

## **Rosh Hashana Sameach from Shaharit**

Dear all,

Dark clouds gather on the horizon as we enter our fifth election in just three years. An ultra-nationalist party gains traction and threatens to be one of the largest parties in the next Knesset, and potentially part of the next coalition government. Yet as menacing as such a trend is to the body politic, it can obscure the larger story. This past government did something unprecedented: its organizing principle was a commitment to a shared future, rather than any particular ideological vision. And while the government fell, a Politics of the Common Good emerged at the highest level of Israeli politics and it is not going away.

I recently heard former Minister of Religious Services Matan Kahana, a right-wing Orthodox Jew now running with Benny Gantz's party, speak about his experience in government. He spoke with respect and partnership, even affection, about his governmental partners to his left. And Mansour Abbas, who broke the glass ceiling of Arab-Palestinian politics in Israel by joining the coalition government, refuses to surrender to the culture wars, to the role of victim, and proudly announced that he hopes to be a minister in the next government of the Jewish state.

Shaharit is at the heart of this new Israeli politics. Leaders from our circles are playing key roles in these first attempts to translate the Common Good into political practice. We are no longer campaigning for a brand new politics, but for a politics that has finally and inexorably become real. For that, our staff, friends, and supporters have my everlasting gratitude.

We are at the beginning of a generational paradigm shift. Now is the critical moment to redouble our efforts, to reinvest in the politics of the Common Good. The next generations of Israeli leaders need our support. And we need yours.

Shana Tovah,



We are overjoyed to welcome a new group of olim from Ethiopia, including the siblings of our own Surafel Almo, our community organizer who works with the Ethiopian community in the Krayot. After a heartbreaking prolonged struggle, Surafel's siblings have finally joined him here in Israel, fulfilling the dream of their late father: for his children to reunite. Surafel continues to advance critical projects that will strengthen the resilience and solidarity of the Ethiopian-Israeli communities.



Arkan, our Arab-Israeli leadership program, is launching its third cohort of prominent young leaders.

Participants will be invited to think about their experiences as Arab citizens of Israel and consider different narratives in Israeli society.

They will discuss Zionism, the



How does Haredi thought connect to modernity and its dilemmas? Our Program Director Malki
Rotner explores these ideas with Yaakov Matan in their podcast Meidech (from the Aramaic word meaning "on the other hand"). The first two episodes dealt with the Haredi relationship with the Land of Israel and the concept of "faith in the sages," respectively.



The 24 prominent religious Zionist leaders in our Areivim Zeh La-Zeh program have returned from an incredibly enriching experience in America, where they asked themselves difficult questions and learned about Jewish life as a minority. We are now recruiting our next cohort. The complex relationship between Israel's democracy and its Jewish character will be the guiding principle of their year with us.

multiple identities of Israeli Jews, and how to bring their Arab identities to the public arena.

## Support the Common Good in Israeli Society







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