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Rabbis for Religious Freedom & Equality in Israel



“The State of Israel... will guarantee freedom of religion and conscience...”
Israel's Declaration of Independence (May 1948)

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Editorial

October 2015

Dear Friends,

L'shanah tovah to all.

We hope the holidays were both refreshing and spiritually uplifting for you.

We know that they take so much focus that it's likely you have not had time to see the first two editions of the RRFEI newsletter.

[The newsletters are available HERE on the RRFEI website.](#)

To aid your getting up to speed, we are enclosing in this interim newsletter a list of the essential topics we have covered, and links to the appropriate articles. Most critical is the [2015 Israel Religion and State Index](#), demonstrating even more than in previous years that the Jewish Israeli public overwhelmingly agrees with implementing religious diversity immediately. It is Israel's government that

Friends,

RRFEI welcomes and unites rabbis of every stream who care about Jewish religious diversity in Israel. Much bonds us, including the love of Jerusalem. While I imagine we have real political differences and approaches among us, we all recognize the present security crisis in Israel, and pray for peace for all its inhabitants.

למען, אחי ורעי-- אדברה-נא שלום בך.

בידידות,

Mark H. Levin
Chair, Editorial Committee

Kashrut Regulations for Hotels, Spring 2015

A Revolution in the Chief Rabbinate's Kashrut Regulations, following Hiddush's Battle!

In March 2015, Hiddush was notified that the Chief Rabbinate had updated its kashrut regulations for hotels, hostels and event halls to be in accordance with Israeli law. Finally, kashrut certification will only be granted upon the basis of whether the certified food is kosher or not!

[For full media coverage and primary sources, see the RRFEI.org.](#)

Media Coverage

[The JTA covered Hiddush's 2015 Israel Religion and State Index HERE.](#)

[Freeing the Jews - Rabbi Uri Regev brings mission of reforming](#)

refuses to democratize Judaism in Israel and allow all streams equal opportunity. But, as you will see, even in this difficult times we have made progress, and Israelis almost completely back our objectives.

IF YOU SPOKE ABOUT ISRAEL OVER THE HIGH HOLY DAYS, PLEASE EMAIL US THE SERMON AT organizers@rrfei.org. WE'D LIKE TO SHARE WITH OUR MEMBERSHIP!

בידידות,

Mark H. Levin
Chair, Editorial Committee

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Resources & News

- [Giyur K'halacha](#)
- [Acts of violence](#)
- [Kashrut regulations for hotels and event halls](#)

Contact us

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Not yet a member?

[Please register here »](#)

[Israeli chief rabbinate to Teaneck shul](#) (The Jewish Standard)

[A Jewish State for all Jews by Rabbi Mark H. Levin](#) (Long Island Jewish World)

[More media links on RRFEI.org](#)

A Prayer for Peace

Rabbi Karyn Kedar, Jerusalem, October 15, 2015

We gather together,
in faith and with hope
to pray for peace and
for the safety of the people of Israel.

Help us, O Holy One
and protect us in our hour of need.
Touch our hearts lest they hardened with despair.
Guide our thoughts lest they are overcome with fear.

Bring healing to the wounded,
strength to those in mourning,
courage to those in fear,
wisdom to those who lead.

Yedid nefesh, beloved one,
reveal Yourself and fill the world with Your light.
Spread over us the shelter of Your peace.
Be quick, God of love, for the time has come.
Have have mercy upon us, Eternal One of peace.

10/20/2015

Onwards together into this New Year

World Jewry, in partnership with Hiddush for the realization of these principles in Israel and the Diaspora.

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