

המודיה

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WEEKLY

ב"ה, פרשת כיצא // ו' אלול תשפ"ו

6 Elul 5786 // August 19, 2026

COMMUNITY



Simchas haTorah and kvod haTorah at the Adopt-A-Kollel convention held this past week in Eretz Yisrael.

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LIMUDIM FOR
THE WEEK OF

ו' - ט"ז אלול
Sun. 08/23 -
Shabbos 08/29

קנין חכמה

ספר יסוד ושורש העבודה
שער האיתון פרק א'
עד שער האיתון
סוף פרק ג'

חבורת ש"ס

סנהדרין
ד: - ו:

דף היומי בהלכה

DAF HAYOMI
B'HALACHA BEGINS
MISHNAH BERURAH
CHELEK HEI:
THURSDAY, 8/27
14 ELUL

עמוד היומי

יומא
ס. - סג.

דף יומי בבלי

מסכת:
חולין
קסו - קכא



Dirshu
דרשו ד' ועוזו
קרן עולמית לחינוך
ועידוד לימוד התורה

Historic Adopt-a-Kollel Convention in Eretz Yisrael Brings Together More Than 1,000 *Roshei Kollel*

By Yosef Greenwood



A partial view of the crowd.

Harav Dov Landau, Harav Moshe Hillel Hirsch, Harav Shimon Galei and Harav Meilech Biderman, *Shlita*, Attend and Address Massive Crowd

W Last week, the inaugural convention of Adopt-a-Kollel *Roshei Kollel* took place at the Valley Convention Center in Kfar Saba. While the over 1,000 *Roshei Kollel* came together to give and get *chizuk*, they came away with so much more. At a time when the *Olam HaTorah* is undergoing such hardship from so many directions, the words of the *Gedolei Hador* gave the *Roshei Kollel* an even better understanding of their vital role in the *Olam HaTorah* and in the existence of the entire world. They walked away with a renewed sense of pride and mission, ready to keep going despite the challenges that abound.

Among the highlights of the event was the presence of the senior *Gedolei Hador*, Hageonim Harav Dov Landau, *shlita*, Harav Moshe Hillel Hirsch, *shlita*, Harav Gamliel Rabinovitch, *shlita*, Harav Yaakov Hillel, *shlita*, Harav Yehoshua Dovid Turchin, *shlita*, as well as Harav Meilech Biderman, *shlita*, who gave a powerful address, and Harav Shimon Galei, *shlita*, who in addition to addressing the assemblage also led the Yom Kippur Kattan *tefillos*.

This was all part of a full day program that included panel discussions, *divrei brachah*, *divrei chizuk* and *divrei hisorerus*, practical insights into the day-to-day running of a *kollel* and a deeper understanding of the importance

of including *bnei chutz laAretz* in the tremendous *zechus* of *Toras Eretz Yisroel*. The convention was further enhanced by *Minchah* with Yom Kippur Kattan and a *siyum* with a *seudas mitzvah*.

The nonagenarian Harav Dov Landau, who, despite his age, felt compelled to make the journey to the convention center in Kfar Saba, expressed his tremendous admiration for the *Roshei Kollel* and *avreichim*. He highlighted how the *Roshei Kollel* and *avreichim*, despite being under tremendous pressure and assault, are learning with great diligence and holding the world up with their Torah learning. Rav Landau then hailed Adopt-a-Kollel for transforming the way *kollelim* are supported and underscored how important it is for every community in *chutz laAretz* that has not yet adopted a *kollel* to do so.

In his comprehensive speech, Rav Moshe Hillel Hirsch hailed the innovative idea of Adopt-a-Kollel and praised its founders for their devotion and big-picture thinking. He said that the ultimate *kvod Shamayim* and the way to invoke Hashem's *rachamim* on behalf of *Klal Yisrael* and *lomdei Torah* is for every *kehillah* in *Klal Yisrael* to adopt a *kollel*.

Rav Gamliel Rabinovitch's words may have been short, but they were riveting. He eloquently explained the power of his *kollel's* partnership with



Harav Dov Landau, *shlita*, speaking



Harav Yehoshua Dovid Turchin, *shlita*, addressing the *Roshei Kollel*.



Rav Dov Landau addressing the event participants as Harav Moshe Hillel Hirsch, *shlita*, looks on.



Rabbi Yaakov Bernfeld, National Director, Adopt-a-Kollel.

Khal Mevakshei Hashem of Lawrence, led by Rabbi Yussie Zakutinsky. “It is a true partnership! We have a relationship with the *kehillah*. They and their families know they have a place here and they are able to gain so much in *ruchniyus* from this partnership. I periodically address them throughout the year. When they are in Eretz Yisrael, they come visit. The mutual benefit on both sides is incredible!”

One of the speeches that resonated most was given by Rabbi Moshe Yosef Scheinerman, Rav of Beis Medrash Kollel Bnei Yeshivos of Flatbush, who powerfully explained how he and his shul get much more from their *kollel* and their *Rosh Kollel* than they give! “The spiritual impact that the *kollel* has had on my *kehillah* has been incalculable!” he exclaimed with great enthusiasm, “We get so much more than we give!”

Rabbi Yaakov Bernfeld, national director of Adopt-a-Kollel, pointed out that the close to 600 Adopt-a-Kollel partnerships represent many tens of thousands of *avreichim*. He then shared an amazing story to illustrate the power of an Adopt-a-Kollel partnership. “There is a *kehillah* in America that became deeply attached to the *Rosh Kollel*, who would visit periodically. Once, a member of the *kehillah* asked the *Rosh Kollel* if they could learn as *chavrusos* over the phone once a week. The *Rosh Kollel* agreed immediately, telling him, “That is my role in the partnership, to do whatever I can to elevate the *kehillah*.” Their weekly *seder* was sacrosanct, and there was nothing that could get in its way. One day, however, the *Rosh Kollel* called and said he would not be able to learn that

week. Tragically, a member of the *kollel* had just had a baby that was born with cancer, and the only way that doctors said he would survive was if he would take a rare drug that could only be obtained in America, a week before the operation. The doctors in Eretz Yisrael didn’t even want to schedule the operation because they were certain that he would not be able to obtain the drug. ‘I cannot learn with you because I am on the way to the airport to America to do whatever I can do obtain that rare drug. Every day is important and I cannot push it off. I promised the doctors in Eretz Yisrael that they could schedule the operation because no matter what, I would somehow obtain the medicine.’

“The *rosh kollel* couldn’t believe the next words he heard. ‘My dear *Rosh Kollel*, you can turn around and go home, and we will be able to learn today. I have the medicine. My business is that I deal in rare drugs. I have the drug here. I will send it to Eretz Yisrael today. You will have it by tomorrow!’ That is the unique *siyatta diShmaya* of an Adopt-a-Kollel partnership. It is a deep bond between the *kollel* and the *kehillah* that goes far beyond financial support.”

Perhaps *Rosh Kollel* Harav Uriel Bank put it best when he expressed his feelings in the aftermath of the convention about what it did for him. His feedback reflects the feelings of many others, who shared their impressions as well. He said, “I came home from the convention with the same feeling that I have on Motzoei Yom Kippur. I came home and cried and cried. I hadn’t known that I had so many tears in me... Why was I cry-



Panel discussion with Adopt-a-Kollel coordinators.

ing? Because it is the first time that I felt understood. I saw that there were Yidden from *chutz laAretz* who were in the trenches with me. They understand the difficulty, the anxiety of trying to somehow come up with funds so that my *yungeleit*, who live with the bare minimum, can survive. They understood how it gets increasingly difficult every month and they showed that they are here to help. It was much more than just being here to help. They made us feel that what we do is holding up the world! They and the *Gedolei Yisrael* gave us the booster shot of *chizuk* that we needed. Not one tiny detail was overlooked. They even gave us a gift to bring home to our devoted wives!

"The *achdus* was phenomenal.

"Every segment of *chareidi* Jewry was represented. The tips that we were given were timely, insightful and useful. Nothing was overlooked. I cried because it was the first time that I truly felt understood! *Ashreichem! Ashreichem! Ashreichem!*"

Perhaps even more powerful is the email that came in after the event, in which a *Rosh Kollel* wrote, "I have been struggling in a very big way with maintaining our *kollel*. Recently, I decided that I can no longer continue and will unfortunately have to face the *avreichim* and let them know that this *zman* I simply cannot open the *kollel*. After participating in the Adopt-a-Kollel convention, I got such tremendous *chizuk*, I feel like I got a new lease of life. The *kollel* will not only re-open, but I'm excited to add even more *avreichim*. I will forever be grateful to the *askanim* for saving my *kollel*."



Harav Yitzchok Soloveitchik giving *divrei brachah*.



Harav Moshe Hillel Hirsch, shlita, speaking



Rabbi Moshe Scheinerman.



Rabbi Motti Weinberger,
Adopt-a-Kollel Eretz Yisrael
coordinator.



A partial view of the crowd.



Harav Meilech Biderman.



Harav Yaakov Hillel,
shlita, addressing the
convention participants.



Panel discussion with
Adopt-a-Kollel coordinators.



Harav Shimon Galei,
shlita, leading the Yom
Kippur Katton tefillos.