

# HAMA`YAN

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## Survey of This Issue

This special issue honors the memory of four prominent Jewish personalities: Dr. Isaac Breuer, who passed away some seventy years ago, a communal leader in the nascent state who did not merit to see it come into being; Rav Kalman Kahane, who passed away over twenty five years ago and was a person of Torah, a leader of the State and a mentor to many; Shemuel Emanuel, member of Kibbutz Sha'alvim, pioneer, educator, communal and Torani personality who passed away two months ago; and the 'cedar of Lebanon', the eminence who was at the beginning of his meteoric flourishing in Torah and in knowledge, Rav Eitam Henkin, who was murdered a year ago with his wife in front of their four children. The present issue includes moving personal letters penned by the Hazon Ish z.t.l. at the end of his days to Rav Kalman Kahane; three halakhic clarifications in decisions issued by Rav Kalman edited by his son Rav Binyamin Zeev, and an essay on the author of the Shelah, Rav Yesha`ya Horowitz, and his magnum opus, which Rav Kalman published when he was young – edited, revised and annotated by his student and colleague, member of our editorial staff, Rav Prof. Shimon Bollag. Further on are reminiscences and reflections on the Shoah found in the estate of Shemuel Emanuel as well as remarks in his memory, and remarks his brother Baruch wrote on the topic of how Hagar relates to her son Yishmael, in marked contrast to the way Jewish mothers relate to their children in trouble. From the literary estate of Rav Eitam h.y.d. we print for the first time a responsum directed to a person perplexed by matters involving the prohibition of worms (Rav Eitam authored a book on this topic) followed by his reconstruction of a 'lost' responsum of Rashba.

This issue also contains a comprehensive study of the identity of the tree known as erez ['cedar'] by Rav Azariah Ariel, Head of the Kollel of the Temple Institute; an annotated edition of the early piyyut Elohim mimekhon shivtekha by Prof. Yehoshafat Nevo; a

comprehensive review of the late Prof. Y. M. Ta-Shma's monumental *Kneset Mehkarim - Studies in Medieval Rabbinic Literature* containing a series of in-depth studies by one of the major scholars of rishonim [medieval authorities] in our generation, by his colleague Dr. Avraham David of the National Library; a new, clarified elucidation of the enigmatic topics of a 'sukkah [round shaped] like a furnace' and a 'round window between two courtyards' by Rav Dr. Mordechai Halperin, and a resolution of the contradictory sources in the matter of the existence of the Ten Tribes in our day by Rav Moshe Tzuriel, author of important works and former mashgiah (spiritual mentor) at Yeshivat Sha'alvim. Further on are remarks delivered recently in memory of Dr. Isaac Breuer, and as usual we have important rejoinders and comments, and reviews of new Torani books.

The editors of HaMa'ayan wish for the subscribers and readers and the entire Jewish people that the blessings of the passing year will continue into the coming year, and that many more blessings will come upon our people, our land and the cities of our G-d.

**Yoel Catane, Editor**

לעילוי נשמת

ד"ר אריה זינקין ז"ל

**Dr. Aryeh Zinkin** of blessed memory

father of alumnus Rav Hillel Zinkin

נפטר ח' אלול תשע"ו

תנצב"ה

