

Survey of this Issue

Welcome to the Tammuz Issue of *HaMa'ayan*, the last of 5776. As usual, the issue is replete with material: a wedding sermon by a sephardic sage from the well-known Gavison family, apparently from the era of the Spanish Expulsion; an additional study of the episode of David, Naval [Nabal] of Carmel and Avigail by Rav Yaakov Ariel, Chief Rabbi of Ramat Gan; on the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of Operation Entebbe, a historical and halakhic examination of the background of the operation, and of the actual possibility which existed at the time of acceding to the hijackers' demands and releasing hundreds of terrorists - with the agreement of important rabbinic leaders from all sectors of observant society, synopses of whose opinions are set out in the article - although not at any price. Further on, my son Rav Mordechai clarifies the various approaches to mutual responsibility among the Jewish people, and Yitzchak Henschke of Psagot attempts to prove, from a comparison of the prohibition to leave the Land of Israel addressed to the *kohanim* and the one addressed to all Jews, that Maimonides' opinion is that it is permissible to leave the Land temporarily, and the prohibition is only to leave permanently.

In the comment section, discussion continues on Zvi Ryzman's interesting article in the previous issue of whether a *kohen* whose hands are tattooed can ascend to bless the people in the synagogue, and two members of *Kibbutz* Shaalvim provide facts on the fulfillment, even in these times, of the blessing promised to those who observe the Sabbatical Year.

Five articles deal with books: a critique of the new edition of the works of the Maharal; examination of censorship in the writings of Rav Kook's students to conceal the connection between them and their teacher; Rav Friedman of the Institute for *Torah* and the Land of Israel surveys a new and unique work on the *Shoah*; Rav Schischa of London corrects a widespread error concerning remarks attributed to Rav Israel Salanter; and the editor, in addition to the section reviewing books received by the editorial board, critiques a work of history intended for religious education which however seriously undermines simple faith.

A healthy and successful year-end, and good tidings to one and all,

Yoel Catane, Editor

Table of Contents

"Between Paran and Tophel" / The Editor	2
"A bridegroom of blood by the circumcising": An Unpublished Wedding Sermon by Rav Jacob Gavison / Rav Moshe Shochat	3
David, Naval and Avigail – A Study in I Samuel 25 / Rav Yaakov Ariel ..	17
The Attitude of Leading Rabbis towards Releasing Terrorists to Save Entebbe Hostages / Rav Uriel Banner	23
Mutual Responsibility in <i>Halakha</i> – Two Approaches and their Implications / Rav Mordechai Catane	36
Maimonides' Approach to Temporarily Leaving Israel / Yitzchak Henschke	45

Responses and Comments

More on the Permissibility of 'Lifting of the Hands' to Confer Blessing by a <i>Kohen</i> Whose Arm is Tattooed / Rav Yaakov Epstein, R' Zvi Ryzman	57
"I will command my blessing" <i>Miderabanan</i> and the Tractor Battle 5726 (1966) / Moshe Oren	62
"I will command my blessing on you in the sixth year" 5774 (2014) – in Practice / Elhanan Emanuel	64
Our Master the Ra'aya [Rav Avraham Yitzchak haCohen Kook z.t.l.] and Biblical Criticism at The Hebrew University / Rav Yosef Haim Haberman	65

On Books and their Authors

A New Edition of the Works of the Maharal: The Berkowitz Edition of 5775 / Rav Eli Gurfinkel	66
Was There Indeed 'Censorship' in the Writings of Rav Kook's Students? / Rav Dr. Yitzchak Avi Roness	79
About the book <i>VehaSneh Einenu Ukhal</i> [And the Bush was not Consumed] / Rav Yoel Friedman	92
'Hanokh, Stitcher of Footwear': The Righteousness of the Righteous – On Remarks Attributed to Rav Israel Salanter in the Work <i>Mikhtav meEliahu</i> / Rav Yosef haLevi Schischa	97
On the Work <i>Tekufat haBayit haSheni</i> [Second Temple Era] and Its Suitability for Religious Education / Rav Yoel Catane	100
Editorial review of Recent <i>Torani</i> Publications / Rav Yoel Catane	103
Listing of Articles in Volume 56 [5776], 1-4, Issues 215-218	116