



TAMIR
Leading the Next Generation

Rosh Hashana 5776 Newsletter

ראש השנה תשע"ו

Dear Friends,

We hope you enjoyed a fulfilling and refreshing summer vacation with your family.

Our new class of Mechina students is now in full swing. As we prepare for Rosh Hashana and the holiday season, we look back with pride at the accomplishments of last year's students. Some of them began the year from the most difficult social circumstances, lacking in motivation or belief in their ability to succeed. As the year progressed, however, the physical and mental "re-programming" activities at the Mechina gave them a new look on life, transforming them into strongly-motivated IDF soldiers and leaders who take responsibility for themselves, their communities and their country.

**100% of TAMIR
graduates enlist
in the IDF**

**25% of our young
men become
officers or serve in
elite units**

**70% of TAMIR
students serve in
combat units**

End-Of-Year Ceremony for our Graduating Mechina Class

Last June, we celebrated the end of the Mechina school year with our traditional End-Of-Year Ceremony, a kind of summarization and digestion of the journey the students and faculty embarked upon together over the last year. With parents and members of the Defense and Education Ministries in attendance, students took the podium and discussed what they learned about Judaism, Zionism, and about themselves over the past year. They focused not only on the past, but on the personal ramifications these changes mean for their future horizons, as well.

One student from an immigrant Ethiopian family said, "In the end, when you look back and realize everything you've done, you understand there's no



Mechinat Tamir's Twelfth Graduating Class

such thing as 'I can't'. Fear, cold, hunger – everything will become insignificant for you and you'll be able to surpass any challenge." One of the parents observed, "I can see how my son, as well as all the other students, have experienced a 'full upgrade' in their self-esteem. The journey they embarked upon during their year at the Mechina has become a pivotal, formative year of their lives, experienced in your warm, caring company. "If there's one thing that sticks out in particular at the Mechina, it's the unconditional love and respect the staff harbors for each student.

Mazal Tov to Tamir's New Teacher Trainees!

Tamir warmly congratulates its very first graduating class of new educators! As part of its intensive, four-year teachers' training program (and in collaboration with the Neve Sha'anun Teachers Training College in Haifa), a pioneering group of Tamir Mechina graduates have received a Bachelor's Degree in Education (B. Ed.). These star educators will be best-equipped to solve the core issues of low self-esteem and underachievement in their home communities by applying the very same skills and values they learned at the Mechina.



Students in the Mechina's Teachers' Training Program

Updates for the 5776 Mechina School Year

We're proud to welcome our new students this year. Thanks to so many generous people, the Mechina was able to expand its First-Year Program's enrollment from 45 to 60 students! Together with our 15 students in the Mechina's Second-Year Program, the Mechina now has the privilege of hosting a total of 75 students, including 17 students from new immigrant families. This success strengthens our ability to help brighten the futures of many more young men from around Israel, particularly from the peripheral and disadvantaged regions.



"My teachers and mentors at TAMIR gave me space and acceptance. They encouraged me to express my doubts and questions and helped me work on myself in a very real and meaningful way. TAMIR strengthened my faith and taught me to take charge of my own future."

Yosef



A Word from the Dean of the Mechina Rabbi Yaish Hanuna

To Our Dear Friends and Partners,

As the New Year approaches, we bless you and your family with a year full of health, happiness, holiness, and a plentiful livelihood.

As partners in the education of Am Yisrael's young men, we thank you for identifying with their needs and for empowering them. Thank you for reaching out to them and thus strengthening Israel and her inhabitants.

The prophet Yishayahu/Isaiah says: "All your children are Hashem's learned ones, and your children bring much peace. You will be affixed by righteousness." The Mishna continues: "Read not 'בנייך/your children', but 'בונים/your builders'."

Together we are partners in Hashem's "building"-i.e. His children and His land.

May it be His will that we merit seeing the success of our work and the rebuilding of His Temple, and may we together merit His blessing this year and forever.

Shana Tova,
Rabbi Yaish Hanuna

Thank you for your partnership and cooperation with the Mechina.

We thank Hashem for the great success we witnessed this past year in our students and graduates. Some of our graduates are currently serving in the IDF; some have already reached prestigious positions in Israeli society.

We wish you (and ourselves) a wonderful year, a year of creativity and achievement, a year in which we shall recognize the good in every person and leverage this good to the most important and worthy realms.

We would be delighted to see you share our successes next year as well.

In friendship and with great appreciation,

Avichai Yaakov, Executive Director
Michal Natan, Director of Resource Development

Shana Tova!



At TAMIR I learned to stop thinking, 'I can't do it,' but rather, 'I can't do it YET!' With determination, I will be able to reach my goal."

Noam

Survival Week at the Mechina



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