



THE PR OFFICE ^[PRO]

Conference of European Rabbis

Coverage update

12th June 2020





Publication: Jewish News (online)
Date: 05.06.2020
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JEWISH News

ANALYSIS

Letters to the Editor: 'Long live era of zoom judaism'

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By JEWISH NEWS

June 5, 2020, 9:20 am



2 shares



Example of a Zoom meeting with representatives of the Conference of European Rabbis





THE PR OFFICE ^[PRO]

Publication: Jewish News (online)

Date: 05.06.2020

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NJEWISH News

Long live era of zoom judaism

As synagogue movements ponder religious services in the coming months, one suggestion is that events are all-ticketed affairs.

Attendance at online gatherings has been huge. No fuss about what to wear, or where to park. I fervently hope online events continue as long as possible, and are as open as possible. Being part of a congregation has become so much easier.

Janet Gamley, London, N12

<https://jewishnews.timesofisrael.com/letters-to-the-editor-long-live-era-of-zoom-judaism/>





Publication: Jewish News (online)
Date: 08.06.2020
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JEWISH News

100 Jews in the UAE take part in Torah lesson with leading European rabbi

Members of the Gulf state's small community based in Dubai and Abu Dhabi discussed Jewish texts with Conference of European Rabbis President, Rabbi Pinchas Goldschmidt

By JACK MENDEL

June 8, 2020, 4:03 pm



Dubai's skyline

One hundred members of the United Arab Emirates' small Jewish community took part in an online Torah lesson with a leading European rabbi.





Publication: Jewish News (online)

Date: 08.06.2020

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NJEWISH News

Jews based in Dubai and Abu Dhabi discussed Jewish texts with Conference of European Rabbis (CER) President, Rabbi Pinchas Goldschmidt, and UAE Chief Rabbi Yehuda Sarna.

Held on Zoom before last Shabbat, the meeting took place to ensure Jews in country were not sidelined amid the Coronavirus pandemic. The CER is made up of around 700 rabbis in over 50 European countries, supporting communities around the world.

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Rabbi Goldschmidt said: "Since the outbreak of this horrible plague, we are all in our house in isolation, without the ability to join prayers and communities together."

He added: "I want to wish each and every one of you that we merit to unite together, while ensuring the importance of each person and the mutual respect which builds the nation, ends plagues for generations and will bring the complete redemption."

The community in the United Arab Emirates is estimated to number about 150 families or up to 2,000-3,000 people, with most residents originally from the United States, Europe and South Africa, the Yeshiva World News **reported**.

<https://jewishnews.timesofisrael.com/100-jews-in-the-uae-take-part-in-torah-lesson-with-leading-european-rabbi-abc/>





Publication: Arutz Sheva (online)
Date: 08.06.2020
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Torah class in the United Arab Emirates

Jewish communities of Dubai, Abu Dhabi, hold largest-ever Torah conference in Arab world.

Contact Editor Yoni Kempinski , 08/06/20 12:06



Zoom class

Conference of European Rabbis President





Publication: Arutz Sheva (online)

Date: 08.06.2020

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The Jewish community of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), founded 20 years ago and operating in a clandestine fashion, participated in a special online Torah program ahead of this past Shabbat (Sabbath).

Approximately 100 members of the Jewish community in Dubai and Abu Dhabi watched Zoom classes given by Conference of European Rabbis President Rabbi Pinchas Goldschmidt, UAE Chief Rabbi Yehuda Sarna, and joined a prayer session led by cantor Yosef Hais.

In recent years, the Conference of European Rabbis has worked with the Jewish community in the UAE. Members of the UAE's Jewish community usually meet in the synagogue, especially on Shabbat and holidays. As a result of the coronavirus outbreak, Rabbi Goldschmidt decided to hold an online Torah session in order to help maintain the connection with the community.

"The People of Israel have a special organizational structure, based on the directions of the Torah," Rabbi Goldschmidt said. "We see the beginning of the structure when the nation is divided into tribes, and in our forefather Jacob's blessing we see the purpose of each and every tribe, the jobs and tasks each tribe has, and how together it forms the nation of Israel."

"From the beginning of the Book of Numbers, we find the number of people in each tribe, and [details] of the camps and the flags until the end of the Torah section of Nasso (the second in Numbers - ed.), where it details in a very unique way the order in which the leaders of the tribes bring sacrifices in their names and in the names of their tribes, from the best and most choice [animals], in order to honor the dedication of the altar. The Torah details each and every tribe, even though to our physical eyes each tribe's leader gives the same exact thing. Meaning, even though we are one nation, each tribe has its own unique importance.





Publication: Arutz Sheva (online)

Date: 08.06.2020

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"Since the outbreak of this horrible plague, we are all in our homes in isolation, without the ability to join prayers and communities together. We must remember that Divine Providence is trying to teach us about the importance of each and every one of us, when we gather to build the Tabernacle of G-d and do His will. I want to wish each and every one of you that we merit to unite together, while ensuring the importance of each person and the mutual respect which which builds the nation, ends plagues for generations, and will bring the complete redemption."

Participating in the program were Ross Kriel, the president of the Jewish Community of the Emirates; David Harris, Executive Director of the American Jewish Committee (AJC); and public figures who often visit the countries during their business trips from the US and Europe. Gadi Gronich, staff leader for the Conference of European Rabbis, who made the online program a reality, said that as far as he knows, the pre-Shabbat program was the largest ever held by a Jewish community in an Arab country.

<https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/281501>





Publication: The Jewish Weekly
Date: 11.06.2020

THE PR OFFICE ^[PRO]

THE
**JEWISH
WEEKLY**
THE FAMILY NEWSPAPER

UAE attend online CER programme

The Jewish community of the United Arab Emirates participated in a special online Torah programme organised by the Conference of European Rabbis ahead of last Shabbat.

Some 100 members of the community in Dubai and Abu Dhabi watched Zoom classes by CER President Chief Rabbi Pinchas Goldschmidt and UAE Chief Rabbi Yehuda Sarna. "Since the outbreak of this horrible plague, we are all in our homes in isolation, without the ability to join prayers and communities together," he said.

"We must remember that Divine Providence is trying to teach us about the

importance of each and every one of us, when we gather to build the Tabernacle of G-d and do His will."

Chief Rabbi Goldschmidt told delegates the People of Israel had a special organisational structure, based on the directions of the Torah.

He added, "The Torah details each and every tribe, even though to our physical eyes each tribe's leader gives the same exact thing. Even though we are one nation, each tribe has its own unique importance."

The CER initiative was the latest project since the coronavirus pandemic hit global communities.

