

Shavuah Tov: Inspiration to Start Your Week

Monday, October 28, 2024

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This week we remember **Capt. Rabbi Avraham Yosef Goldberg** who died fighting Hezbollah in southern Lebanon. He was one of 24 soldiers killed last week, leaving 56 children bereft of a parent. He is survived by his wife Rachel and his 8 children. Rabbi Goldberg spent 260 days on reserve duty since October 7th. He was a teacher at Jerusalem's Himmelfarb School. Rabbi Goldberg also served as a *shaliach* in the United States and

taught at the Margolin Hebrew Academy in Memphis. Please do something good this week in his memory.



CREATIVITY is the use of the imagination or the development of original ideas that are often associated with the production of a work of art. Robert E. Franken in his book *Human Motivation* also defines creativity as “the tendency to generate or recognize ideas, alternatives, or possibilities that may be useful in solving problems, communicating with others, and entertaining ourselves and others.” People who are not artistic may say they are not creative although they use novel solutions to resolve conflicts, think about everyday problems, or get others to pay attention. They may have fresh perspectives or radically different approaches to issues. Albert Einstein said, "Creativity is seeing what others see and thinking what no one else ever thought."

The Torah cycle begins with a portrait of God as Creator. The repeated pattern of creation in the first chapter of Genesis/ **בראשית** is speech, action, and evaluation. Intention is followed by separation, which means that, at its core, the universe is one. Rabbi Joseph Soloveitchik, in his article, "Sacred and Profane," contrasts those who measure time on the clock and those who have people who measure time through meaning. Such individuals regard time “by pure quality, creativity, and accomplishment.” Creativity is also a way to make the most of time: “One may live an entire life span quantitatively, not having lived a moment qualitatively. And, contrariwise, one may have lived a moment quantitatively and have lived through an eternity qualitatively...The time norm is the highest criterion by which man, life and actions should be judged."

These have been difficult weeks in Israel. But in the wake of tragedy, we often see incredible creativity, creativity to heal, to rethink, to repurpose, and to rebuild.

CHALLENGE OF THE WEEK

A blue banner with a geometric pattern. On the right side, there is a silhouette of a person jumping over a dark rock formation.

How is your creativity best expressed?

What issue or problem could benefit from extra creativity this week?

RABBI SACKS' QUOTE OF THE WEEK

A blue banner with a geometric pattern. On the right side, there is a blue speech bubble icon.

“Jews have survived catastrophe after catastrophe, in a way unparalleled by any other culture. In each case they did more than survive. Every tragedy in Jewish history was followed by a new wave of creativity.”

Rabbi Jonathan Sacks, *Future Tense*

UPCOMING EVENTS

A blue banner with a geometric pattern. On the right side, there is a calendar grid showing dates from 10 to 27.



Yeshiva University
THE RABBI LORD JONATHAN SACKS-HERENSTEIN
CENTER FOR VALUES AND LEADERSHIP

Join us as Dr. Shira Weiss interviews

Adam Kirsch

about his new book



**On Settler
Colonialism**

IDEOLOGY,
VIOLENCE,
AND
JUSTICE

Adam Kirsch

Wall Street Journal editor, award-winning author, poet, and literary critic
about his new book

On Settler Colonialism: Ideology, Violence, and Justice

Monday, November 25 | 8:00 p.m. ET

Please contact Dr. Shira Weiss with questions: sweiss2@yu.edu

[To register, click here](#)



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Simply Said: Mastering Communication Skills

Jay Sullivan, author of *Simply Said*, will be giving an in-service primer on the key communication topics covered in his book.

This event will provide an opportunity to revisit the key concepts from the book and to assist you in your continued growth as a professional.

Wednesday, November 13

12:00–1:00 p.m. ET

Virtual Session | Free of Charge

Questions? SacksCenter@yu.edu



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