

Rambam Record Parshat Acharei Mot Kedoshim

Yom HaZikaron and Yom Ha'atzmaut at Rambam

After commemorating Yom HaShoah last week, it was time to remember the fallen soldiers on Yom HaZikaron. As Israeli Brigadier General Bentzi Gruber pointed out when Rabbi Eliach brought him to Rambam last week, there is "A direct line between Yom HaShoah and Yom HaZikaron." Rabbi Eliach made clear this connection as he transported the talmidim to Israel and allowed them to recognize the significance of the day. He shared a video featuring Miriam Peretz who lost two sons in the IDF. She described how she longs to hear her two boys say "Mama." He also played a recording of "HaTikvah" that was over 70 years old. It was a recording of Holocaust Survivors who had just been liberated. One could hear the reverberations of the bittersweet mixture of sorrow at their losses, but the longing and hope to soon thrive in Israel. He then showed a clip of 30,000 modern-day Jews who "took over" a soccer stadium in England before the Israeli soccer team played a game. 30,000 strong Jews proudly displayed Israeli flags and triumphantly sang "HaTikvah" as a testament to Jewish courage and survival.

The next day, following Yom HaZikaron, students gathered for a special Yom Ha'atzmaut assembly. Rabbi Zev Meir Friedman, the Rosh Mesivta, introduced the assembly with inspiring words about the creation of Israel, and how the Jewish people protect Israel when our enemies sought to destroy us. Rabbi Eliach then spoke passionately about the privilege that we have to experience the Jewish sovereignty in the land of Israel. He explained that if he would take a time machine back into time when Jews were distraught, they would cry if they heard that we would have a Jewish state in the future. These moving words taught students that we should appreciate how lucky we are to have a Jewish state.

In the program, Rabbi Eliach showed many videos of Israel achieving in many fields. Students were shown how Israel's program "Save a Heart" delivers heart-saving surgeries to children that have heart defects, or create innovative techniques for African villages that can get cleaner water. Students saw how Israel contributes to the world, being the world's first responders when nations like Haiti and Japan experience catastrophes. He showed a video of an Israeli who broke down the stereotypes and showed what a proud Jew living in Israel can accomplish. One of the highlights was a look at IDF soldiers preparing for battle. They were singing Jewish songs and it was clear that all walks of religious life were represented and committed to the defense of Israel.

The assembly concluded when Rabbi Eliach recited Tehillim for Medinat Yisrael, which gives praise for a continuous success within the Jewish State. After such an inspiring program, students realized how Israel contributes to the world, and it truly enhanced the image the talmidim have of Medinat Yisrael.



Rambam Softball Wins Big

It was a 14-4 victory over HANC that has now put Rambam at 2-1 on the season and in the driver's seat to make the playoffs! Go Ravens!

