



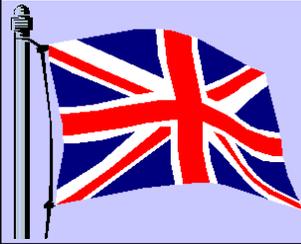
Anilewicz 5, 13400 Safed, Israel

Summer Newsletter

תמוז תשע"ד - July 2014

Let another man praise thee, and not thine own mouth; a stranger, and not thine own lips.

Proverbs 27:2



From a British supporter:

Many thanks for the very informative e-mail. You and your charity are doing a great work and it is a pleasure to give and join with you in helping the Ethiopian Jews. I have been to Israel a few times with my church and you have a very beautiful country. I pray that God continues to bless you so that you can continue His work.

This Newsletter is being written as the southern and central parts of Israel are sheltering from the indiscriminate attacks from Gaza. Here, for a change, all is quiet, T.G. But that doesn't mean that we are not anxious about our fellow citizens, wherever they may be (see box). But while we live nearby, most of you are physically far removed from our troubles, which is why we so appreciate the ongoing support that we receive from you over the years, in spite of us being so distant from your own concerns.

"All 604 new immigrants from Ethiopia at Ibim absorption center, near Sderot, are safe and well protected".
Moshe Bahata, the director of the Jewish Agency's absorption center ... said he was less concerned about rocket fire than he was about the danger of complacency. "Tonight we saw an interception of a rocket by the Iron Dome antimissile system. The interception and the Red Alert alarm happened almost simultaneously. Every house here has a reinforced security room and there are bomb shelters along the roads, but we try to keep the children near the houses anyway".

As you know from our [past reports and Newsletters](#), our number one priority is **education**, to enable a new generation to take their rightful place in Israeli society, to be both rôle models for their peers and to be in a position to advance their own children, as well as presenting a positive image of their community. Lately we have been approached to assist a brother and sister, children of such parents, whose financial situation is still precarious, and prevents them getting the education to which they aspire:



Sarit A., 28, granddaughter of a Safed family. Her mother was a qualified social worker, but 15 years ago was seriously injured in a motor accident, and cannot return to work. Her father was injured in a work accident, so that while he receives National Insurance, he cannot work either. After successfully finishing high school, Sarit served in the Army as a motor mechanic, and to this day does reserve duty, maintaining armored personnel carriers. She was enrolled to do a preparatory course to enable her to go on to higher academic studies, but owing to her own health problems she had to forego them.

*At present she works as a supermarket checkout clerk, and her earnings are quite inadequate to finance the preparatory course at Haifa University. If she passes this course, then she will enroll to do a BA in Human Resource Management. Once she is enrolled, she hopes to qualify for various grants to cover at least part of her tuition fees. The stumbling block is **the cost of the preparatory course, \$1520**. We have undertaken to raise this sum, as we realize that there is no way she can do this herself (but we have told her that we will not be able to help her with the subsequent college fees).*

Her 22 year-old brother, Kobi (right), plans to study at the Oranim College, near Haifa. In his case his tuition is funded, as he is the child of parents who were themselves new immigrants. However, on account of the distance from his home, he has to rent an apartment, which will cost him at least \$175 a month, assuming that he shares with someone else. We have promised him a **monthly grant of \$116 (total for 10 months: \$1160)** to enable him to take up the place for which he has been accepted.



You may remember that we have supported many students at the Safed Hospital School of Nursing.



Esther M. (left), 36, is one such student. Married and mother of two, she and her husband live in rented accommodation. She has a BA, and is determined to become a fully qualified nurse. The Ministry of Health is paying 80% of her fees (total \$6990), but that still leaves her with \$1400 to pay. Last year, at the request of the School of Nursing, we undertook to pay 50% of this sum, \$700. Unfortunately she didn't pass the examinations (probably because of the cultural problem of answering multiple-choice questions), but **her supervisors think very highly of her and are sure that she will be a first-rate nurse, and begged us to enable her to repeat the year.** We acceded to their request, but Esther's savings are exhausted, and so we have agreed to pay the whole **\$1400** needed.

"Moving" a house from Ethiopia to Safed



You may have seen photos of traditional Ethiopian homes: "gojos" (left). You no longer have to go so far afield - just come to Safed!

This week three residents of the Absorption Center built the roof of a gojo at the Secter Community Center, close by. The gojo provides a focal point - and a much needed shady spot - for the Bustan project in Canaan, a park featuring Israeli fruit and forest trees being developed by and for neighborhood residents under the guidance of Shmuel Ofanansky with support from the Ministry of Environment. Built mostly from local materials, the gojo's natural appearance fits in well. The three Ethiopians were sought out due to their knowledge of the traditional roofing method. The gojo raises the profile of Safed's Ethiopian residents and does honor to their culture. During the day of work many passersby expressed their admiration and immediately after its completion the gojo filled up with neighborhood children. **Our Committee paid just under \$300** which was shared between the three men who had worked 7 hours on the project, providing them with a welcome addition to their income! Scenes of the construction:



Dental treatment

A Safed student, Wagai Y. (right), needed \$8780 for major treatment. We suggested that she get an estimate for the teeth in the worst state, and this came to \$2770. We are paying **\$1760** in 12 monthly payments.

Another young woman, Balatu N., from Yavne, suffers from very severe congenital dental problems. The treatment needed came to \$15,000, but she received significant reductions, so that she had to pay \$11,500 when she approached us for help. We have contributed **\$2640** in 6 monthly payments.



*This is no more than a short Newsletter, and if you have contributed in the past you will know that **our activities are far wider than the few described here.** We do hope that you will send this Newsletter on to friends and family who may be interested in supporting us. Similarly, if you know of synagogue or community funds which might be available, please let us know and we will apply to the trustees.*

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To: P.E.F. Israel Endowment Funds, Inc.
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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.**

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

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