

# The Committee for Ethiopian Jews in Safed

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Pesah / Passover 2019 - פסח תשע"ט

## Safed firefighter receives testimonial for bravery



Only recently did we learn that Azmaro Kadema, a Safed firefighter, was one of 30 police, prison service and fire service personnel awarded the Ministry of Internal Security's Testimonial for Life-saving Activities. Five of the recipients at the ceremony (which took place two years ago), chaired by President Reuven Rivlin and in the presence of Minister of Public Security Gilad Erdan, were firefighters from across the country.

Azmaro's citation states:

"Senior firefighter Azmaro Kadema is based in the Safed station ... In September 2016 his team was called to a fire in a nine story building in the town. Kadema broke into a burning apartment and rescued a blind man from the flames. His action saved the man who is now undergoing rehabilitation. Kadema acted with determination and willingness to risk his own life, so carrying out his mission as a firefighter."

Our Committee has been helping Azmaro for several years to get a degree so that he can advance himself. We wrote about this at length in the [December 2015 Newsletter](#). **We are proud to be associated with a man of his caliber !**

## The synagogue which has supported us for over 30 years

Back in 1985, the first wave of Ethiopian immigrants to Safed were warmly welcomed every Shabbat at the historic [Abuhav Synagogue](#). The President, Mr. Meir Carsenti (below), excelled himself in making every new immigrant feel at home. On one occasion a 12-year-old girl, who had been following the service from the gallery (right), asked if she could see the text of a Sefer Torah: after everyone had gone home, Meir took her to the Ark, opened it specially, then opened one of the scrolls so that she could see the writing from



close up. His concern for

the community has carried on to this day: for the past five years he has requested the Committee to submit a proposal for funding, and every year the sum donated has increased. At the end of 2018, the synagogue gave us IS 5000 (**\$1380**) which covered the major part of the **bathroom renovation** for Mr. G.Y. He is an elderly man, and could no longer manage to step into his bath, so we paid two-thirds of the cost of removing the bath and installing a walk-in shower (our share was \$1660).

## Good Deeds Day 2019

This global event must be one of modern Israel's finest contributions to the world ! It [started here in 2007](#), and by 2018 had spread to 100 countries with 3,500,000 volunteers ! It takes place the [world over](#).

Mr. Maru Zaudo, the director of the Meron Absorption Center in Safed, asked us to help buy traditional costumes for their **girls dance group**. The group performed, as their Good Deed, before a very appreciative audience in the Safed Old Age



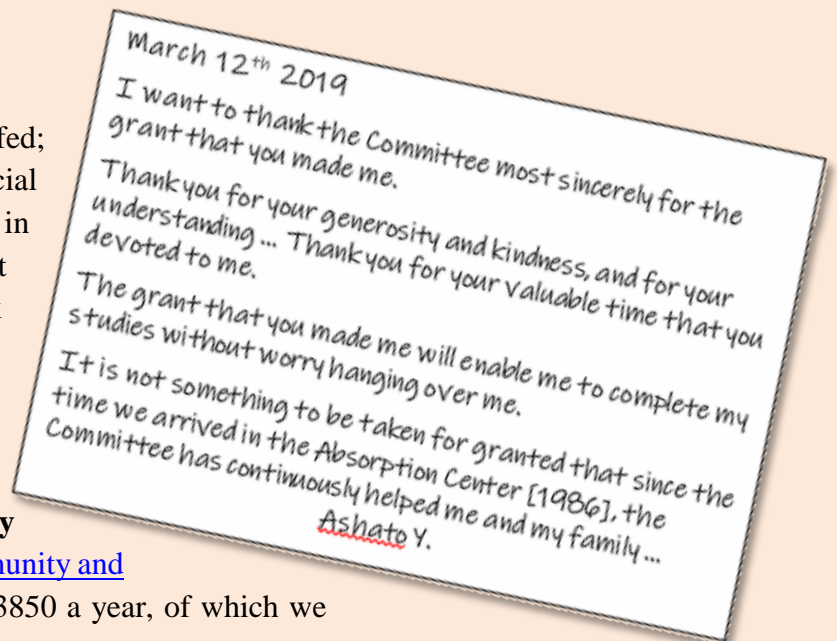
Home (right; some of the audience are parents of the children). One of the ways in which new immigrants feel that they are part of their new society is by contributing rather than receiving. For this reason we were happy to contribute **\$530** out of the \$700 needed for the **10 dresses**. The group has since been invited to perform elsewhere.

### Professional advancement



Ashato Y. grew up in Safed; he qualified as a social worker, and then worked in an Army prison. At present he works for the Bnei Brak Municipality, dealing with drug addiction.

Married with three children, he is currently in his second year studying for an **MA** in the **Bar Ilan University School of Social Work**, specializing in [Community and Organizational Development](#). The fees are \$3850 a year, of which we paid **\$1680**.



### Enhancing Jewish identity

Thousands of Israeli high school students go on **organized trips to Poland**, to visit Holocaust sites. Although subsidized by the Ministry of Education, they are still mainly an option for children of more affluent families. The principal of the Shaham Girls' Yeshiva High School in Kiryat Ata wrote asking for our help on behalf of Sarit Z., a very hard-working computer science student. The cost was \$1460, of which the Ministry would subsidize \$840. Sarit's family paid \$285, and we paid the remaining **\$335**. The photo was taken at Maidanek.



"The measure of a life ... is not its duration, but its donation."- [Corrie Ten Boom](#) (Dutch savior of Jews in WW2)

## Our faithful supporters:

We received donations from the following in the course of 2018. Our apologies if we have inadvertently omitted anyone. Donations made in 2019 have not been included.

Dr. & Mrs. Emanuel B. Abrams, Los Angeles, CA	Mr. Aron Landy, Geneva, Switzerland
Abuhav Synagogue (Mr. Meir Carsenti), Safed, Israel	Barry Landy Charitable Trust, Cambridge, UK
Anonymous, Chile	Mr. & Mrs. Shmuel Leeder, Safed, Israel
Anonymous, MD	Dr. Allan & Dr. Alicia Levine, Valley Village, CA
Mrs. Sara Devorah Bilerman, Safed, Israel	Mrs. Miriam Lindenberg, Safed, Israel
Dr. Shimshon Bitnun, Bar Yohai, Israel	Mr. & Mrs. Avraham Loewenthal, Safed, Israel
Prof. & Mrs. Laurie Blendis, Jerusalem, Israel	Dr. and Mrs. Lawrence Loewenthal, Southfield, MI
Dr. & Mrs. Robert J. Bloomberg, Tempe, AZ	Prof. Anthony & Ms. Judith Luder, Rosh Pina, Israel
Mr. David Boxenbaum, AL	Dr. John & Dr. Daisy Merey, West Palm Beach, FL
Cervantes Gift Fund, USA	Ms. Caroline Morganti, New York, NY
Prof. & Mrs. David Citron, Jerusalem, Israel	Mr. & Mrs. Martin Olevitch, St. Louis, MO
Mr. Haim & Mrs. Rivka Cohen, Jerusalem, Israel	Mrs. Laurie Rappeport, Safed, Israel
Mr. & Mrs. Yossi Cohen, Safed, Israel	Mr. Mike & Prof. Mary Rudolf, Rosh Pina, Israel
Mr. Yitzhak Fierstein & Ms. Susan Bass, Jerusalem, Israel	Mr. Alan Sacks, Dresher, PA
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Flatauer, Safed, Israel	Mr. & Mrs. Harold E. Saltzman, Silver Springs, MD
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas J. Fleisch, Mamaroneck, NY	Rabbi & Mrs. Meir Sandor, Safed, Israel
Mr. & Mrs. Neil Folberg, Rosh Pina, Israel	Mr. & Mrs. Haim Zvi Schechter, Safed, Israel
Ms. Kayla Friedman, Miami, FL	Mr. & Mrs. Harvey Sher, Jerusalem, Israel
Mr. & Mrs. Yehuda Frumkin, Maaleh Adumim, Israel	Mr. David Sidi, Scottsdale, AZ / Lymm, UK
Prof. William and Prof. Miriam Galston, Washington, DC	Mr. & Mrs. Dan Seri, Jerusalem, Israel
Mr. & Mrs. Lee Glassman, Jerusalem, Israel	Ms. Avital Sivan, Safed, Israel
Mr. Jay Glushien, Longmeadow, MA	Mr. & Mrs. Howard Spielberg, Richmond, VA
Mrs. Lillian Goldberg, Sarasota, FL	Dr. & Mrs. Yitzhak Stern, Safed, Israel
Dr. & Mrs. Robert Goldstein, Kibbutz Tel Yosef, Israel	Mrs. Elizabeth K. Teitelbaum, Brooklyn, NY
Mr. & Mrs. Colin Goldstein, London, UK	Mrs. Hananya Van den Berg, Milan, Italy
Mr. Meir Hamo, Safed, Israel	Prof. Samuel Wineburg, Seattle, WA
Ms. Lisa Haut & Ms. Lynne Byington, Norwalk/Danbury, CT	Mr. & Mrs. Ben Winston, Los Angeles, CA
(in memory of beloved mother Elaine Haut)	Lady Lira Winston, London, UK
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Katz, Jerusalem, Israel	Mr. and Mrs. Robert (Zelig & Heidi) Wolf, Clifton, NJ
Sandra & Mitchell Knisbacher Foundation., Burlington, VT	Ms. Julie Zellat, Brooklyn, NY
Mr. Edward Kopelowitz, New York, NY	Ms. Hana Zmiri, Jerusalem, Israel

Several donors made more than one contribution during the year, but they have been considered as one combined donation from that donor.

### Josh (Yehuda) Markovitz ז"ר

Josh was a supporter of the Committee's activities, even when he was hospitalized in the last years of his life. He died just after Rosh HaShana this year.

Several family members and friends made donations to the Committee in his memory:



Mr. & Mrs. David Ellowitz, Newton Center, MA  
 Dr. Harvey Mamon, Newton, MA  
 Ms. Naomi Markovitz, Jerusalem, Israel  
 Ms. Sarah Markovitz & Mr. Jacob Pinnolis, Newtonville, MA  
 Ms. Miriam Newman & Mr. Michael Pinnolis, Newton Center, MA  
 Mr. Joshua Pinnolis, , Newton Center, MA  
 Ms. Gail Schulman & Mr. Bob Sullaway, Waban, MA

## The Committee for Ethiopian Jews in Safed

Registration No. 58-008-783-1

### Financial Report 1.1.2018 - 31.12.2018 (all figures in \$US)

	31/12/17	31/12/18
Opening cash balance	3946	6277*
Closing cash balance	5991*	4367
<b>Donations</b>		
From Israeli contributors	8982	9629
From contributors abroad (mainly P.E.F.)	14143	16163
From P.E.F. special grants	15000	10000
From the Sobell Foundation (UK)	12971**	0
From the Tikun Olam Fund (USCJ)	0	690
From the Clore Israel Foundation (for dental treatment)	0	7000
Loan repayments	7600	11088
Recycling	8743	9613
<b><u>Total income</u></b>	<b><u>67439</u></b>	<b><u>64183</u></b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Grants to university & college students (6)	12041	5095
Professional training (19)	1362	3682
Subsidies & enrichment for secondary school children (4)	2343	1541
Extra tuition for secondary school children (1)	0	856
Subsidies for primary school children	1617	771
School trips, extra-curricular activities (20)	3113	2620
Subsidies for nursery & pre-nursery school children (4)	1681	0
Religious needs (Purim, bar-mizva)	1028	1099
Interest-free loans (10)	11496	16282
Help for the needy (9)	8705	5368
Home repairs, replacement of appliances, etc. (1)	4127	1718
Dental treatment (14)	12955	18741
Other health needs (6)	4606	2819
Assistance for the elderly (1)	0	5252
Postage, office supplies and fund-raising	163	69
Bank charges	159	180
<b><u>Total expenditure</u></b>	<b><u>65395</u></b>	<b><u>66093</u></b>
<b><u>Income – expenditure</u></b>	<b><u>2044</u></b>	<b><u>-1910</u></b>

\* The closing cash balance for 2017 and the opening cash balance for 2018 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 2017 and 2018.

\*\* The allocation for 2018 (£5000) was received before the end of 2017, and has been included with the 2017 allocation (£5000).

**USA donors**

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

**UK donors**

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

**Israel donors**

- can send a check to us by post (address given in [P.E.F. form below](#)), *or*
- can make a **bank transfer or deposit a check directly** (preferred by us as it involves minimum handling) to 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 [PayPal donation](#) (a commission is taken) *or*
- can make an on-line donation at [Israel Gives](#). (A commission is taken)

**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.**

Please mark clearly that your donation is intended for **The Committee for Ethiopian Jews in Safed**

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, with your **recommendation** for **The Committee for Ethiopian Jews in Safed** (58-008-783-1)

If you have any queries or comments, you can write to us at [ysivan@hotmail.com](mailto:ysivan@hotmail.com)

This form can be printed out separately (please distribute extra copies to potential donors !):

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: \_\_\_\_\_