



*A Tower  
of  
Spiritual  
Strength*

**GUARD IT!**

# THE \$1,000,000 JUBILEE FUND

## FOR YESHIVA AND YESHIVA COLLEGE



GRADUATING CLASS OF 1937

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### PURPOSES

The proceeds of the Jubilee Fund will be applied for the following purposes:

- a) To liquidate the mortgage indebtedness of Yeshiva.
  - b) To secure the maintenance of the Yeshiva, Yeshiva College, the Hebrew Teachers' Institute, and the Yeshiva High School for the coming two years.
  - c) To establish scholarships for gifted students from America and other countries.
  - d) To establish chairs of learning to be occupied by Jewish scholars from Germany, and other lands of persecution.
  - e) To augment and enlarge the library of Yeshiva and Yeshiva College.
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# ... TO REDEEM THE HOUSE OF HIGHER JEWISH LEARNING ...

## THE WORLD'S WONDER

The survival of the Jew is one of the world's great wonders.

The British Royal Commission, reviewing the history of the Jewish people in connection with the Palestine question, summarized its observations—the reaction of the Non-Jewish world—in the following pungent sentence:

"If the brutality of this medieval persecution is astonishing to most modern minds, still more astonishing, perhaps, is the fact that the Jews **survived it.**"

What the British Royal Commission did not know but what is known to all who benefited from this miraculous survival is an open secret. The secret of Jewish survival lies in the well of the clear and living water of the Torah.

## ON THE AMERICAN SCENE

This epic which has unfolded under various climes and political regimes—a challenge of the spirit to the brutality of force!—has had its continuation on the American Scene.

The great Exodus in the 1880's from the hot-bed of persecution, oppression and poverty in Eastern Europe to the United States brought in its wake hundreds of thousands of those who survived as Jews amidst persecution. With the shifting of scene a new danger arose. This time disintegration was stimulated not by oppression but by a new Freedom. It threatened to give supremacy to the pursuit of material happiness over devotion to the age-old ideals of the faith and culture of Israel.

Again—as in the 12th century legend wherein the story is related of the four captives from Northern Africa who planted the seeds of Jewish learning in the then emerging countries of Europe—a handful of far-sighted men of humble station but inspiring idealism planted in the new soil of American Jewish life the banner of Torah. On a crowded and teeming block on Manhattan's East Side they established the first **Yeshiva**, the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary.

## YESHIVA AND YESHIVA COLLEGE

On one of the highest peaks in Manhattan Island, overlooking the Harlem River with its parkways and valley, stands today a majestic structure of unique architectural beauty.

Within the area of what may be described as Manhattan's Academic Center, far from the turmoil of America's metropolis, there rises the proud tower under which Yeshiva and Yeshiva College are housed. Within these serene walls the golden chain of Torah, of the Jewish tradition of higher learning, is being forged on the North American continent. The Yeshiva High School and Yeshiva's Teachers' College are also located here.

Here, in the smithy for an ancient people's culture and soul (to use the apt description of the immortal poet Bialik), a unique blend is being effected. The "Hebraic mortar", (to paraphrase the historian Lecky) in its original purity and strength, is being blended with the essence of advanced education in the best and finest meaning of the term.

The Yeshiva High School, the Yeshiva Teachers' Institute, the Yeshiva proper (the fountain head of traditional Judaism in America), and the Yeshiva College provide a training and an education not only for a select group of mentally endowed students to take up the responsibilities of spiritual leadership in the Orthodox Rabbinate, but also for a larger number of gifted students who prepare themselves for active service to the community as a whole in the professions or in business.

The knowledge of the basis of Jewish faith and culture obtained here becomes part of their personality and spiritual background which they carry with them into a wide field of active service to community and country.

## FOUNDATION OF THE 1920's

In the 1920's American Jewry rallied to the call of the Yeshiva and Yeshiva College. Impressed with the pioneer efforts of two generations and persuaded that Yeshiva and Yeshiva College are indispensable to the spiritual and cultural life of American Jewry—a fund of \$3,000,000 was raised to provide a home for the Torah in America.

This took on the shape of the Yeshiva College structure on Manhattan's tallest peak. It was an exalted and an inspiring moment in the annals of America Jewry. But soon the economic depression set in and what was begun so auspiciously was not definitely completed. Serious danger threatened the life of Yeshiva and Yeshiva College but the storm was weathered.

Indeed, the institution's very survival through these years of financial stress is eloquent testimony to its vitality and undaunted idealism.

## UNIQUE SCHOLASTIC ATTAINMENTS

Through the Yeshiva's portals there have passed since its inception fifty years ago approximately 4,000 students from all States in the Union, Canada and many countries in Europe and Asia. The Jewish communities of India, China and Iraq are among those whose most gifted sons sought their higher Jewish learning within its walls. However, only a proportionately small number of graduates have taken up posts in the Rabbinate. Much larger is the number of the graduates who have gained high distinction, as well-integrated personalities, in business and the professions.

A little over 2,200 students gained their secondary education in the Yeshiva High School since 1916, when first organized. The quality of the training they received is attested by the high rating accorded to the High School by the New York State Board of Regents on the basis of

the graduates' high scholastic attainments. The Teachers' Institute from which Jewish communities throughout the nation are, in an ever-increasing measure, pleased to select the teachers for their religious and Hebrew schools, has since its inception given instruction to 1,027 students.

The Yeshiva College—the youngest department of the fifty year growth—is the only college of Liberal Arts and Sciences under Jewish auspices throughout the world. Within a few years it has been recognized widely as a significant contribution to America's cultural forces.

In token of their recognition of Yeshiva College a number of men of highest standing and reputation in the fields of science, law and public service have come to accept from the Yeshiva College the honorary degrees of Doctor of Humane Letters or Doctor of Laws. Among these honorary alumni of Yeshiva College are to be found men of the calibre of Prof. Albert Einstein, Supreme Court Justice Benjamin Cardozo, Herbert H. Lehman, Governor of the State of New York, and others. With its fifth graduation class the number of Yeshiva College alumni stands at 188.

## CALL OF THE JUBILEE YEAR

The Yeshiva and Yeshiva College survived numerous crises only through the very heavy sacrifices of their faculties, students, sponsors and ardent supporters. Today, on the completion of its Jubilee Year, the Yeshiva and Yeshiva College urgently needs what is known in Jewish law as an "act of redemption!" ("And in the Jubilee Year thou shalt proclaim liberty," is the Torah's commandment for each fifty year cycle.)

Taking into consideration all the facts recited above and persuaded

1. That the life and expansion of Yeshiva and Yeshiva College are an indispensable necessity for the inculcation of the ethical standards and ideals of Israel's faith;

2. That the effect of the work of the Yeshiva, Yeshiva College and the institutions affiliated with them has been to secure the continuity of Israel's traditions of higher Jewish learning in the United States;

3. That the need of American Jewish communities for authentic Jewish spiritual guidance now requires the strengthening and safe-guarding of the foundation of American Jewry's Torah Center;

4. That the beneficent and far-reaching influence of Yeshiva College, as the only College of Liberal Arts and Sciences under Jewish auspices, must be preserved and extended;

5. That the "Act of Redemption" prescribed by the immortal law of the Torah for each fifty year cycle has a particular appropriateness and an especial urgency during the Yeshiva Jubilee Year.

## HONORARY ALUMNI OF YESHIVA COLLEGE



Justice Benjamin N. Cardozo

Dr. John H. Finley

Governor Herbert H. Lehman

Professor Albert H. Einstein

Dr. Bernard Revel, President of Faculties

The late Judge Otto A. Rosalsky

Professor David Eugene Smith

Honorable Samuel Levy

**Yeshiva and Yeshiva College proclaims and inaugurates a nation-wide campaign for a \$1,000,000 Jubilee Fund.**



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## *Committee in formation*

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