



Union of American Hebrew Congregations

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R E F O R M M I T Z P E H

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PREFACE

A vast pioneering project is being launched in the Gallilee, namely a network of 40 Mitzpim located on hilltops and slopes all around the Gallilee. Mitzpeh in Hebrew is a Lookout Post and is a Pre-Settlement in its nature. This project was launched in order to resettle the Gallilee and increase the sparse Jewish population in that part of the country, which back in our history flourished economically, intellectually and spiritually with successful farmers noted scholars and outstanding leaders.

Establishing and maintaining the Jewish presence in the Gallilee is the only way to insure that this important part of the country remain in Jewish hands and be available for future Jewish settlers.

DESCRIPTION

There are to be at least 25 families in each Mitzpeh. The Jewish Agency and the Israeli government are providing the Mitzpim with roads, water, electricity and educational facilities. Each family is allocated a prefab house to be either purchased by them in due course or to be returned after the family has built its own house on the site.

LIVELIHOOD

Livelihood is the choice and the responsibility of each family. There are only a few jobs on the Mitzpeh, such as a kindergarten teacher, a guard, a part-time nurse, etc. There is not enough suitable land or water resources for agriculture. Members of the Mitzpeh can find jobs in the nearby development towns, cities, moshavim or regional industrial centers. Families could start their own business or industrial enterprise on a small scale on the site or on a larger scale in the nearest industrial center.

CHALLENGE

The majority of the Mitzpim are being settled primarily by Israeli families. There are waiting lists of young Israeli families who are inspired by the challenge of pioneering in the natural environment of the Gallilee, which is considered the most beautiful part of the country.

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