



House of Israel International Ministries



שלחות בית ישראל בן לאומית

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Abiding in the hope of Israel. www.hoisrael.org

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August 2009

Ethiopian Jewish News Update

Shalom Mishpocha!

I hope that your summer has been enjoyable and fruitful; you are always in my prayers as you continue to be supporters of this ministry!

As you may have heard from Israeli news, the present government of Israel has decided to bring 3,000 Feres Murrah or Beta Yisrael who are left in Ethiopia (especially in Gondar) because of their faith, to Israel. This is a good start, but it is not enough because more than 25,000 are left and waiting in the remote villages. Yet we believe that the Lord will do miraculous things, so we encourage you to pray for the release of all the Beta Yisrael from Ethiopia, and for them to successfully settle in Israel.

But today I would like to focus this newsletter on a special woman, Azalech, who made aliyah to Israel over 15 years ago. She came to Israel with her husband and her two young daughters. When she got to Israel she settled in a caravan (temporary housing) in Kiryat Carmel near Haifa. She lived there with her husband Asfaw for five years. While they were there they gave birth to two boys, Isaac and Benjamin. After five years in the caravan, they moved to an apartment in Lod. Unfortunately, while they were living in that apartment her husband passed away from cancer. So now Azalech was left alone to be a mother to her four children. As a single mother, it was very hard for her to properly raise her four children, as their needs increased as they grew. She suffered a lot, with little support from the government.

Our ministry has been supporting her ever since, but instead of just financial aid we decided to send her to a sewing school so that she could provide for herself and her family through sewing. After a lot of struggle, she has now finished her 6-month sewing training, and now Azalech has something to offer her family by sewing for them and for her neighbors as a business. Someone gave her an old sewing machine that is now broken, and she is asking us to purchase a new one for her so she can continue in this new life. Unfortunately, most of the Ethiopian Jewish women stay home without work or any vocational training. Azalech's courageous life is encouraging other women to do something for themselves and not always rely on others, such as the government, to help them. We hope that Azalech's story will revive the Ethiopian women and encourage them to integrate into Israeli society by working.

Rachael, Azalech's oldest daughter, is now serving in the IDF (Israeli army), and she is almost finished. The other teens are living at home, and Azalech is still struggling to raise her growing kids. So this month, our donations will go towards buying a new sewing machine for Azalech, along with fabric and other materials that will help her start this new business.



In other news, the congregation in Haifa has been looking for a place to worship. They found a building in the center of Haifa, so HIIM is encouraging the believers to have their own place to worship God freely and to provide Bible studies, choir practice, and all-night prayer meetings. We are dedicated to helping them pay the rent for their building by sending \$1,000 a month; we are committed to do this for a year.

I encourage you to be active in this ministry. Yeshua commanded us to go to the lost sheep of Israel and to be a light to the Jewish people. We know that the Ethiopian Jews, especially the younger generation who is fluent in Hebrew and integrated into the culture, have a big part in the ushering in of revival and salvation in Israel,.

I appreciate your kindness and love and your continued support for the Beta Yisrael (Ethiopian Jews). In our next newsletter we will tell you about a woman who is trying to start a pottery business in Israel, similar to the one she had in Ethiopia, so she can be self-supporting.

Please let me know if you have any prayer requests, and the time that you can be reached, so that I can stand with you in prayer. Also, please visit our website for any updates and information.

May God bless you richly from Zion as you bless the Beta Yisrael who are struggling to survive in the Holy Land.

Yours in Yeshua,

Rabbi Kokeb Gedamu
HIIM Founder & President

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