



ישיבת רבנו יצחק אלהנן

Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary

An Affiliate of Yeshiva University

בס"ד

September 2017

אלול תשע"ז

Dear Chaver,

Elul Zman at Yeshiva is now under way and the talmidim have returned to their learning. Baruch Hashem, the Batei Midrash are buzzing once again with a thunderous Kol Torah. The opening shiur by Rav Hershel Schachter on Maseches Sukkah was exhilarating and most exciting as we begin to motivate the talmidim toward great hasmada.

Rabbi Dr. Ari Berman has begun his tenure as the fifth President of YU/RIETS and we look forward to his investiture on September 10th. As an alumnus of Yeshiva College, RIETS and the Bernard Revel Graduate School, he comes to us with a true understanding of Yeshiva and a passion for its mission. We look forward to working together with him for the advancement of YU/RIETS and the Jewish community at large.

It is at this time each year that we remind you that your Yeshiva needs your support. Baruch Hashem, the Yeshiva has made great strides towards financial stability, however it still requires extensive communal and alumni support to ensure that RIETS can continue to grow in its mission and influence the lives of our talmidim and the community.

To give you a sense of Yeshiva today:

1300+ young men learning daily in our three packed Batei Midrash and dozens of shiur rooms

225 aspiring talmidei chachamim studying at RIETS, including:

- **70+** in the Katz Kollel, led by Rav Hershel Schachter, shlita
- **20** in Kollelei Elyon
- **35** in the YU Israel Kollel in Jerusalem

RIETS has developed the **most comprehensive rabbinic training program in the world**, including:

- An ever-expanding curriculum of halachic limmudim
- More opportunities for the in-depth study of Hilchos Niddah, Aveilus and Shabbos
- New courses in professional rabbinics led by our dynamic, full-time Director of Professional Rabbinics, our chaver Rabbi Larry Rothwachs, the Rav of Congregation Beth Aaron in Teaneck
- A joint program in Pastoral Counseling with YU's Ferkauf Graduate School of Psychology
- A cutting-edge personal development program for semicha students (and their wives) to deal with the "inner-life" and stresses of the rabbi and the rabbinic family. This includes multiple courses, processing work with mental health professionals, individual sessions for all pulpit track students with our chaver Rabbi Dr. Alex Mondrow, standardized testing for emotional intelligence and more.

We are particularly proud of you, your fellow musmachim and the impact that you have made around the world. RIETS Rabbinic Alumni, in partnership with Yeshiva University's Center for the Jewish Future (CJF), continues to enhance the personal and professional lives of our musmachim with:

- The *Torah-To-Go* series, endowed by our chaver Rabbi Hy and Ann Arbesfeld
- The Abraham Arbesfeld Kollel and Millie Arbesfeld Midreshet Yom Rishon, the Sunday morning community Torah learning program at Yeshiva, endowed by our chaver Rabbi Hy and Ann Arbesfeld
- Rabbanan.org, which has a plethora of material available online for rabbis
- High-level continuing rabbinic education courses
- Chavrusa Magazine, lifecycle notices, and monthly update emails
- Rabbinic Alumni Welfare Fund, assisting chaverim in extenuating circumstances with interest-free loans

- Yarchei Kallah conferences coordinated by Rabbi Dr. Jacob J. Schacter, University Professor of Jewish History and Jewish Thought and Senior Scholar at the Center for the Jewish Future
- Rebbetzin's Yarchei Kallah, which attracts close to 100 participants
- The Gertrude and Morris Bienefeld Department of Jewish Career Development and Placement, led by our chaver Rabbi Ronald Schwarzberg, which is involved in the placement of more than 50 rabbis every year
- A very active YUConnects Shidduchim program which is close to creating 300 new shidduchim
- Koveah.org, a new online tool to create personalized Torah learning schedules, with daily reminders
- And of course, YUTorah.org the largest repository of Torah online in the world

We need your help!

As our Yeshiva and its programming grow, so do their funding needs. As the Deans of RIETS and CJF we are committed to helping raise those funds. Please know that your annual support provides critical funding for Yeshiva, its talmidim and musmachim and the funds go directly to RIETS.

Please consider joining, or renewing your membership in the **Elef L'Mateh Society** to support and to extend the Torah of RIETS. Over **150** of our colleagues, along with many of our esteemed Roshei Yeshiva, have joined the **Chevra Elef L'Mateh** by contributing at least \$1000 annually to support RIETS. Hundreds of chaverim participated in our fundraising campaign at other levels as well. Please consider joining this esteemed group for 5778, and if you have given in the past, please consider raising your gift this year to \$1,800 and becoming an **Elef L'Mateh Chai Supporter**.

Baruch Hashem, our beloved Yeshiva is financially stable and overseen by a hard-working Finance Committee of the Board of Trustees. The Yeshiva maintains its policy of zero tuition for Semicha students and only collects a small registration fee.

We need your help in order to maintain and expand our Yeshiva and its influence. As the vast majority of our budget consists of salaries for Roshei Yeshiva, Rabbeim and staff, your Elef L'Mateh contributions go directly toward supporting those who teach and create the Kiddush Hashem that is the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary each and every day.

Please join our fundraising efforts at one of the following levels:

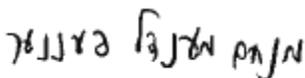
- **\$1,800** **Elef L'Mateh Chai Supporter** (includes Dues, Print copy of Chavrusa Magazine, and (2) RIETS Dinner tickets)
- **\$1,000** **Elef L'Mateh** (includes Dues, Print copy of Chavrusa Magazine, and (1) RIETS Dinner ticket)
- **\$360** **Amudei HaYeshiva** (includes Dues and Print copy of Chavrusa Magazine)
- **\$180** **Amudei HaMusmachim** (includes Dues and Print copy of Chavrusa Magazine)
- **\$100** **Regular Dues** (includes Print copy of Chavrusa Magazine)

You can **join online at www.riets.edu/alumni** or mail a check made out to RIETS Rabbinic Alumni to:

RIETS Rabbinic Alumni
YESHIVA UNIVERSITY - IA
500 West 185th Street, Belfer Hall 703
New York, NY 10033

Thank you in advance for joining us in this important work. Please feel free to contact us at **rabbinalumni@yu.edu** or **646.592.4455** with any questions or comments that you may have.

Sincerely yours,



Rabbi Menachem Penner
Max and Marion Grill Dean, RIETS



Rabbi Yaakov Glasser
David Mitzner Dean, CJF