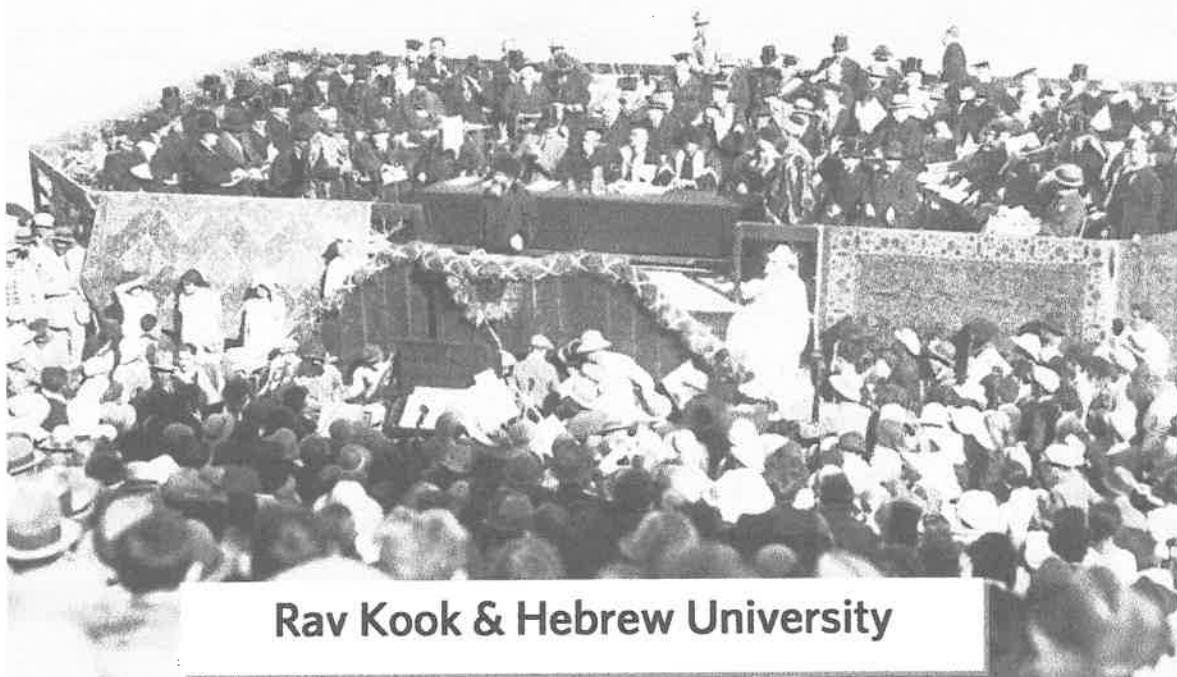


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# Tradition 33:3

Marc B. Shapiro

Even if this were not to happen—and I do not fear it—one must still consider if the Orthodox should be satisfied with boycotting those teachers who are *mumarim le-habbis*, or if other means should be employed. In any case, the Orthodox should not withdraw from the outset, for the more influence the Orthodox gain over the guidance of the university, the more there is a guaranty that the podium will not become a propaganda instrument for the unbelievers to misuse.

With greetings.

Respectfully,

Dr. D. Hoffmann

Berlin, January 4, 1920<sup>8</sup>

Most Honorable Dr.,

As with you, I am also of the opinion that the distancing of the Orthodox from the university to be established in Jerusalem will entail ruinous consequences for Palestinian Jewry. Although many believe that participation in this undertaking can be regarded as assisting the work of sinners, I hold the contrary opinion, that the abandoning of such an institution to the circle of the enemies of traditional Judaism is more of a support and furtherance of this direction than they themselves could ever have wished for. They would freely spread their destructive teachings at the university and in a short time would win over the whole intelligentsia to their side.

I think, therefore, that the Orthodox must endeavor to win the greatest influence over this institution, and since it will not succeed in totally excluding the Reform elements, two faculties must be established for the biblical-talmudic fields, each with its own particular administration, both with respect to financial as well as spiritual matters, so that one faculty has nothing in common with the other and one is not responsible for the other's conduct.

Both of these faculties, we will refer to them as the theological faculties, must also be separated from the faculties that teach neutral subjects, so that the Orthodox, who are involved in the promotion of the latter, do not indirectly support the spread of anti-religious teachings.

If it is necessary in some teaching situations, such as Jewish history or philosophy, to assert a certain religious point of view, then this discipline must be assigned to the theological faculty.

## Ein Schreiben des „Chofez Chajim“ zur Universitätseröffnung.

Wilna, 15. April.

Der Chofez Chajim veröffentlicht folgende Kundgebung:

„Es ist von ewiger bekannt, daß Jerusalem, die heilige Stadt ist, die Gott auserwählt hat, um seine Schechina dort erstrahlen zu lassen. So war die Stadt stets angefüllt von Thora und Gottesdienst und in ihr erhob sich der heilige Tempel zu Ehren Gottes, wie es allen Bewohnern der Welt bekannt ist und klar niedergeschrieben ist in den Propheten und Heiligen Schriften. Aus dem heiligen Tempel wurde der Glaube an Gott und seine Thora der Welt verbündet, und ganz Israel harrt der Zeit, da der dritte Tempel erbaut wird, wie Er uns durch den Mund seiner Propheten verheißen hat. Heute aber gibt es Leute, die ohne Wissen und Vernunft die von ihnen errichtete Universität in Jerusalem als „dritten Tempel“ und „Zentrum der Lehre“ bezeichnen und diesen Gedanken in der Mitte der jüdischen Gesamtheit verbreiten. Es ist dieses eine Entmischung unseres heiligen Hauses und unserer heiligen Thora, wie sie die Welt noch nicht erlebt hat. Wehe den Ohren, die solches vernehmen! Ich sehe mich verpflichtet, es vor der jüdischen Gemeinschaft auszusprechen, daß alle, die derartiges verbreiten und ihm zustimmen, willens sind, die ganze Thora mit ihren Geboten aufzuheben und daß es verboten ist, in ihren Wegen zu wandeln. Alle Gläubigen, die an der Gotteslehre festhalten, sind verpflichtet, ihre warnende Stimme gegen eine solche Entweihung des Heiligtums zu erheben.“

Israel Meier Hakohen, Verfasser von Chofez Chajim und Mischna Berura.

N. S. Ich weiß wohl, daß sich Männer jener Kreise finden, die meiner Worte spotten werden, und daß ich keine Ehrungen damit ernten werde. Allein, sagten es doch schon unsere Weisen: Heil dem, der seine Ehre für die Ehre Gottes preis gibt!

\* \* \*

Gegen die Universität.

Jerusalem, 18. April.

Um Tage der Universitätseinweihung wurde ein Aufruf vom Rabbiner des Oberrabbiner Sonnenfeld in den Lehr- und Gehäusen verlesen, der u. a. folgende Stellen enthält:

„Alle Herzen sind erschüttert ob des geistigen Niederganges, in dem das heilige Land begriffen ist und der in den Vorgängen der letzten Tage seinen traurigen Ausdruck findet. Das Herz krampt sich zusammen bei dem Gedanken, daß nach der Gotteswanderung von Jahrtausenden, nachdem unseres Volkes Helden in allen Perioden taufendesachen Tod für die Thora auf sich genommen haben und zusammen mit den heiligen Rollen ins Feuer gegangen sind, um von Gott und seinem Heiligtum nicht zu lassen; daß nach dieser opfer schweren Zeit jetzt kaum daß ein Wohnzimmer mit dem freundlichen Verhalten der englischen Weltmacht ins Land bringt, der dazu dienen sollte, unser Leben in Ruhe in Frieden mit uns und unserem Gott zu sichern, dieser benötigt wird, um dem Absall und der Gottesleugnung Stätten und Denkmäler zu errichten. Eine Gruppe freigesinnter Juden, die sich annehmen, im Namen Erez Israels zu sprechen und Jerusalem als Fahne zu schwingen, breiten, statt Thora und Glauben in der Stadt der Thora und des Heiligtums zu fördern, das Recht der Gottesleugnung und der Unstille aus, in denen Tausende der jungen Seelen versangen, mit Schulen, die darauf abzielen, die Göttlichkeit der Thora zu negieren und das jüdische Volk den anderen Völker gleichzustellen. Diese Schulen stehen viel höher als die freigesinnten Schulen der vergangenen Epoche, die die Geonim und Führer des früheren Jahrhunderts bis ans Ende der Zeiten mit brennender Flamme belegt haben. Nun soll dieses

die aus dieser Hochschule für das heilige Land drohen. Es gittert unser Herz um die reinen Seelen, die diesem heiligen verfallen sollen und wir bebten im Bewußtsein, daß solche Arbeit die wahre Lösung hinauschieben und den Aufbau des Landes und des Heiligtums, nach dem unsere Augen gerichtet sind, fören. Erlebt doch jedes Beßalter, in dem das Heiligtum nicht aufgebaut wird, die Verstärkung desselben von neuem.“

Die Vorgänge hätten es gerechtfertigt, daß zum Zeichen der Trauer und des Protestes ein allgemeiner Fasttag angezeigt werde ohne Rücksicht auf den Nissanmonat, was sich aber aus dem Grunde nicht empfiehlt, weil die Frommen erst wegen des Regenmangels vielleicht gefaßt haben. Es schließt aber dieses nicht aus, daß sich einzelne Fromme finden werden, die am Tage der Eröffnung für ihre Person mit Trauern und Fasten auf den Vorgang reagieren. Auf alle Fälle werden alle, deren Seele noch im Glauben an Gott und seine Thora wurzelt, an den drei Eröffnungstagen sich Trauer aufzulegen über die Verstärkung des Tempels, dessen Wieder-

## Die Tagung der holländischen Agudas Jisroel.

(Schluß)

Danach wurde die Delegiertentagung geschlossen und Rabbi Salouïs eröffnete um halb 9 Uhr die offizielle Abendveranstaltung, zu der auch Gäste zugelassen waren. Inzwischen hatte sich das Versammlungslaß fast bis zum letzten Platz gefüllt. Der Vorsitzende eröffnete Herr Oberrabbiner Hirsch, Zwole, zu seinem Referat über Arbeit und Aufgaben der Agudah das Wort.

Wir möchten hier vorwegnehmen, daß dieses Referat in seinen klaren, inhaltsvollen Ausführungen, die von dem Redner in prägnanter Weise vorgebracht wurden, besonders im zweiten Teile eine fesselnde, begeisternde Wirkung auf die Zuhörenden ausübte, so daß dasselbe bei den Besuchern der Tagung den größten Eindruck als Höhepunkt der Tagung hinterließ.

Das Referat, das eigentlich verdient, in vollständigem Wortlaut veröffentlicht zu werden, leitete Redner mit den Worten בְּרַאשׁ תְּרִזֵּבָן die der Midrasj auf Parsas zw. zitiert, ein.

Redner schiberte daran anknüpfend die seelischen und körperlichen Leiden, in denen die Orthodoxie in Ost und West sich in den Vorriegsjahren befand und die bei der Tagung in Katowitz zum Plan der Gründung der orthodoxen Weltorganisation der A. J. führten. Man war sich damals eben darüber klar geworden, daß es in Zeiten der Not nicht damit genug ist, daß nur der Einzelne auf seinem Posten seine Pflicht tut, sondern daß dann ein Zusammenschluß unter Hinleitung persönlicher Bedenken zu gunsten des Areal Jisroel nötigt. Von diesem Gedanken waren die Führer getragen, als sie zur Errichtung vom A. J. schritten. Als hauptsächliches Programm hatte sich A. J. die Aufrechterhaltung und Förderung des Thorastudiums gesetzt, und wo die Thora in Not gerät, da greift A. J. der Anewspflicht gemäß helfend ein. So steht sie die Jeschiwos im Osten und lenkt vor allem ihr Augenmerk auf die Erziehung der Jugend zu Thoraluben, d. h. zu Menschen, die sowohl durch Lernen als auch im praktischen Leben die Thora verwirklichen. Für den Westen, insbesondere für Holland, betonte Redner besonders die Notwendigkeit, daß sich die Jugend viel intensiver wie bisher mit dem Studium der Lehre befasse und verwies hierbei auf die seit dem Kriege in Deutschland gemachten Anfänge und bereits erzielten Erfolge. Es sei auch in Holland zur Förderung zu erheben, daß jeder Schüler nach Beendigung der Schuleit, einerlei in welcher Schule, sei es H. B. S. oder Gymnasium und einerlei, welchen Beruf er zu ergreifen gedenkt, mindestens 1 Jahr sich ganz dem Thorastudium widmet.

Weiter eingehend auf die bisher geleistete Arbeit der A. J. wies Redner auf die von der A. J. bei den Staaten unternommenen politischen Aktionen, wie z. B. die Union für den Schabbos bei der drohenden Kalenderreform in Genf sowie die Kolonisationsarbeit in Erez Jisroel die zur Zeit durch die Auswanderung in den Vordergrund gerückt ist, sowie auf die Union, die bei der englischen Regierung wegen Berücksichtigung der Wünsche der orthodoxen Juden bei Auffassung des Gemeindegesetzes in Palästina, unternommen ist. Ferner verwies Redner noch auf die A. J. die A. J. leistet durch die Unterstützung und Errichtung orthodoxer Knabens- und Mädchenschulen in Erez Jisroel sowie auf die Errichtung und Unterhaltung der Kriegswaisenhäuser im Osten. Mit den Worten der Thora: בְּרוּ כָּן die der Midrasj aufzum wy interpretiert, schloß Oberrabbiner Hirsch seine flamende, zur Begeisterung auftaufende Rede unter

### Der Angestelltenausschuß der Agudas Jisroel Jugendorganisation Hanauer Landstraße 17 sucht

für einige junge Leute folgende Stellen:

### Volontärstelle i. d. Lederbranche

(3jähr. Handelschulbesuch)

### Volontärstelle i. d. Metallbranche

### Volontärstelle i. d. Textilbranche

(Beherrschung der engl., ital. u. arab. Sprache)

### Korrespondentenstelle in der Metallbranche

(Beherrschung der franz., engl. u. span. Sprache)

#### Stellen für

#### Stenotypistinnen und Anfängerinnen

#### Bäckerlehrstelle

#### Packer oder Auslauferstelle

**Wir bitten um gefl. Meldung von Vakanzen**

erreichung durch solche Vorgänge wieder hinausgehoben wird und die für „Tikun Chagot“ vorgeschriebenen Psalmen beten, auf daß sich Gott erbarme, fremden Raub aus unserer Mitte entferne, seine Gefolbten schützt und das Haus unseres Heiligtums errichte auf der Berge höchstem, und wir für würdig befunden werden, Gottes: opfer dargubringen und Israel geruhig wohne auf seinem Boden. Amen. — — —

Der Aufruf trägt die Namen der drei Dozenten der Akademie: Mordechai Löb Rubin, Ilchaz Krentzel, David Avraham. Ein tiefes Nachwort des Oberrabbiners, Rabbi Chaim Sonnenfeld, der den Aufruf selbst nicht unterzeichnet, empfiehlt die aus liebstem jüdischen Herzen kommenden Worte zur Beachtung.

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LE. RAKA ET AL. 2004

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WICHEN ALLEIN SÜNGT, DASS WIR WACHEN, GEHT IN EINER

אינו בורח, אלה מישון אלה שטחנות הונאה, וברח אוחז חיה

Изображение С. А. Шварца в книге Е. Н. Толстого «Воспоминания о жизни и творчестве А. П. Чехова»

NO TEL AVIVI DELL'ANNO PRECEDENTE

ମୁଦ୍ରଣ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟ

**לעומת** מוגב לטעם אם גוועה רעה טבל מחרזין פראנץ' וטולניאן

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## *From the Pages of Tradition*

### TRADITION

#### RABBI ABRAHAM ISAAC HA-KOHEN KOOK: INVOCATION AT THE INAUGURATION OF THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem was formally inaugurated on April 1, 1925.<sup>1</sup> The ceremony, held in a large open air theater on Mount Scopus, was presided over by Chaim Weizmann, then President of the World Zionist Organization. Representatives from the governments of the United States, France, Italy, Germany, Poland, Austria, Greece, Belgium, and Holland graced the podium. Also present were distinguished scholars representing the world wide academic community. These included, among others, Professor William Foxwell Albright of Johns Hopkins University and Canon Herbert Danby of Oxford University. The countless Jewish dignitaries present included rabbis, poets, and philosophers. Among them were Chief Rabbi Joseph Herman Hertz of England, Hayyim Nahman Bialik, and Ahad Ha'am. Some six to seven thousand persons sat or stood in the audience, in order to witness the historic ceremony. After the procession of dignitaries to the podium, the proceedings opened with the rendering by choir and orchestra of Haydn's "The Heavens declare the Glory of God" and Sulzer's "From Zion Shall Go Forth The Law." This was followed by the invocation, delivered by none other than the late Chief Rabbi of Eretz Yisrael, Rabbi Abraham Isaac Ha-Kohen Kook (d. 1935).<sup>2</sup> His very presence was an act of courage; indeed, many of his rabbinic colleagues viewed his presence as an act of treachery. Even more courageous was the message he delivered that afternoon, which minced no words about his true feelings regarding the Hebrew University and its place in the life of a revitalized Jewish yishuv in the land of Israel.<sup>3</sup> Rav Kook's sermonic invocation was a masterful midrashic exposition of the biblical verses cited at its start, demonstrating their relevancy to the event being celebrated that day.<sup>4</sup> Rav Kook's textured and flowery Hebrew, rich with biblical and rabbinic allusions, cannot possibly be translated properly into English; nonetheless, the translation that follows attempts to capture the essence of what he said.<sup>5</sup>

• • •

The prophet of consolation prophesied (*Isaiah 60:4-5*): "Lift up your eyes and look about; they have all gathered and come to you. Your sons shall be brought from afar, your daughters like babes on shoulders. As you behold, you will glow. Your heart will fear and rejoice—for the wealth of the sea shall pass on to you; the riches of the nations shall come to you."

Today's great event, the opening of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem on Mount Scopus, in such glorious ceremony and splendidly festive, amidst a gathering of tens of thousands of our sons and daughters from all parts of the land of Israel and from all the lands in the Diaspora, is—on a reduced scale—the living fulfillment of the holy vision of this prophecy. True, not all have gathered together, and the beginning of the ingathering of the exiles is on a small scale, yet this very ingathering is a sure sign that the set time has come, and that the gates of redemption are opening before us. Our hopes are strengthened that the great day is near when all the exiles will gather together and join us, the redeemed ones joyously going up to Zion.

We note in this first step today the fulfillment of the prophet's words: "As you behold." With our own eyes we behold the wonders of the Redeemer of Israel, who has performed this great deed on our behalf. He has raised up the glory of His people among the nations of the world. He has given us a portion in Judah, and girded us with strength and spirit so that we can begin to rebuild the life of our nation, as before, in the Holy Land. We also note the fulfillment of the prophet's words: "You will glow." The glowing joy on the faces of the thousands gathered here is an expression of gratitude and esteem to such distinguished guests as Lord Balfour,<sup>6</sup> the representative of the great nation that issued the Declaration; His Excellency the High Commissioner, Sir Herbert Samuel;<sup>7</sup> His Excellency Lord Allenby;<sup>8</sup> and the distinguished rabbis and sages whose presence graces this festive gathering. Their presence causes the souls of all those gathered here, as well as the souls of tens of thousands of our brethren from afar who will hear about the great glory of our nation on this day, to glow.

But why "fear"? Why did the prophet preface the phrase "Your heart will rejoice" with the notion of fear? When, however, we look back in retrospect at past generations, and at the spiritual and intellectual movements that have influenced us, we readily understand that the notion of fear, in conjunction with rejoicing, is appropriate. Two tendencies characterize Jewish spirituality. One tendency is internal and entirely sacred; it serves to deepen the spirit and to



strengthen the light of Torah within. Such has been the purpose of all Torah institutions from earliest times, especially the fortresses of Israel's soul—the yeshivot. This includes all the yeshivot that ever existed, presently exist, and will exist in order to glorify Torah in its fullest sense. This spiritual tendency is fully confident and assured. "Those who love Your Torah enjoy well-being; they encounter no adversity" (Psalm 119:165). Despite such confidence, Rabbi Nehunyah ben Haqanah, upon entering the house of study, used to pray that nothing go awry with his presentation and that it not lead to error.<sup>9</sup>

The second tendency characterizing Jewish spirituality served not only to deepen the sacredness of Torah within, but also as a means for the propagation and absorption of ideas. It served to propagate Jewish ideas and values from the private domain of Judaism into the public arena of the universe at large. For this purpose we have been established as a light unto the nations. It also served to absorb the general knowledge derived by the collective effort of all of humanity, by adapting the good and useful aspects of general knowledge to our storehouse of a purified way of living. Ultimately, this absorption too serves as a means of a moderated propagation to the world at large. Toward the attainment of this end, the Hebrew University can serve as a great and worthy instrument.

Hear, dear friends, there is room for fear. From earlier times, we have experienced the transfer of the most sublime and holy concepts from the Jewish domain to the general arena. An example of propagation was the translation of the Torah into Greek. Two very different Jewish responses to this event emerged. In the land of Israel, Jews were frightened—their world darkened.<sup>10</sup> In contrast, Greek Jewry rejoiced.<sup>11</sup> There were also instances of absorption. Various cultural influences, such as Greek culture and other foreign cultures that Jews confronted throughout their history, penetrated into our inner being. Here too, many Jewish circles responded to absorption with fear, while other Jews rejoiced.

When we look back on the previous generations, and reckon with hindsight, we realize that neither the fear nor the rejoicing was in vain. We gained in some areas and lost in others in our confrontation with foreign cultures. This much is clear: Regarding those circles that welcomed absorption and propagation joyously, with unmitigated optimism and with no trepidation, very few of their descendants remain with us today, participating in our difficult and holy task of rebuilding our land and resuscitating our people. For the vast majority of them have assimilated among the nations; they

found themselves caught up in the waves of the "wealth of the sea" and the "riches of the nations" that have come to us.

Only from those who resided securely in our innermost fortresses, in the tents of Torah, enmeshed in the sanctity of the law, did emerge the truly creative Jews—that great portion of our nation who are loyal to its flag—who work tirelessly to build our great edifice. Among these were many who propagated and absorbed. They exported and imported ideas and values on the spiritual highway that mediates between Israel and the nations. Their attitude, however, toward this undertaking was never one of rejoicing only. Fear accompanied their joy as they confronted the vision of the "wealth of the sea" belonging to the "riches of the nations."

Quite rightly did the prophet say: "As you behold, you will glow. Your heart will fear and rejoice—for the wealth of the sea shall pass on to you; the riches of the nations shall come to you."<sup>12</sup>

But how does one overcome the fear? How do we assure the safety of the nation against the mighty stream engulfing it?

As a representative of the Jewish community, standing on this honored platform, I submit to you the reflections of many distinguished segments of the community of traditional Judaism. It must be understood that the Hebrew University by itself cannot fulfill all the educational requirements necessary for the success of our national life. We must realize that, first and foremost, it is the great Torah yeshivot, those that now exist and those to be constructed that are worthy of the name—including the Central Yeshivah which we are establishing in Jerusalem, which shall be a light onto Israel in all areas of Torah, whether halakhah, aggadah, Jewish action, or Jewish thought—that uphold the spirit of the nation and provide for its security. Moreover, the Hebrew University must maintain standards so that the name of Heaven, Israel, and the land of Israel are sanctified, and never desecrated, by it. This applies to administration, academic staff, and students alike. In particular, it is essential that academics teaching Jewish studies, ranging from biblical study—the light of our life—to talmudic study, to Jewish history and thought, aside from their academic excellence, be personally loyal emotionally and intellectually to traditional Judaism. Only then will the fear we experience, together with the magnificent vision we behold this day, lead us to glow and rejoice in blessing.

These are our aspirations regarding the institution, crowned today with the glory of Israel by the "wealth of the sea" and the "riches of the nations" that have come to us. May the prayer of Rabbi Nehunyah ben Haqanah be fulfilled in us: May my presenta-

tion not lead to error.

"Then my people shall dwell in peaceful homes, in secure dwellings, in untroubled places of rest" (Isaiah 32:18). May we witness the joy or our nation, the rebuilding of our Temple and our glory, to which the nations shall stream in order to receive Torah from Zion and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem, Amen.

## NOTES

1. For details regarding the inauguration ceremony of the Hebrew University, see *The Hebrew University Jerusalem: Inauguration April 1, 1925*, Jerusalem, 1925. For photographs of Rav Kook at the inauguration ceremony, see *ibid.*, English section, p. 34, and cf. Eli Schiller, ed., *First Photographs of Jerusalem: The Old City*, (Hebrew), Jerusalem, 1980, p. 225.
2. According to Rabbi Isaac Humer, late Rosh Yeshiva of Mesivta R. Chaim Berlin, Chaim Weltmann was able to prevail on Rav Kook to attend the inaugural ceremony of the Hebrew University by promising him that the critical study of the Hebrew Bible (à la Wellhausen) would not be included in its curriculum. The promise, much to Rav Kook's chagrin, was not honored. See Hayyim Lishitz, *Sifrei ha-Ravayot*, Jerusalem, 1979, p. 198.
3. Despite his misgivings about the Hebrew University, Rav Kook advised Professor Abraham Adolf Fraenkel (d. 1965), a distinguished German mathematician and Orthodox Jew, to accept an appointment to the Hebrew University. Rav Kook explained that "whatever the drawbacks of the Hebrew University, we cannot ignore the obligation to do battle in order to assure a proper presence that will look after the interests of traditional Judaism and increase its influence. Such goal can be realized only by the appointment of professors who are loyal to traditional Judaism." See Rabbi Moshe Y. Zuriel, ed., *Ozrat ha-Ravayot*, Tel Aviv, 1953, vol. 4, p. 190. On Fraenkel, see Yizchak Raphael, ed., *Encyclopedias of Religious Zionism* (Hebrew), Jerusalem, 1971, vol. 4, columns 440-441.
4. After delivering the invocation, Rav Kook recited a poem which summarized the essence of his remarks. The poem is not translated here. For the original Hebrew text of Rav Kook's invocation and poem, see the volume cited above, note 1, Hebrew section, pp. 15-18; Rabbi Zvi Yehudah Kook, ed., *Dibrei ha-Rav*, Jerusalem, 1925; Rabbi Abraham Isaac Ha-Kohen Kook, *Hazon ha-Grafaah*, Jerusalem, 1941, p. 266; *Melekhavim ha-Ravayot*, Jerusalem, 1984, pp. 306-308; Rabbi Moshe Y. Zuriel, ed., *Ozrat ha-Ravayot*, Tel Aviv, 1988, vol. 2, pp. 1116-1118; and Rabbi Moshe M. Alharar, *Likupotah shel Toraah*, Jerusalem, 1988, pp. 90-95. Not all of the printed editions present the full text of Rav Kook's remarks.
5. Despite the clarity of expression of Rav Kook's presentation at the Hebrew University, his denigrators insisted on misconstruing his words and claimed

that he applied the biblical verse *For Torah shall come forth from Zion, the word of the Land from Jerusalem* (Isaiah 2:3 and Micah 4:2) to the Hebrew University. This false claim, together with other false claims regarding the attitude of several of Rav Kook's rabbinic colleagues towards him, reappeared most recently in the periodical *Tated Ne'eman*. In fact, the biblical verse was not cited in the invocation itself, though it is paraphrased in his last paragraph. The biblical verse was cited at the end of the poem that followed the invocation. See the full text of the poem, as published in Rabbi Moshe M. Zuriel (cited above, note 4). In context, it is obvious that Rav Kook understood the verse as referring to Torah issuing forth from the yeshivot (and Torah scholars) and, ultimately, the Temple in Jerusalem, not from the Hebrew University. For an exposé of the *Tated Ne'eman* claims, see Rabbi Moshe M. Alharar, *Likupotah shel Toraah*, Jerusalem, 1988.

Interestingly, the biblical verse was applied to the Hebrew University at the inauguration ceremony, but not by Rav Kook. See the closing remarks of Professor Abraham Buecher (d. 1939), then Principal of Jews' College in London, in *The Hebrew University Jerusalem: Inauguration April 1, 1925*, Jerusalem, 1925, Hebrew section, p. 104.

6. Arthur James, Earl of Balfour (1848-1930) was Foreign Secretary of the British government when he signed the Balfour Declaration of November 2, 1917. He delivered the opening address (after Rav Kook) at the inaugural ceremony of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem in 1925.

7. Herbert Louis Samuel (1870-1963), born into a traditional Jewish family, was a British statesman and philosopher. He served as the first High Commissioner of Palestine (1920-1925).

8. Edmund Henry Hyman Allenby (1861-1936) was the British commander who defeated the Turks in Palestine in 1917-18. He served as commander of the British forces in Egypt and Palestine. He was present at the laying of the foundation stone of the Hebrew University in 1918, and spoke at its inaugural ceremony in 1925.

9. For this first century Tanna's prayer, see M. Bernstein 4:2; B. Berakhot 2Bb; and J. Berakhot 4:2 (7d).

10. See *Matatket Sofrim* 1:7, ed. M. Higger, New York, 1937, pp. 101-102 and notes.

11. See, e.g., Philo's account of the origin of the Greek translation of the Torah in his *On Moses* 2:25-44, cited by Moses Hadas, ed., *Aristaeus & Philocrates (Letter of Aristaeus)*, New York, 1951, pp. 22-25. Philo, writing in first century Alexandria, notes: "Therefore, even to the present day, there is held every year a feast and general assembly in the island of Pharos, whether not only Jews but multitudes of others cross the water, both to do honor to the place in which the light of that version first shone out, and also to thank God for the good gift so old yet ever young."

New God Becomes Hashem

## Rabbi Ezekiel Sarna on Rav Kook

The *Rosh Yeshivah* of Hebron, the Gaon Rabbi Ezekiel Sarna zt", was one of the great admirers of the Rav [Kook], and more than once, he lavished upon him praise as a *ggon* and *tsaddik*. Once, he especially noted the Rav's desire to influence and to bring close to true Judaism. Reb Chatzkel (as he was referred to affectionately) told the following story:

I once went with some request to the Rav. As I was ascending the stairs to his home, I encountered two distinguished gentlemen leaving the Rav's residence. Their dress told me that they were not affiliated with the religious community. Approaching, I was able to observe them up close. I noted on their faces a look of deep emotion. Once inside the Rav's abode, before I had a chance to open my mouth, the Rav addressed me: "Certainly his honor has come about some pressing matter, but first I would like to relate what just took place. Two professors from the university paid me a visit to discuss a certain topic. However, I seized the opportunity and began discussing with them matters of belief. The discussion dragged on, and at its conclusion, I had the feeling that I aroused in them thoughts of *teshuvah* (return) and that I brought them to the way of faith."

(Rabbi Moshe Zevi Neriyah, *Likkutei ha-RAYAH* (Kefar ha-Ro'eh: Hai Ro'i, 5750/1990], p. 110)

## Letter of Rabbi Isaac Hutner to Rabbi Moshe Zevi Neriyah

Isaac Hutner  
Brooklyn, NY

With the help of God  
28 Ellul, 5722/1962

My dearly beloved friend,

... I will tell you exactly what transpired: I first arrived in Erets Israel a few days before the opening of the Mount Scopus campus of the University. This was when I first became acquainted with our teacher *zehker tsaddik ve-kadosh li-verakha* (the memory of the righteous and holy for blessing).

In those days, he spoke with me extensively of his decision to be present at the ceremony. He clarified his decision by weaving from world to world, from celestial palace to celestial palace, as was his wont. The speech would pour forth.

One of the pillars of his talks was the promise given him that there would be no chair in this university for Bible criticism.

A long time passed, and I happened to be present in our teacher's room, may he rest in peace, when someone walked in and reported

the content of Professor Torczyner's lecture at the University the evening before.<sup>299</sup> Of course, the whole lecture was full of Bible criticism of the worst sort.

Our holy master gazed at me with a look of disappointment, bitterness, frustration, and piercing pain, such that to this day I feel this look like the prick of a hundred needles at once.<sup>300</sup> I was astonished by this look. Then, without meaning [to offend] my lips pronounced the words: "Evidently, in addition to knowing the *soul*, one must know the *body*." I saw fit to transmit to you this anecdote.

A good inscription [for the New Year].

Ascend yourself and raise others with you as you are accustomed.

With love,

Isaac Hutner

(Moshe Zevi Neriyah, *Bi-Sdeh ha-RAYaH* [Kefar ha-Ro'eh, 5751/1991], pp. 435-436)