

Mikva – Salvation in Distress! (Yirmi'yahu 14:8)

Prophet Yirmiya'hu, who in time of peace and happiness, prophesized about the destruction of the Holy Temple and a time of misery for our people, which unfortunately materialized, as written in "Aicha" - "Lamentation," which we read on T'sh'a-b'Av. The same prophet also instructs us that the most effective means to prevent distress and/or rescue us from it is Mikva. While immersing in the waters of the Mikva, and as the supply of oxygen in our lungs comes to an end, we approach the critical moment that separates between life and death. We are instinctively driven to recognize our Creator, to pray and cling to Him, thus repenting from our sins and making Peace with Heaven which is a condition for Peace on Earth. This facilitates our salvation process! However, the Prophet informed us that it is not enough that only you and us observe Mikva!

Y O U R S and Our People's Survival was and will be largely dependent on the merit that:

A L L of our People Learn and Observe MIKVA! (Sanhedrin 94)

As life on this planet steadily becomes more complicated and dangerous and Jews the World Over Are in jeopardy – Both Spiritual and Physical, we are constantly in search of security, peace and salvation. We must rather eliminate the cause then mount a futile fight against its effects. Consequently, to save Yourself and Our People in these difficult times, it is not enough, and too easy, just to recite additional prayers, increase your charity etc. Mikva Promotion is also a must!

Create committees to bring the message of Mikva to A L L our people!

Request and distribute revealing & inspiring Mikva educational materials!

Support Mikva Outreach, and those dedicated to it!

STUNNING RESULTS compel joining our efforts!

YOU, TOO Can and Should Undertake Mikva Outreach! You might even succeed more than we have!

Dear Rabbi Ravad,

1. "Rabbi Imanuel Ravad - ד"ר עמנואל רב"ד consults with us regularly. His writings and book: **To Stand Alone With G-d!** – From Solitary Adam to Each One of Us! Not for Men Only! Also Food Utensils. No Mikva - No Tikva, ", F i n d O u t Why?!" has original insights that are enlightening even to observant Jews, and are certainly highly recommended for outreach tasks." - Harav Yitzchak Zilberstein, of Ramat Elchanan, Bnei Brak, Israel - One of our generation's rabbinic leadership and Kiruv Advisor, 25 Sivan 5760"

2. In the name of our people we must thank you for the wonderful Mikva promotion that you create with your Mikva-Tikva Outreach Programs. It is my duty to let it be known the great impact you are making in our community during your short stay. I heard two secular Jews discussing the importance of observing Family Purity even though they are not yet observant. They told me: "Seeing your mobile Mikva billboard van ignited their interest. They were inspired from your Mikva education brochure to observe Mikva and collect funds to build a Mikva for our community." I am sure it is just one of many stories about your great undertaking. Harav Yehuda Moses, Young Professionals Rabbi. Nessah Synagogue, Beverly Hills, California, 16 Adar 5767.

3. **"To Stand Alone With G-d! – Is most interesting and convincing to immerse.** However, as a non-observant mother of 3 children, I wonder why an article like this was not given to us by the rabbinate before our wedding, and why it is not publicized in the media and via direct mail? Hopefully someone will undertake to give it the proper exposure. Dr. Izabel Feder, M.D., 10 Sivan 5766.

4. **"Alienated from the Mikva concept, the book you gave me changed my opinion and will affect our teachings in hundreds of schools and change the lives of many thousands of our students.** I commend you for distributing it to thousands of educators during the CAJE* 6, in Oberlin, Ohio, Aug. '81, and at CAJE* 8 convention in San Antonio, TX., Aug. '83." - David Levy, Education Director.

*CAJE = Conference for the Advancement of Jewish Education. A few thousand rabbis, principals and schoolteachers, only some of them strictly observant, convene annually for a week of 500 invigorating lectures and 200 expo booths, during the summer vacation.

5. **"Mikva is my first Mitzva! A step leading toward total commitment! I was inspired to observe Mikva from the literature received at Mikva-Tikva=Hope booth, at CAJE!** Said the novice to Mikva attendant J.B.. Now her entire family is keeping a kosher home." Columbus, OH, 26 Elul 5750.

6. **[A jump from 50 to 100% observance]. "There was a noticeable increase in Mikva attendance, after distributing to our entire community, your videotape & printed Mikva educational materials."** - Rabbi Yaakov Wasser, Young Israel, E. Brunswick, NJ, 11 Shvat 5757.

32. **"You inspired observance of Taharat Hamishpachah, even when it meant immersing in the river in the cold of winter. Your financial and educational contribution helped establish our orthodox community and build our Mikva."** - E. Davidson, Halachic Minyan First Rabbi, Eugene, OR, 24 -Av 5757

33. **"Your material inspired them to build a Mikva in their own community."** - Libby Bottero, Eugene, OR, 5755.

34. **"About the near drowning in the river during immersion** heard Rabbi Imanuel Ravad, director of "Mikva-Tikva Global Programs." He visited Eugene to educate and raise the funds to build our mikva. 24 Adar I 5752, fall of 1992, Rabbi Ravad led a *Shabbaton* in Eugene to promote mikva awareness and held the first Orthodox minyan in Eugene. **Rabbi Ravad's spirited celebration of Shabbat was "infectious;" interest in having traditional Shabbat services grew.** In 1995, with the help of Rabbi Ravad and others, we built our mikva in the backyard of a community member." Excerpt from: "The Making of an Orthodox Community," by Shalom, (Gary) Katz, The Jewish Action magazine, Summer 5765, p. 28.

7. **"Impressed with the quality of your Mikva materials** received from you at CAJE Colorado, my teacher copied and distributed them, and prepared a program at the orthodox Mikva for our liberal congregation. Many were inspired to observe Mikva. For a number of years I have seen you tirelessly sharing Mikva information with the convention attendees.

Your work has not gone unnoticed." - Enid C. Lader, Director Congregational & Family Education, West Temple, Cleveland, OH. 12 Sivan 5764.

8. **"Your message is strong and vibrant! Many participants in our Mikva outreach programs start observing Mikva. Your educational materials take a large part of the credit."** - Rabbi Ze'ev Rothchild, Lakewood, NJ, 5754.

9. **"You helped an entire generation of Jewish teachers to reach out... You made our people richer and stronger in our resistance to the erosion of our culture. We see your personal thumbprint on our times."** - "We met at CAJE 4, Aug. '79, 23 years ago. Year after year you returned." Yitzchak ben Yehoshua, (Jerry) Benjamin, CAJE Past President. 5762.

10. **"Please supply us annually with 5000 "Shattering A Myth" postcards, along with your other Mikva publications (free of charge), for distribution in our seminars."** - Yitzchak. Avital, Adm. Arachim, B'nai Brak, 18 Sivan 5760.

11. **"After watching your video, she performed all Halachic rituals, although she was raised liberal, and he, on a non-observant Kibbutz. Exactly 9 month later, they were blessed with a son, after being barren for many years, despite medical treatments around the world."** - Rabbi Hayim Cassorla, Temple Israel, Niagara Falls, N.Y. 5753.

12. **"My mother, (liberal), never practiced the Mitzva. Nevertheless, she asked me to observe since my father was a Shabbat observer. At times I did go, and at times I avoided it... I dreamed about the Mitzva and Teshuva (repentance) and the very next day, you knocked on our door and dropped off Mikva education materials... Praying for a second chance, I bumped into you again. You were the messenger, doing G-d's work... in a way even I can perceive... Today I promote Mikva, with your educational materials!"** - C.W. Husband orthodox, attorney, Ave. of the Stars, Hollywood, CA, 5755.

13. **"Although Ohr Akiva has 2 new modern Mikvas, nevertheless, only about 10% of our young families observe the Mitzva. an inspiring Mikva Outreach campaign must be a focal point of Mikva services in any community that is not yet blessed with 100% Mikva observance. Thank you for your revealing & inspiring Mikva education outreach materials, 4000 of each type, that you graciously supplied us gratis. We have immediately distributed them to every family in our city. We pray & hope that other cities will follow our lead."** - Eliyahu Ankonina, Chairman, City Religious Council, Ohr-Akiva, Israel, 20 Sivan 5764.

15. **"5 families observe Mikva after distributing 30 of your books. Please convince the Kibbutz to allow us to build a Mikva!"** - Haim ben Yosef, Kibbutz Kinneret, at the Yarden river's mouth, Israel, 5745. With the permission of Harav Moshe Stern, from Debretzin, ZT"l, **I offered to build physical fitness facilities in exchange for their permission to build a Mikva.** Only the young members agreed and asked for a tennis court, therefore, unfortunately it did not materialize.

18. **"Finally the right thing was done. Hopefully other schools will emulate you!" Exclaimed and jumped for joy in my office one parent, after your video and other excellent Mikva educational materials, were sent with the students to every family in our school.** Instead of the expected complaints from non-observant parents, we got compliments. **Your inspiring, discreet Mikva presentation touched the lives of our students in a meaningful way."** - Rabbi Tzvi Kilstein, Headmaster, Hillel Day School, Boca Raton, FL, 24 Adar I, 5760.

20. **"Your Mikva Promotion Clocks are powerful educational instruments. I have placed them in my office and in every classroom of my school." It conveys a powerful Mikva message at all times, to all people, beyond what we can achieve personally.** Placed at the right spot, at eye level, the movement of the second hand calls attention and quietly, but surely, the message on the clock penetrates the heart and mind. It also encourages us to spread its message. - Rabbi Dov Kentof, Educational Director, the J.C. School, Jacksonville, FL, 1 Adar I, 5760.

23. "From the **"Mikva=Tikva"** slogan on your mobile billboard van, I recognize the word **"Tikva"** as the national anthem of the State of Israel, **but what is "Mikva?" "A word I never heard nor encountered in 27 years of my life!"** [Although my family and I were born and raised Jewish. We belong to a synagogue, where I was Bar-Mitzvahed, and our city boasts synagogues and yeshivas.] - D.H., Milwaukee, Midwest Jewish institution manager, at CAJE 29 convention, Hempstead, NY, 30 Av 5764.

30. **"You convinced me to change my name legally, from Steven to Shlomo!"** - Rabbi Shlomo Riskin, Lincoln Square Synagogue, New York, NY, today Efrat, Israel. 5740.