

The pre-army yeshiva is designed for idealistic, religious young men who

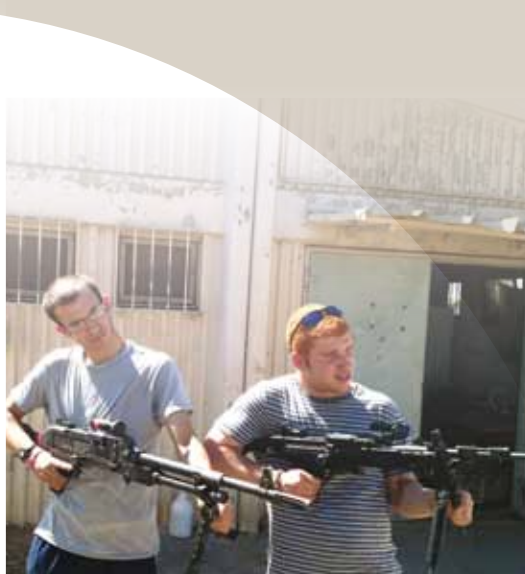
aspire to deepen their Torah knowledge, strengthen their spiritual convictions, and take responsibility for all aspects of their lives both during and after their military service. The Otzem Yeshiva has been active for twenty years and is constantly developing and rising to meet new challenges.

This year the Yeshiva is serving more than 300 students (about 150 in the first year program and 150 in the second year and graduate programs).

Students in the Yeshiva represent a broad geographical spectrum of Israeli Religious Zionism, hailing from the Golan Heights in the north to Eilat in the south. We seek to create a mixture of students from different communal backgrounds including development towns, urban centers, kibbutzim and moshavim, and the settlements of Judea and Samaria.

The Yeshiva's continued contact with its graduates during and after their military service constitutes an important element in our educational success. The "Torah of the Yeshiva" becomes more and more of a "Torah for Life" for its graduates.

***If you seek a uniquely Israeli experience –  
then Otzem is the place for you!***



***Our primary aim is to promote  
our students personality development.  
Our graduates are mature young men capable  
of making responsible decisions in all areas of their lives.  
We seek to instill in our students love of  
Hashem, His People and His Torah.***



**Yechiel**  
England

*"For me Mechinat Otzem is the ultimate stepping stone between being an Anglo in Israel and being an Anglo Israeli. Living in Israel has always meant so much to me and now I have the possibility of doing it without feeling like a stranger"*



**Oren**  
New York

*"I've always wanted to go to the army and make Aliya. The Mechina is helping make my dream a reality. Everyday my love for Israel grows stronger thanks to the Mechina and everyone in it"*



**Eliyahu**  
Philadelphia

*"I have the type of freedom in learning that I never had in high school. Otzem has a great staff who are serious about learning and give me the ideal atmosphere to develop skills at my own speed"*

**The Otzem**  
Pre-Military Yeshiva



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Shilo • Barkats Beit-El



# Otzem English Program Be part of Israel



***The quiet and serenity of Cholot Chalutza make it a perfect environment in which our students can build strong and healthy spiritual foundations in preparation for the tasks of contributing productively to Israeli society in general and serving proudly and successfully in the IDF in particular.***

**The Otzem**  
Pre-Military Yeshiva



# The Otzem English Program



The English speakers program provides young men from abroad with the spiritual resources needed to integrate successfully within Israel's armed forces and society at large. The English speakers program combines four core components:

## 1. Integration

we see three objectives for a successful integration.

- Hebrew - knowing fluent Hebrew - we have daily Hebrew classes, the end goal being learning in the regular Hebrew program.
- Culture - getting to know Israeli culture - experiencing it and learning it.
- Torah - learning what Eretz Israel and Am Israel are all about.

## 2. Yeshiva studies designed to build men of faith and action

- The traditional Yeshiva curriculum – Talmud with Rishonim and Acharonim.
- In-depth study of the classic texts of Jewish Philosophy.
- Grounding in Mishna and Halacha.



## 3. Deepening of Jewish identity, religious-Zionist commitment, and love of the Land of Israel

- Lectures by experts in the fields of science, politics, military, and philosophy.
- Seminars with prominent figures in Israeli society.
- Field trips and fact-finding missions throughout the country.

## 4. Spiritual and physical preparation for military service

The Israeli army is a unique framework that combines strict military discipline with weighty individual responsibility.

- Our Rabbis provide guidance and counseling in advance of military service geared specifically for students coming from abroad.
- We offer rigorous physical fitness training, including personal instruction in map-reading and field-navigation in theory and practice.
- Army representatives will brief the students on the needs of the army and the opportunities available to them in the armed forces.

# The Otzem Experience



## Personal Responsibility

”יגיע כפיד כי תאכל אשריך וטוב לך”  
תהלים קכב

Learning to take responsibility for one's own spiritual and physical well-being and that of society is the basis of a sound personality. At Otzem we emphasize self-motivated study, daily time management, respect for the environment, and community service.

## Chessed

We believe that Torah study is bound up with life outside the Beit Midrash. Individual chessed activities are part of the schedule. The Yeshiva also organizes collective chessed projects.

## Independent Learning

We seek to give our students the skills and motivation to continue their Torah study after they leave the yeshiva. To this end, we encourage independent learning. Challenged to solve problems on their own, students experience the joy of discovery. Independent learning is part of the daily schedule. Our Rabbis are available in the Beit Midrash for questions and guidance.

## Navigation and Map-Reading

The discipline and focus acquired in map-reading and navigation in the field where the margin of error is small and precision is critical, carry over into all areas of life. The IDF places great emphasis on the development of these skills.

## Shabbatot

Shabbat at Yeshiva is a special and uplifting day. Students enjoy the inspiring tefillot, shiurim and Shabbat meals with their peers. In addition to Shabbat at the Yeshiva, there will be several Shabbat programs outside of the Yeshiva throughout the course of the year.

## Personal Attention and Family Atmosphere

Our Rabbis counsel each student on an individual basis. Our Rabbis learn with each student several times each week. Each student will have an adopting family from the Naveh community.



# The Otzem staff



## Rabbi Haim Baruch Rosh HaYeshiva

Rabbi Baruch studied for 4 years at Yeshivat Ateret Yerushalim before starting his military service. He served 8 years as an officer in infantry and special units. After his military service and a short service in the Ministry of Defence, prior to being asked by Rav Rafi Peretz to replace him as the Rosh Yeshiva, he returned to Yeshiva and spent another 8 years at Yeshiva during which he became a sought after lecturer in many Mechinot, Seminars and Yeshivot. For the last four years he is Rosh Yeshiva at Otzem. Rabbi Baruch is a lieutenant colonel in reserves.



## Rabbi Yaron Levy Head of the English Speakers Program

Rabbi Levy studied at Bnei David before starting his military service. He served as an officer in the Golani infantry unit. After completing his military service, he returned to Bnei David and studied in the post-army yeshiva program. He then continued his studies under Rabbi Shlomo Aviner at Yeshivat Ateret Yerushalayim. His background in education includes: teaching in the English speaking programs of Yeshivot; Leading youth groups from the U.S in Israel; and serving as a teacher in the IDF conversion seminar. He served as rabbi of the Ohr Yissachar Ve-Simcha synagogue in Jerusalem and held the position of Ram at the Ateret Yerushalayim pre-army yeshiva. Rabbi Levy is an officer in the reserves.



## Rabbi Rafi Peretz Founder of the Mechina

Rabbi Peretz is currently the Chief Rabbi of the Armed Services. Prior to this he was an IDF reserve pilot. He gives weekly classes at the Yeshiva.



## Rabbi Eli Adler Ra"m Emunah

Rav Eli Studied at Yeshivaht Beit El, Mercaz Harav, and the Atzmona Kollel at Gush Katif. Aside from teaching in the Yeshiva, Rav Eli teaches at other Yeshivot throughout Israel. Rav Eli has also published books Tefilat Yesharim on prayer, Ohel Yesharim on marriage, and VeHigadta Lebincha on the Haggada. Rav Eli is one of the founding members of the Yishuv Naveh in Chalutza. He serves as a first lieutenant in a logistics division in the IDF.



## Rabbi Naftali Schonfeld Shana Alef Ra"m

Made aliya from Belgium at the age of 18, learnt at Yeshivat Mercaz Harav and Har Hamor. Before joining the Mechina and moving to Naveh with his wife and 6 children they lived in Tel Aviv for 6 years while learning at Yeshivat Tel Aviv. Rabbi Schonfeld served as Rabbi of a community in Ramat Aviv.