

BETAR WINTER ISRAEL TOUR 2008



August 1, 2008

Dear Betar Trip Applicant,

We are honored and excited that you have decided to seriously consider coming to Israel with us in December. We truly believe that this shall be a once-in-a-lifetime experience. As you have already filled out the initial application and conducted a phone interview, we welcome you to fill out the forms in this packet and secure your spot in the trip.

As a participant on the Betar Israel Trip, it will be important to familiarize yourself with Betar history. All trip participants will be mailed reading information in the weeks prior to the trip. An orientation upon our arrival in Israel will also help participants to understand the noble background Betar has in Israeli history.

Betar is a nationalist Zionist youth movement founded in 1923 by Ze'ev Jabotinsky. The acronym of Betar stands for Brit Yosef Trumpeldor and is set to remember Yosef Trumpeldor, a Jewish soldier who fell in the battle of Tel Hai. Trumpeldor's emblemizing quote is, "Never mind, it is good to die for our country." Many of Israel's leaders, past and present, are former Betar members including Menachem Begin, Yitzhak Shamir, former Defense Minister Moshe Arens, Israeli Ambassador to the United States, Salai Meridor. Betar USA is run from Cleveland, Ohio and aims to carry on the legacy of nationalistic Zionism to future generations. The Betar Winter Israel Tour will uphold the legacy of Jabotinsky, Trumpeldor, and nationalist Zionism.

We will introduce you to Judea, Samaria, East Jerusalem and many issues in Israel today. We will have many learning opportunities that will stress Israel advocacy and make you strong spokes-people for Israel when you return to your campuses in January. We will also have many volunteer opportunities that will resemble past Betar volunteer efforts like building playgrounds, working in soup kitchens, building stables on a farm with troubled youth, planting hundreds of trees and many other events. In order to ensure a safe and happy trip for all participants, please review and sign the enclosed Code of Conduct and Statement of Responsibility policies.

The following are enclosed:

- Code of Conduct and Statement of Responsibility
- Cancellation Information
- Tentative Itinerary
- Flight Reservation Form
- Trip Deposit
- Scholarship Information
- Important Contact Information

Please return all required forms in a timely manner. We cannot reserve a flight for you until the forms and deposits are sent in. It is very important for you to send in your deposit as soon as possible because reasonable fares are fast disappearing. Also, in order to acquire scholarships, we need adequate time. Therefore, we stress to you the importance of reserving your spot today. This mailing will be followed by another emergency information mailing near November.

Thank you. We look forward to seeing you in Israel.

Dennis Seaman
Director Betar USA

Dani Horwitz
Shaliach Betar USA

Anna Bolman
Betar Winter Israel Tour