to cultivate future leaders—Bnei Torah—who will carry their experience of living and learning in Eres Yisrael into every aspect of their lives.

Our Team

Rabbi Harold Sutton
ROSH YESHIVAH
FOUNDER

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ISRAEL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Rabbi Yaakov Tessler
DIRECTOR OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Rabbi Edward Benjamin
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Moreshet Yerushalayim
EIN: 871062751
1385 Broadway, 16th floor
New York, NY 10018



Dear Friends, Supporters and Family of Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim,

As we look back on an incredible year of growth and inspiration at Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim, we are filled with gratitude — to our students, to our rabbanim, and to each of you who made this year possible.

This past year has been nothing short of transformative. From engaging shiurim and heartfelt tefillot to powerful trips and lifelong friendships, our students experienced a year that deepened their connection to Torah, to Klal Yisrael, and to themselves.

Our unique approach to learning, rooted deeply in the traditional Sephardic mesorah, has inspired and challenged our students across many dimensions. Our focus on textual analysis in Gemara has allowed them to develop into true talmidei hakhamim, while our halakhic curriculum — centered around the writings of Maran Rabbi Yosef Karo zt"l & Hakham Ovadia Yosef zt"l — sparked a renewed passion and curiosity for learning halakha among all our students.

One of the greatest blessings of this year has been the deep relationships forged between our students and their rabbanim. These are not just classroom connections — they are bonds that last a lifetime. Many of our students continue their learning with their rabbanim even after the year ends, through interactive platforms and personal habrutot. This continuity of learning is something we are especially proud of.

Every student grows here — each according to his individual strengths, interests, and potential. Our low student-to-rebbe ratio allows us to focus on the personal development of every talmid in a truly meaningful way.

This year, our students also faced the unique challenges of living in Eres Yisrael during a politically and emotionally turbulent time. They rose to the moment — not only continuing their learning, but actively engaging with Am Yisrael. They sought out opportunities to support soldiers, brought joy to those in need, and stood with the people of Israel during moments of both celebration and sorrow.

Although the year ended in a bit of uncertainty, the yeshiva remained focused and strong. Our rabbanim and students doubled down on their learning and commitment, and in doing so, they witnessed and appreciated the remarkable hashgacha and miracles that HaKadosh Baruch Hu continues to show our nation.

We look forward to continuing our relationship with each and every talmid — watching them grow, welcoming them back, and seeing them choose to spend their free time immersed in Torah once again at Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim.

With heartfelt gratitude and berakha,

Rabbi Harold Sutton
Rosh Yeshiva, Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim

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ROSH YESHIVAH
FOUNDER

Rabbi Yehoshua Shani
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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DAILY LEARNING

One look at a typical student's schedule for the week shows you the wide variety of content that Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim covers. Gemara is studied in two ways – b'iyun (in depth) and bekiut (familiarity). During their iyun sessions, students delve deeply into a select amount of text, analyzing each line or concept very carefully — why things are said, not just what is said. This slower-paced approach fosters critical thinking, reasoning and analytical skills, and involves extensive use of commentaries. During bekiut class, the goal is to cover a large amount of material, by getting a basic understanding of the text, knowing what it says and the general flow. This helps students build a broad knowledge base and familiarity with the structure and content of texts.

Rabbi Shimon Alouf delivers a Bet Yosef class twice a week where he traces the development of Halakha through contemporary poskim. All students study Halakha in small group sessions. Areas covered include the laws of Shabbat, blessings, and prayer.

A unique component of Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim's curriculum is the strong emphasis on Hashkafa. Students have multiple classes engaging in the classical texts of our great Rabbinical thinkers such as Mesilat Yesharim (Path of the Just) by Rabbi Moshe Haim Luzato and Pirkei Abot (Ethics of the Fathers) and many of the works of HaRambam (Maimonides).

In addition to the frontal shiurim delivered by our stellar Rabbis, students learn with Habrutot under the guidance of several teachers. During night seder, students work in small groups on their bekiut classes, developing their understanding of the "big picture" of the Gemara they are learning.

Prior to the morning Gemara seder, we offer a shiur on practical topics that our students are interested in, such as the meaning of Tefilah and the laws of Shabbat. A unique part of this experience is the opportunity to delve into Hegyonei Halakha—taught by its author, Rabbi Mirsky, himself.

Many of our students have made siyumim on multiple books of Tanakh, which they learn during their free time, inspired by living in the "land where it all happened."

Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim prides itself on the fact that our low teacher to student ratio allows our students and graduates to develop close, meaningful and lasting relationships with the rabbis and teachers. Not only do our students get more individualized attention while learning, with staff focusing on each student's strengths, weaknesses, and learning styles, they have more opportunities to speak up, ask questions, and participate in discussions, building their confidence and communication skills. All our students benefit from the richer, more personalized and more effective learning experience, and continue to benefit from these meaningful connections as they move through the next stages of their lives.



"These teachers make you feel so excited about Torah and they all teach in their own particular ways which is special."
- Steve Morano



"I've built amazing connections with the rabbis and they taught me topics that I really needed to know and it really changed my life."
- Felix HadeF



"Learning from Rabbis who are relatable, warm and -most importantly- carry the מסורה of the חכמים who came before them is a privilege I will always feel deep הכרת הטוב for."
- Ezra Harari

DAILY LEARNING



HARRY ADJMI PUBLIC SPEAKING PROGRAM

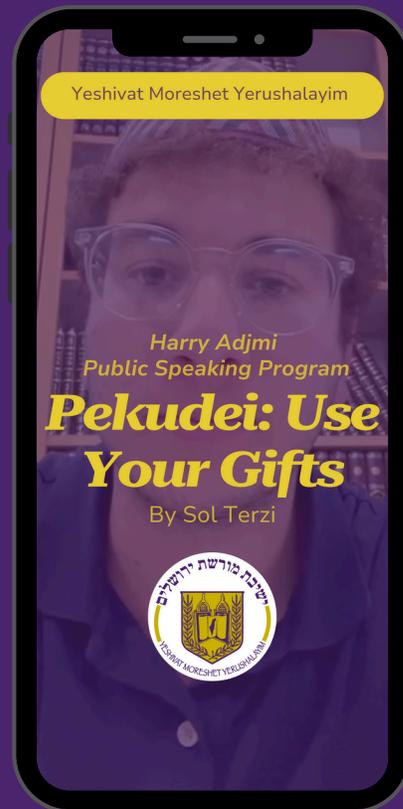
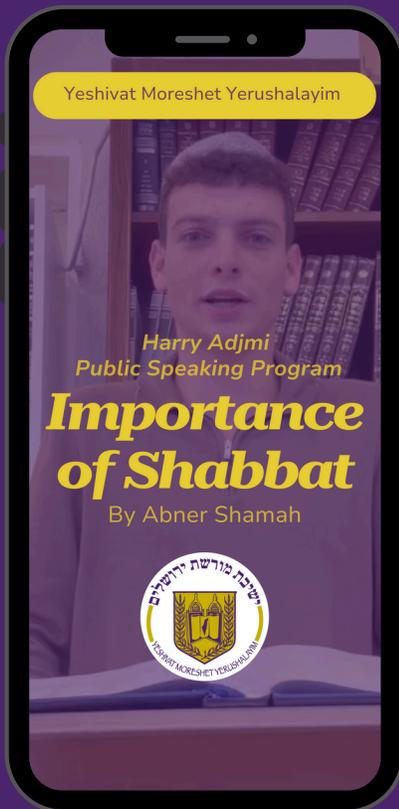


"I'm really just happy that I've gotten to a place where I can share the things I learn with others. It makes the learning feel so much more meaningful."
- Reuben Bibi



"Really enjoyed getting to speak on the Instagram for the first time- even better was hearing such great feedback from the parents!"
- Albert Shalom

The Harry Adjmi Public Speaking Program has become a powerful part of the Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim experience, giving students the tools to articulate Torah insights with clarity and confidence. Under the guidance of Rabbi Yitzchak Mirsky, students work on their speeches during his shiur, receiving valuable feedback on both content and delivery. Many share their Dibre Torah with the yeshivah- either on Shabbat or during the week- and some have even spoken in their home synagogues during Pesah break. This year, we also launched our Weekly Dibre Torah initiative in yeshivah and on Instagram, showcasing the impressive growth in public speaking, communication, and leadership among our talmidim- garnering tens of thousands of views!



DAY TRIPS & ISRAEL EXPLORATION

At Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim, students have the opportunity to experience the beauty and depth of Eretz Yisrael through unforgettable tiyulim. From hiking the waterfalls of Ein Gedi to exploring the ancient streets of Safed and Hebron, each trip brought Tanakh and Jewish history to life. Highlights included our three day trip to Eilat, breathtaking views from Masada, visiting Arad, Teveria, Mechon Hamikdash and the City of David. These trips fostered camaraderie, spiritual growth, and a deeper connection to the Land of Israel.



"I always get excited when the white bus pulls up in front of the school because I know we're about to experience the Tanakh come to life on a great trip"
- Michael Cytryn

SHABBATONIM & HAGIM

Shabbat at Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim is a cornerstone of the yeshivah experience, filled with heartfelt tefilot in the Syrian tradition, spirited zemirot, and Dibre Torah shared by both students and rabbis. Boys enjoy meaningful meals with faculty and madrichim, who often lead warm and engaging Oneg Shabbat programs. Beyond campus, we have three special Shabbatonim around Israel- Hebron and Sde Boker and Safed. Holidays like Simhat Torah, Hanukkah, Purim and Yom Haasmaut were celebrated as one family, creating memories of joy, unity, and inspiration.



"Celebrating holidays in Israel is amazing because everyone makes it their priority to celebrate it- as oppose to anywhere else in the world where it just doesn't have the same feeling."
- Elliot Chalmè



"Holiday and Shabbats are the highlight of the year- bonding with you friends and having amazing tefilliot"
- Yosef Betesh



HESED PROGRAM

This year, hesed at Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim took on many powerful forms. Students led and participated in meaningful volunteer work, from packing food for local pantries to reading the Megillah at hospitals on Purim. They built beds for families in need, helped with farming and even worked on road construction projects in Arad— building the future of Israel. These acts of giving back were more than projects—they were an integral part of the students' spiritual and personal development.



"When we packaged Mishloah Manot for Zion Breska I think it really showed how good we worked as a yeshivah and the good we can do if we all try"
- Steven Morano

NIGHT SEDER & INDEPENDENT GROWTH



"Night Seder was truly my favorite part of the day, the amazing combo of learning with your rabbi and friends. We were able to learn all night"
- Yosef Betesh

Night seder at Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim reverberated with energy, as students engaged in deep learning with their habrutot and teachers well beyond the formal schedule. Optional learning initiatives created a vibrant environment of Torah lishmah, with many students pursuing personal growth and even completing masekhtot. Thanks to some of our generous alumni this year we were able to offer gift cards for sefarim which incentivized late-night learning, and the Bet Midrash was alive with interactive shiurim, small group discussions, and a growing sense of ownership of their Torah journey. The bonds formed during these hours extended far beyond the pages of Tanakh and Gemara that were learned.



GUEST SPEAKERS & MISHMARS

Throughout the year, Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim welcomed an array of guest speakers, including community leaders, alumni, professionals, and rabbis from across Israel. Thursday night mishmars were a highlight, featuring engaging talks on topics ranging from Torah and business ethics to leadership, medicine, Halakha, and experiences in the IDF. These sessions exposed students to a well-rounded Torah worldview, showing them how to integrate Torah values into every aspect of life. Many speakers left a lasting impression, sparking thoughtful conversations that continued long after the sessions ended.



“What’s best about the guest speakers is that they come from all different backgrounds, but all share the same end goal. A non-religious basketball player, someone who grew up Reform or haredi. Their stories of how they got to where they are and why cannot be more different with endless lessons to take away.”

- Eddie Menashe

SEPHARDIC TORAH & IDENTITY

Our approach to Torah at Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim is rooted in the rich traditions of Sephardic heritage. We teach Gemara, Tur and Bet Yosef through the Sephardic approach. In Halakha classes, there is a strong emphasis on community minhagim. Students are taught hazzanut and taamim. Every year, several students learn how to read the Megillah for Purim, ensuring that these treasured traditions are passed down through the generations.



"I had the privilege of going to the Knis Aades on many Shabbatot and even going at 3 a.m. for the Shabbat *baqashot*. I learned one-on-one with their hazzanim, not only studying the sacred melodies but also learning to play the oud in the tradition of our ancestors. It was an immersive connection to Sephardic identity- a living heritage sustained through sound, spirit, and sacred tradition."
- Charles Azrak



"Being in this school & learning in the Derekh of our community inspired me to read more from the Torah and to serve as Hazan more often- following the traditions of Aram Soba."
-Ezra Harari



SPORTS & RECREATION

Beyond rigorous Torah study, students stay active with daily gym sessions, a Friday football league, Saturday night pickup basketball, and Tuesday night basketball leagues, ensuring they stay physically fit while having fun. After all, it's not just about strengthening your mind—it's about keeping your body healthy and energized too!



"Feel free to talk to your teachers outside of class- they become more than just your rabbi. And you get a better connection by beating them in a basketball game."
- Joe I. Dweck



"There's many different things for us to do beyond the learning. A bunch of us have memberships at Lazuz gym, we play sports in Gan Saker, the park right across from Yeshivah. Basketball, tennis, football... It's really fun. All the boys come together and we have a great time."
- Jojo Srour

STUDENT REFLECTIONS & TAKEAWAYS

“

If I hadn't come to Israel for the year I'd be drifting into a life of wherever it would have taken me. Coming out of my year in Israel, I'm more excited than scared for my future as I am confident I can shape it how I want to. A thought that was not consistent with me until reflecting on my year.

- Eddie Menashe



“

My year at Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim shaped a whole new way for me to view Torah, helped me build deep relationships with amazing rabbis and students, and gave me the chance to learn in Jerusalem, the best location possible. The values I gained were ones I didn't even realize I was missing but now can't imagine living without.

- Morris Sutton



“

Spending the year at Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim was the best decision I've made- it grounded me spiritually, matured me personally, and gave me a vision for the kind of life I truly want to live.

- Robert Falack



“

Over two incredible years at Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim, I didn't just learn Torah- I found a home, mentors I trust and friendships that last forever.

- Sol Terzi



“

My year in Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim was transformative — a time of true growth, where I found myself compiling knowledge and a greater connection to Torah, to enduring values, and to the land itself. The love I developed for Eretz Yisrael will stay with me always, forming a foundation that will guide and strengthen me for the rest of my life.

- Jacob Cayre



TEACHER & PARENT TESTIMONIALS

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Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim has many, many positive attributes. One of them that speaks volumes is that the Yeshiva is truly an extension of our Sephardic community, with community students and Rabbis he felt at home. Our son had an excellent year and we were very happy for him.

- Alan Kishk

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“

Watching the Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim boys grow this year was truly inspiring. It was particularly beautiful was to see them grow in their love of Torah and misvot- both as individuals as well as a group.

- Rabbi Edward Benjamin, Dean of Students

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“

It was an extra special year in Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim. Bruce came home with so much spiritual growth, independence, maturity and the most beautiful love of learning and of Eres Yisrael. I will forever be grateful for the most impactful year of his life and for priceless memories he will never forget. The Rabbis and all the boys became one big family.

- Michelle Zekaria

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“

I'm so proud of my son Stevie. He really gained the tools and knowledge to learn effectively, and it shows in how much he knows. It's inspiring to see his dedication, especially waking up early every morning before minyan to learn with a few friends. Watching him grow in this way fills me with gratitude and pride.

- Grace Shalom

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The best part of the night is the back-and-forth — they push themselves, and they push me too. Every boy has his own spark, and it's been incredible watching that come out. This year wasn't just about covering pages — it was about really connecting to what we learned.

- Moshe Alouf, Night Seder

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Felix's time at Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim has only been a positive experience!!! He's fallen in love with Israel, strengthened his bond with his friends, absolutely adores his teachers, and enjoys the learning with all his peers.

- David Hadev

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Its remarkable to see such young individuals develop a profound sense of responsibility toward their community and the entire nation.

- Rabbi Tanchum Gold, Morning Seder

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Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim puts together an amazing program that allowed my son to develop a love of learning Torah and Eres Yisrael that he will take with for the rest of his life. The rabbis and staff are second to none- bravo for a job well done!

- David Khaski

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RABBINICAL TESTIMONIALS

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I recommend Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim... May they be a great light and leaders for communities in Israel and around the world.

Rabbi Meir Mazuz A"H
Rosh Yeshiva, Kisse Rahamim



“

I am so glad to see important rabbis who have risen to establish Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim for students of the illustrious [Sephardic] Community of New York.

Rabbi Shlomo Amar
Rishon Lesion & Chief Rabbi of Yerushalayim



“

I highly recommend Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim from two vantages; First from my personal experience as a parent, as my youngest son spent two years as a student and then mentor. Second, as a teacher- it is the ideal Torah center for our youth.

Rabbi Shimon Hai Alouf
Halakha Seder Rabbi, Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim



“

Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim is more than a place of learning — it is a place of growth, connection, and deep commitment to our Sephardic heritage.

Rabbi Avi Harari
Rabbinical Leader, Yeshivah of Flatbush



“

Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim is allowing the young men of our community to continue to build on the foundation of the Torah and Yahadut that they already have... They are ensuring that they maintain and commit to a life of Torah and Misvot at the most crucial times in their lives.

Rabbi Saul J. Kassin
Rosh Yeshivah, Hillel Yeshivah High School



“

The beauty of Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim is their balance. Where they meld together Torah learning, character growth, and care for each individual student, with a sense of independence and preparedness for their future and the world around them.

Rabbi Joey Haber
Director, Keshet



“

The rabbis at Yeshivat Moreshet Yerushalayim combine brilliance in Torah with open mindedness, warmth, and are very easy to speak to and build strong relationships with, to ultimately help our students build their relationship with Hakadosh Baruch Hu.

Rabbi Joseph Dana
Assistant Rosh Yeshivah, Hillel Yeshiva High School



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YESHIVAT MORESHET YERUSHALAYIM

ANNUAL CAMPAIGN



<i>Sponsorship Opportunity</i>	<i>Cost</i>
<i>Partner in a Year of Learning</i>	\$60,000
<i>Shabbaton in Safed</i>	\$26,000
<i>Shabbaton in Hebron</i>	\$26,000
<i>End of Year Shabbaton</i>	\$26,000
<i>Rabbi Harold Sutton's Shiurim</i>	\$26,000
<i>Rabbi Shimon Alouf's Shiurim</i>	\$26,000
<i>Rabbi Yitzchak Mirsky's Shiurim</i>	\$18,000
<i>Other Daily Shiurim (6 Available)</i>	\$10,000
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<i>In Shabbats (14 available)</i>	\$5,200
<i>Rosh Hashanah</i>	\$5,200

All donations can be made in honor or memory of a loved one.

YESHIVAT MORESHET YERUSHALAYIM

ANNUAL CAMPAIGN



Sponsorship Opportunity	Cost
<i>Yom Kippur</i>	\$5,200
<i>Simhat Torah</i>	\$5,200
<i>Shabuot All Night Learning</i>	\$5,200
<i>Month of Learning</i>	\$3,600
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<i>Issue of Moreshet Magazine</i>	\$2,600
<i>Week of Learning</i>	\$1,800
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<i>Regular Mishmar</i>	\$501

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