

# Igeret HaRamban

Shvat 5774

”וידוע תעלומות יודע שלא נכנסתי לחוות דעי מרצוני  
כי בהיות שמיום דעתי את החכם הנזכר נקשרה נפשי בנפשו  
וידוע אני בעצמי שקיימתי בו ואהבת לרעך כמוך  
היה קשה בעיני לשלוח יד קלומסי לכתוב נגד דעתו  
אלא שאלצני לחצני דחקני מצות קוני  
ויראתי פן אעבור על לא תגורו מפני איש לא תאגור דבריד מפני איש.”  
(מתוך תשובה של רבי יוסף קארו, דיני כתובות סימן ג)

A week has passed since the thoroughly publicized ruling against Rabbi Motti Elon. I kept silent with my pain because of a great sense of self-reflection. People of all ages had contacted me asking that I react and I refused: *one does not throw a rock on the fallen*. A court ruled and no talk will help anyone. But now, when rabbis such as Rabbi Druckman disclaim the verdict and accept Rabbi Elon as if nothing happened I cannot remain silent. I was truly hoping that others among the spiritual leadership of Religious Zionism would react but have been disappointed. “Ministers have held back on words and put a hand on their mouths.”

Two preliminary remarks, to avoid any trace of doubt: The first – simply said, literally hundreds of families owe Rabbi Motti Elon their lives. I say this not from hearsay, but from real knowledge of his actions and devotion for decades. His home and family were open and available to the public, unconditionally and without any regard to expense – it was an island of love. Second – Rabbi Haim Druckman is the rabbi of all the Religious Zionist rabbis. Sixty years ago he was the leader of "Eitanim" which gave rise to all of the founding rabbis of the Religious Zionist movement. There is practically no leader among them who does not see Rabbi



Druckman as his mentor. We have all seen the intensity of his devotion on all fronts: for Russian Jewry, for conversion, for settlements, for Diaspora, for widows and orphans... We've all seen him in the field; teaching and guiding us all. This is the reason that the movement's spiritual and political leadership is engaged in an embarrassing silence.

And now to the point: The court has given its ruling on Rabbi Elon. This is not a struggle between the "Takana" Forum and other rabbis, but a battle that challenges the authority of the State judging its offenders. The claim that there was no "Din Torah" and there was an absence of two witnesses is a dangerous claim which undermines all State institutions. Rabbi Druckman who raised us to be loyal to the State and to mobilize ourselves to serve it, now leads us toward a situation of anarchy. So, what will the next victim do? Where will he be able to claim his offense?

It is forbidden to stay silent when one sees an obvious mistake in the actions of a rabbi.

The Rosh Yeshiva of Volozhin, R. Chaim, wrote: "a student must not accept the words of his teacher when he has questions regarding them ... we have been given permission to wrestle and fight their words and rationalize their questions. We are not to accept a man as is, if it is only for the sake of loving truth".

## Announcements

### Mazal Tov

**To Rachie & Moshe Hein** on the birth of their son

Rachie & Moshe invite the kehilla to a shalom zachar on Friday night,  
from 19:45 onwards – 1/17 Klein Str.

**To Yosef & Rachel Bodenheimer** on the birth of a great grandson

### Community Trip to Poland

Registration continues for the community trip to Poland. Updated  
details in the attached flyer.

### Beit HaTzayar – Tu B'Shvat

In preparation for Tu B'Shvat Beit HaTzayar (school for at risk youth)  
will be selling:

**Dried fruit baskets:** half a kilo – 35 NIS, kilo – 70 NIS

**Plants from their nursery:** 100 NIS per box

For details and orders: Shlomo – 050-4007031, Doron – 054-3334021

## Davening Times

### שבת פרשת וארא | שבת מברכין | כ"ה בטבת (28.12)

16: 08	זמן הדלקת נרות
16: 30	מנחה וקבלת שבת
	<b>דרשה בסוף התפילה – אפרים חמיאל</b>
	שחרית
06: 30	מנין ראשון
07: 45	דף יומי
08: 30	מנין שני
09: 30/10: 00	תפילות ילדים
	<b>לאחר התפילה (מנין שני) – קידושא רבה</b>
13: 00	מנחה גדולה
16: 10	מנחה קטנה
	<b>שיעור בספר שמואל -</b>
16: 30	הרב בני לאו
17: 23	צאת השבת וערבית

### ימות החול | כ"ו בטבת – ב' בשבט (29.12-3.1)

שחרית מנין ב'	שחרית מנין א'	
07: 00	06: 00	ימים א', ג', ד', ו'
07: 00	05: 50	יום ב'
07: 00	05: 45	יום ה' (ראש חודש)
	06: 15	דף יומי
		<b>שיעור גמרא באנגלית - מסכת תענית - הרב פנחס קאהן - 06: 30</b>
	16: 35	מנחה
		<b>שיעור בגמרא ירושלמי - מסכת חגיגה - ר' ראובן קמפנינו</b>
	17: 10	ערבית