



Shalom and greetings from Jerusalem! Israel is celebrating sixty years of statehood and we at Im Tirtzu are celebrating one year of action and accomplishment. Im Tirtzu was founded with the commitment to foster the Zionist values which will sustain a vibrant Israeli society for the next sixty years and beyond. We are glad to count you among our friends; together we can ensure that the ideals that gave birth to the Jewish State continue to live on in Israel's hearts and minds. The past few months have been exciting ones at Im Tirtzu. We continue to grow and expand and our work is having an ever greater impact on mainstream Israeli society. This newsletter will bring you up to date on some of the most significant events of the past few months.

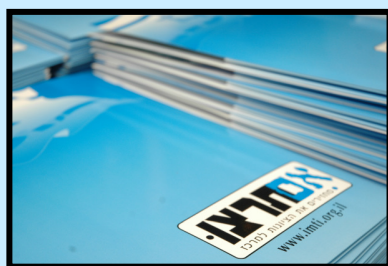


Im Tirtzu Holds First Annual General Assembly



On May 15th, which is officially celebrated in Israel as Theodore Herzl Day, Im Tirtzu held its first general assembly at the Kedem Hotel in Jerusalem. The keynote speaker was Maj. Gen. (res.) Moshe "Bogie" Ya'alon who is a former Chief of Staff of the Israel Defence Forces and is currently a distinguished fellow at the Adelson Institute for Strategic Studies at the Shalem Center. Maj. Gen. Ya'alon spoke about Israel's need for a more ideological and responsible leadership. Mr. Ronen Shoval, Im Tirtzu's chairman, also spoke at the event about the vision and future of Im Tirtzu.

Zionist Index Unveiled



At the General Assembly Mr. Erez Tadmor, Im Tirtzu's spokesman, unveiled for the first time the Im Tirtzu Zionist Index. The index was composed to keep track of attitudes towards Zionism and Zionist principles among the general public and among Israeli university professors. The index revealed for instance that on average 80% of the courses offered in political thought at Israel's major universities are highly skewed towards anti-nationalist and anti-Zionist thought. "These results are troubling," Mr Tadmor told those

assembled, "since Israel's future leaders are being inundated with ideas that are averse to a Jewish State." Mr Ronen Shoval, Im Tirtzu's chairman, later pointed out that Im Tirtzu's presence on Israel's university campuses is aimed precisely at counteracting the decidedly anti-Zionist tilt of most Israeli professors and fostering Zionist values among Israel's student population.

Hundreds of Students Volunteer for Sderot



Over the past six months, Im Tirtzu has organized numerous solidarity missions to Sderot whose citizens suffer almost daily rocket attacks from the nearby Gaza Strip. The aim is to continue to organize similar missions as long as Sderot is under attack. The missions are attended mostly by students mobilized by Im Tirtzu branches on university campuses. The students participate in a range of volunteer projects from helping schoolchildren with their homework to renovating public parks. Most participants agree, however, that their greatest contribution is the simple show of support for Sderot's embattled residents. All participants come away with a newfound feeling of solidarity with their fellow citizens.

Im Tirtzu Guest Lecture Series Continues



Im Tirtzu continues its ongoing lecture series at university campuses across Israel. The most recent event, held at Bar Ilan University was on the topic of radical Islam. A panel of distinguished academics including Bar Ilan's own Middle East Studies department head, Professor Ze'ev Maghen, discussed the different ideological threats Jihadism poses towards a Jewish State. As part of its lecture series, Im Tirtzu has hosted numerous academics, military experts and other public figures who have lectured on a wide range of topics having to do with Zionism and the Jewish State.

Ronen Shoval's Op-Ed "The Need for a New Center" Published in Ma'ariv Newspaper

Ma'ariv, Israel's second largest newspaper, published Mr. Shoval's article calling for a revitalization of a centrist Zionist ideology in Israel. The article joins scores of other articles and op-eds published by Im Tirtzu leadership in leading Israeli print and electronic media.

For more updates and information please visit our website: www.imti.org.il/en