

Dear Chaverim,

On Tuesday night, Rabbi Andrew Shaw, CEO of Mizrahi UK came to the convention to launch '**The Simchat Torah Project**'. He got a tremendous response, and we very much want all our colleagues to have the opportunity to register for this vital project.

The Simchat Torah Project, very simply, for those unable to be at the convention, is there to answer the question, 'What do we do next Simchat Torah?'

King Solomon offers us guidance in Kohelet, which we will read on Sukkot, "There is a time for everything under the Heavens.... a time to mourn and a time to dance."

This Simchat Torah, with tears in our eyes, we will dance.

Shuls around the world will open their *Aron HaKodesh* on Simchat Torah night and take out several Torah scrolls. One, will be adorned with a new *me'il* (see attached) designed to mark the first yahrzeit of October 7th. This *me'il* will be identical to the ones which will be created for 1600 synagogues across the world. This beautifully designed *me'il* will proclaim that this Torah is dedicated in memory of the 1200 souls and the many soldiers and hostages who have since died, *Al Kiddush Hashem*. Each Torah *me'il* will feature the name of one of the *kedoshim* embroidered onto the back. Shuls around the world will dance with these Torah scrolls – thousands of communities, with hundreds of thousands if not millions of Jews being connected through this project.

How to get involved:

1. Your community registers on the website to join the project – www.thesimchatorahproject.org
2. The team will then contact you by email to confirm details a) how many Torah covers you want and b) what size covers do you need c) any specific *kadosh* that has a link to your shul d) any specific wording for the back (someone who is donating etc)
3. You will also have a link to pay. The basic cost is just \$1,800, which covers the Torah cover as well as an invitation to Israel for the 3-day conference (not included are flights and accommodation)
4. You will then receive full details of the three-day launch in Israel which will provisionally run from Sunday night 1st September to Tuesday night 3rd September in Israel, where you will be receiving your Torah cover (*me'il*) from the bereaved family. There will be a powerful ceremony, broadcast worldwide, from the Kotel where the 1,600 *me'ilim* as well as several newly-written Sifrei Torah will be on display.
5. Your community will also receive materials about the person you are remembering for display on Simchat Torah.

We do hope you join up swiftly, the closing date to sign up and pay is **Friday June 14th** so please treat this as a priority.