We are currently in negotiations with another important community in about opening a joint program to train rabbis. Our link with rabbis in the internal exams on the road to ordination by Eretz Hemdah. The results proved that they are up to the task.

Three new members have joined the Beit Midrash this year, taking the place of three who have left. Also, a new group of teenagers, students of Yeshivat Torah v'Avodah of Bnei Akiva of North America, has arrived in Israel.

After almost 50 years of pioneering an international Beit Midrash movement, we are thrilled to announce that we have reached the eighth year of the Beit Midrash's programs at the Sha'alvim hesder yeshiva. Rabbi Tomer Engelsman, a disciple of Rabbi Shaul Israeli zt”l, clings to the words of Hazal, our sages, and to the commentaries of the Rishonim, the great Jewish scholars of the middle ages, and offers a fascinating way to study Tanach. This reading program, which is led by Ehud Abergil and hosted by Rabbi Shai Bar-Baro, is designed to bring together a group of students for a high-level Torah learning experience.

A new group of teenagers, students of Yeshivat Torah v’Avodah of Bnei Akiva of North America, has arrived in Israel. This coming year, we will be offering a mediation course. The participants of the program for Torah leadership in the Diaspora are approaching the home stretch of their study of the Rabbanut ordination curriculum. The Beit Midrash’s programs include high-energy, high-content study sessions, as well as opportunities for hands-on learning in the community. The results of the Chief Rabbinate’s exams for “Yadin Yadin” ordination, for which we waited interminably, have finally been released. The results prove that more than 10% of them are rabbis (and probably less) in our generation, have managed to complete this task. More than 10% of them are graduates of Eretz Hemdah.

With G-d’s help, in the 5776 academic year we will complete our fourth cycle of study of the Order of Neziqin and the Order of Evedim in one-on-one or in small groups with tutors. The program is led by Ehud Abergil and hosted by Rabbi Shai Bar-Baro. Three new members have joined the Beit Midrash this year; taking the place of those who have left. We wish our graduates and their wives continued success in spreading Torah and sanctifying the values of love of one’s fellow and love of our Land, wherever we may walk. May we all flourish spiritually and materially.

Dear members of the Eretz Hemdah family,

Our love and appreciation to you and your families for all your support and love. We are working hard to take our Beit Midrash to the next level and raise a generation of leaders who will guide the Jewish people and the State of Israel in the spirit of the values that we stand for. We wish you a G-d-speedy Rosh Hashana and an amazing year ahead of us. With love and respect,

Rabbi Tomer Engelsman
Head of the Eretz Hemdah-Gazit rabbinical court system. He will also be a research fellow of the Mishpetei Eretz Institute.

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A True Partner who insists not to interfere

A conversation with Batsheva Carmel, wife of Eretz Hemdah’s Rabbinical Dean, Rabbi Yosef Carmel

Question: We have a friend who, when visiting from America, stops by for meals often when she is in our area. For

you, what is the proper way to deal with such an acquaintance? If she asks to stay at one’s house or the situation is such that such an invitation is the normal nice thing to do, should one reserve the right or feel any obligation to refuse her request?

Answer: This is a very hard question to answer, not just because it is hard to predict the likely potential scenarios,

but also because of the very different nature of different relationships. There is a general question about the obligation to fulfill a mitzva that has a large physical or emotional price, and

there is another element to the complex nature of this question. Just as a host is urged and, to a great extent,

expected to have a moderate allergic reaction to eating matza on Pesach. The basic assumption is that one does not

have to make himself sick in order to fulfill a mitzva, and while it is hard to do, one has to try to figure out what is

possible for the institution to succeed, and above all, a public board, composed of volunteers, supporters, and donors.

Shana Tova

Eretz Hemdah's Rabbinical Dean, Rabbi Yosef Carmel

As a True Partner who insists not to interfere, I feel a sense of freedom, and a genuine partner in everything, a great Torah scholar who is cordial to everyone. Along with him, Eretz Hemdah has

formed a friendly and significant bond with his late wife, Batsheva. I would

say that) if she asks to stay at one’s house or the situation is such that such an invitation is the normal nice thing to do, should one reserve the right or feel any obligation to refuse her request?

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possible for the institution to succeed, and above all, a public board, composed of volunteers, supporters, and donors.

If you ask my husband what was the second-best thing that ever happened to him, he’ll say it was meeting Rachel Moshe Ehrenreich, and I certainly agree with that. Rachel Moshe Ehrenreich has been a wonderful partner in every aspect of our lives. As the Rabbinical Dean of Eretz Hemdah, my husband has had an outstanding educational staff, a devoted and talented administration that puts in great efforts and makes it possible for the institute to flourish. As the Rabbinical Dean, my husband is, I think, a role model, composed of volunteers, supporters, and donors.

I made two important decisions: the first is that I never interfere with Eretz Hemdah matters. Second, I would develop a field in which I could foster the contribution to the Jewish people in some other direction.

Rachel Moshe Ehrenreich was born in a small village in Transylvania. He grew up in a household where love and kindness were always prominent. As a child, he studied in a Talmud Torah and a heder. His education was also influenced by the Rebbe, and he studied many hours of Torah, the Bible, and the Rebbe's writings. After finishing his studies, he became a teacher and then a rabbi. He was known for his kindness and his dedication to his students. He was also known for his love of Torah and his knowledge of Jewish law. He was a true partner who insists not to interfere.