



# December Newsletter

טבת תשע"ו - 2015

Anilewicz 5, 1340003 Safed, Israel

## Educational advancement is our priority !

Azmaro. K., married and father of two, is a fire fighter here in Safed (in photo with some of his team). He has greater aspirations, and has started to study for a B.A. at the [Safed Academic College](#). Being over 28, he does not qualify for a grant.



Earlier this year we paid 50% of the cost (\$480 out of \$960) of a **preparation course** for the psychometric exam, which would qualify him to enroll (we also made him an **interest-free loan** for the other 50%, which he is repaying in 10 monthly payments).

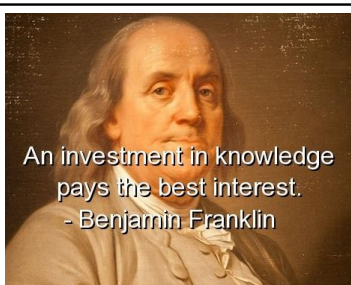
Then we paid a further \$390, being 50% of the **registration fee** for the College (again, we made him a **loan** for the other 50%).

**One year's tuition** for the degree course is approximately \$2850. A generous donor from the US "adopted" this project, and sent \$500 on Azmaro's behalf. We are paying \$1240, and Azmaro will pay the remaining \$1110.

We need hardly add that if and when he gets a degree, apart from qualifying for better paid jobs, he will serve as a rôle model both in his own family as well as in his wider community, and will also contribute to changing the public's preconceptions about Ethiopian Jews.



The number of students of Ethiopian origin doing degree courses is proportionately lower than their percentage of the population; the number enrolled in medicine, the exact sciences and engineering is far less. Yemsrach D. is studying at the [Faculty of Industrial Engineering & Management](#), one of about 20 Ethiopian students at the [Technion](#). She's come a long way since arriving in Israel as a baby about 24 years ago - in this photo she was an essential part of Avigail S.'s Purim costume at that time ! Both she and her mother and their family have remained close friends with Avigail and her family ever since, so that she was very reticent to ask for financial help this year. However she just couldn't make ends meet; we were happy to make her a **monthly grant of \$100** to help pay for accommodation, food and travelling expenses.



In the course of 2015 we supported at least three other students, some of who have been featured in previous Newsletters:

- \$820:** Kobi A., Oranim College (near Haifa)
- \$1370:** Workanesh A., Bar Ilan University
- \$515:** Hannah Y., Haifa University

*"If you educate a man, you educate an individual, but if you educate a woman, you educate a nation."*

## College education depends on High School education depends on Primary School ...

This past year we spent the following sums **subsidizing** High School students in Safed (partial list):

- \$420:** Simha K., English lessons
- \$430:** Simha K., Amit Ulpanit High School, Safed
- \$835:** Idan T., Amit Yeshiva High School, Safed
- \$4485:** Gadi B., Menahem Begin High School, Safed (we wrote about this project in the [Rosh HaShana Newsletter](#).) We thank the **USCJ Tikun Olam Program** for their generous support (\$1000), as well as a very open-handed donation (\$1280) from a new supporter in Jerusalem, both ear-marked for Gadi's extra tuition.
- \$518:** Computer for family with 3 school age children.

And on **subsidizing** Primary School students in the area (partial list):

- \$215:** Hannah D., Agamim School, Safed
- \$100:** Leah K., HaAri School, Safed
- \$520:** Uriel M. & Ori M., Shevet Sofer School, Hazor

### Local residents help out with new-born baby

When Davit T. and his wife had their third child, they turned to us to help them find a bed and push-chair. We advertised in local Internet forums, and received several offers of gifts. The bed and push-chair that they received were given by the Zeiri family, but there was no mattress. Another Safed resident paid for a new mattress and sheets.

Davit is not only on the "receiving end": as a maintenance worker at the [Shimon bar Yohai tomb](#) in Meron, he is able to collect several hundred cans and bottles every month, which form part of our recycling activity (see next item).



### Over 100,000 this year !

That's the number of **bottles and cans** recycled in 2015. The deposit is claimed back, and with it we covered **12% of our total expenditure** in 2014 (15% in 2013). The actual sums are in our [Financial Report](#) (**emphasized**). This activity involves many, many well-wishers in Safed and elsewhere: from commercial enterprises that provide several hundred items a week, to individuals who drop off just a couple of bottles after Shabbat. "Many's a mickle that makes a muckle !" (That applies to monetary contributions, too !)



### Warmth with no danger for 90 year-old Bosana



Married for nearly 70 years (her husband died 6 years ago), Bosana now lives on her own, but one of her three sons or a granddaughter spend every night with her. While fully alert, she is physically frail; for years she heated her apartment with a kerosene heater, but the family was warned that there was a risk that she would trip and overturn it. At their request we bought her an **air-conditioner** (\$1360, paid in 12 installments).

## Our faithful supporters:

Many thanks for contributing so generously to our Committee in the course of **2014** and/or **2015** (our apologies if we have inadvertently omitted anyone):

Abuhav Synagogue (Mr. Meir Carsenti), Safed, Israel  
 Ms. Yvonne Akonnor, London, UK  
 Mr. & Mrs. Harvey Alperin, Sykesville, MD  
 Mr. Assaf Arzi, Shvut Rahel, Israel  
 Mr. David Attia, Washington, DC  
 Mr. Yehoshua Bader, Safed, Israel  
 Mr. & Mrs. David J. Bardin, Washington, DC  
 Ms. Deborah Bentum, Dartford, UK  
 Ms. Yael Ban, Har Haluz, Israel  
 Dr. Shimshon Bitnun, Bar Yohai, Israel  
 Prof. & Mrs. Laurie Blendis, Jerusalem, Israel  
 In honor of Hilary & Yehoshua Sivan's 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.  
 Dr. & Mrs. Robert J. Bloomberg, Tempe, AZ  
 Ms. Diane Brounstein, Toluca Lake, CA  
 Mr. & Mrs. Ohad Burstain, Jerusalem, Israel  
 Prof. David & Mrs. Felicia Citron, Jerusalem, Israel  
 Mr. Terry Clapp, Napa, CA  
 Mr. Benjamin Cohen, Safed, Israel  
 Mr. Chaim & Mrs. Talya Cohen, Jerusalem, Israel  
 Mr. Haim & Mrs. Rivka Cohen, Jerusalem, Israel  
 Ms. Hadas Cohen (Buzaglo), Safed, Israel  
 Ms. Rivka Cohen, Mattat, Israel  
 Mr. Simon Cohen, Emmen, Netherlands  
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 Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Eth, Hackensack, NJ  
 Mr. & Mrs. David Duke, Jerusalem, Israel  
 Ms. Roslyn Feigenbaum, Forest Hills, NY  
 In memory of her parents, Kate and Sam Feigenbaum.  
 Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Flatauer, Safed, Israel  
 Mr. Thomas J. Fleisch, Mamaroneck, NY  
 Mrs. Anna Folberg, Rosh Pina, Israel  
 Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Freland, Safed, Israel  
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 Mr. Shaul Fust, Rosh Pina, Israel  
 Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Fuks, Moshav Shuva, Israel  
 Mr. Jay Glushien, Longmeadow, MA  
 Mrs. Lillian Goldberg, Sarasota, FL  
 In memory of her husband, Bertram Goldberg.  
 Mrs. Yehudit Dana Goldfarb, Safed, Israel  
 Mr. & Mrs. Colin Goldstein, London, UK  
 Dr. Robert & Mrs. Keren Goldstein, Tel Yosef, Israel  
 Mr. Jerome Greenberg, Watchung, NJ  
 Hilary and Shimon Ilani, Jerusalem, Israel  
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 Mr. Leonard Kaplan, Scotch Plains, NJ  
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 Robert Klein Charitable Fund, Silver Springs, MD  
 Sandra & Mitchell Knisbacher Foundation, Burlington, VT  
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 Barry Landy Charitable Trust, Cambridge, UK  
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 Dr. Allan & Dr. Alicia Levine, Valley Village, CA  
 Mr. Haim Liksenberg, Safed, Israel  
 Mrs. Miriam Lindenberg, Safed, Israel  
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 Ms. Naomi Markowitz, Jerusalem, Israel  
 Mrs. Rachel Menses, Safed, Israel  
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 Mrs. Laurie Rappeport, Safed, Israel  
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 Ms. Phyllis Shalem, Safed, Israel  
 Mr. & Mrs. David Shine, London, UK  
 Mr. David Sidi, Scottsdale, AZ / Lymm, UK  
 Mr. Max Singer, Jerusalem, Israel  
 Ayala Sivan-Ben Yosef, Michal Rahat, Avigail Shriki,  
 Yona Cohen & Avital Sivan, Har Haluz / Safed, Israel  
 In honor of their parents, Hilary & Yehoshua Sivan, on their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.  
 Ms. Avital Sivan, Safed, Israel  
 Mr. & Mrs. Howard Spielberg, Richmond, VA  
 Mrs. Susan Steinberg, Livermore, CA  
 Mrs. Elizabeth K. Teitelbaum, Brooklyn, NY  
 Mr. & Mrs. Michael Trabelsi, Safed, Israel  
 Lady Lira Winston, London, UK  
 Mrs. Shoshana Yehuda, Safed, Israel  
 Mr. Yosef Zarum, Jerusalem, Israel  
 Ms. Hana Zmiri, Jerusalem, Israel

Several donors made more than one contribution during the year, but they have been considered - for the sake of the table above - as one combined donation from that donor.



This year, for the first time, we sent out e-mails to past and potential donors, to participate in Giving Tuesday. **22 donations were received, totaling \$2009;** 15 donors gave for the first time. 11 gave in Israeli currency, 7 in \$US and 4 in £GB.

## The Committee for Ethiopian Jews in Safed

Registration No. 58-008-783-1

### Financial Report 1.1.2014 - 31.12.2014 (all figures in \$US)

	31/12/13	31/12/14
Opening cash balance	11542	1752*
Closing cash balance	1708*	570
Donations		
From Israeli contributors	2666	3954
From contributors abroad (mainly P.E.F.)	10171	24942
From P.E.F. special grants	10000	10000
From Tikun Olam Fund (USCJ)	1500	1250
Loan repayments	7197	6845
<b>Recycling</b>	<b>7278</b>	<b>6684</b>
<b><u>Total income</u></b>	<b><u>38812</u></b>	<b><u>53675</u></b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Grants to university & college students (9)	3801	5201
Professional training (3)	5049	2540
Subsidies & enrichment for secondary school children (6)	1999	4625
Subsidies for primary school children (16)	902	3834
Primary school trips, extra-curricular activities (8)	772	1814
Subsidies for nursery & pre-nursery school children (4)	843	857
Educational assessment	407	0
Religious needs (Bat Mizva) (2)	478	259
Loans (7)	11899	7942
Help for the needy (19)	11469	12408
Family reunification from Ethiopia	1770	0
Home repairs, replacement of appliances, etc. (7)	1545	1763
Dental treatment (11)	6475	12065
Other health needs (4)	761	1079
Postage, office supplies and fund-raising	112	93
Bank charges	364	377
<b><u>Total expenditure</u></b>	<b><u>48646</u></b>	<b><u>54857</u></b>
<b><u>Income – expenditure</u></b>	<b><u>-9834</u></b>	<b><u>-1182</u></b>

\* The closing cash balance for 2013 and the opening cash balance for 2014 were in fact identical, when expressed in Israeli currency. However dollar values have been calculated on an average rate of exchange for the year and these were not identical for 2013 and 2014.

**USA donors**

- can send a check to **P.E.F.** using [the form below](#) (this way there are no commissions) or
- can wire a contribution to **P.E.F.** (see [below](#)) or
- can make an on-line donation at [Israel Gives](#).

**UK donors**

- can make an on-line donation at [Israel Gives](#) or at [UK Toremet](#).

**Israel donors**

- can send a check to us by post (address given in [P.E.F. form below](#)), or
- can deposit a check directly in our account: **Bank Leumi (10), Branch 975, a/c 2814303**. Please notify us that a payment has been made ! or
- can make an on-line donation at [Israel Gives](#).

We are very anxious to widen our list of supporters, so if you have family, friends or acquaintances who you think would like to share in this great *mizva*, then **please recruit them !** Similarly, if you know of synagogue or community funds which might be available, please let us know and we will apply to the trustees.

Our e-mail address is [ysivan@hotmail.com](mailto:ysivan@hotmail.com) - what is yours ?

*We are trying to cut down on overheads by sending our Newsletters and other information online – please help us !*

This form can be printed out separately:

To: P.E.F. Israel Endowment Funds, Inc.  
630 Third Avenue, #1501  
New York, NY 10017

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ \* with a recommendation to your trustees that it be used for **The Committee for Ethiopian Jews in Safed, Anilewicz 5, 1340003 Safed, Israel**.  
Registration no. **58-008-783-1**

\* Gifts are US tax deductible if of at least \$25 and made payable to **P.E.F. Israel Endowment Funds, Inc.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_

**Wire transfer details:**

Israel Discount Bank  
511 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10017

ABA# 026009768

Account # 03-2693-2

Account name: **PEF Israel Endowment Funds, Inc.**

If you send a wire contribution, we strongly advise you to ask your bank to include a memo on the transfer slip that identifies you as the donor.

In addition, you MUST advise PEF (preferably to [info@pefisrael.org](mailto:info@pefisrael.org)) in writing of the exact amount that you intend to transfer, your **recommendation** for **The Committee for Ethiopian Jews in Safed (58-008-783-1)**, and when the transfer was made, so that they can identify the transfer when it comes in.

Please include your current mailing address in order that PEF may identify and acknowledge your contribution when it is received.