



**Minister for Jerusalem
& Diaspora Affairs**

March 7, 2005

Dear Friends,

I am familiar with Beit Midrash Re'utha which is situated in the Yishuv "Carmel" in the Southern Hevron Hills for several years. Its activities are a blessing to Am Israel in general and to the Southern Hevron Hills area in particular.

Rosh Yeshiva Rabbi Natan Ofner is a Talmid Chacham with a special character of immeasurable proportions who imbues the Beit Midrash with a unique Jewish Israeli cultural perspective of Torah.

Beit Midrash Re'utha was founded five years ago by veterans of elite fighter units of the IDF whose love of Eretz Israel and Torah and whose deep feelings of national and cultural responsibility led them to the conclusion that they must take upon themselves to saturate themselves with a deeper understanding of the Torah and heritage of Israel in order to be part of the spiritual and cultural backbone of the state of Israel.

Their deep desire, their great labors and their devotion created a unique Beit Midrash. Even though it is small, its quality speaks for itself.

Re'utha, which has great integral value, has acquired even greater value because of its location. Beit Midrash Re'utha is situated in the Southern Hevron Hills, an important area of land which has suffered greatly from the serious security situation. The Tremendous spiritual and morale strength which the Beit Midrash provides to the Yishuv and to the region is incomparable.

Respectfully,

Natan Sharansky