

Please Join Us in Honoring Rabbi Dr. Yehuda Felix



The Orot Israel College of Education

Elkana · Rehovot



About Rabbi Dr. Yehuda Felix

Born before the establishment of the State of Israel and raised in Jerusalem, **Rabbi Dr. Yehuda Felix** studied for over a decade at the famous Mercaz HaRav Yeshiva in Jerusalem under the tutelage of Rabbi Zvi Yehuda Kook zt"l. He received his **rabbinical ordination** from Rabbi Avraham Shapira (of blessed memory), former Chief Rabbi of Israel, Rabbi Bezalel Zolty (of blessed memory) and Rabbi Simha Kook, and a **Doctorate** from Bar Ilan University.

At the urging of Rav Kook, he opened a Kollel and Torani Seed Community in Even Shmuel, and traveled to neighboring immigrant communities to teach Torah.

In 1971, Rabbi Felix departed to serve as the Bnei Akiva emissary and Judaic Studies teacher at the Associated Hebrew Schools in Toronto. During his tenure in Toronto, he recognized the need for a Religious Zionist schools within the community for both boys and girls. In 1974, he **founded Yeshivat Or Chaim for the boys and Ulpanat Orot for girls**, which have served as cornerstones of the Toronto Jewish community to this day.

Upon his return to Israel, Rabbi Felix first served as the Rosh Yeshiva of Yeshivat Nechalim, and later, in **1979, founded the Orot Israel College of Education**, where he served as the Head of College until 2004. Currently Rabbi Felix is Chair, executive board of trustees, Orot Israel College.

A passionate, dedicated and devoted master educator, Rabbi Felix has spent his entire life building institutions of higher learning that have **changed the face of the State of Israel**.



Endowment Fund – A Tribute to Rabbi Yehuda Felix

We will pay tribute and salute the vast work of Rabbi Yehuda Felix, founder of Orot Israel College, Yeshiva Or Chaim and Ulpanat Orot in Toronto in honor of:

- **The 40th Anniversary of Orot Israel College**
- **Rabbi Yehuda Felix's 80th birthday**

Our goal is to create an Endowment Fund for the express purpose of providing assistance to needy students, with the support of Rabbi Felix's friends who hold him in such high regard.

The Fund will operate in two areas:

1. Scholarship Fund for needy students:

- Capital gifts to the Fund – **unlimited**
- Annual scholarship - **\$2,500**
- 4-year scholarship - **\$10,000**

2. Residential Center for 24 married couples:

Elkana Campus - **\$100,000 per apartment**.

This expression of esteem and appreciation of **Rabbi Yehuda Felix** is but a small measure of the honor he deserves in comparison to the untold efforts he has invested over so many years in establishing these magnificent institutions of learning. These efforts centered upon the betterment of the State of Israel and the Jewish people, and the development of a generation of outstanding educators dedicated to the love of Hashem, the Torah and the Land of Israel.

Endowment Fund Trustees:

1. **Mr. Kurt Rothschild** – President, World Mizrahi
2. **Prof. Yuval Sinai** – President, Orot Israel College
3. **Mr. Jack Kahn** – Chairman of the Board, Mizrahi Canada
4. **Mr. Joel Koschitzky** - Member of Executive Board of Trustees, Orot Israel College

The Rabbi Felix Student Housing Project

The **Elkana campus of Orot Israel College** has a student body of approximately 1,200 female students. During the same years that these young women are developing their academic educational career, they are also developing their family "career": they are marrying and bearing children.

Orot Israel College strives to view the student in a holistic way – as a citizen, a mother, an educator - and to address all of her needs, not just those pertaining to her academic development. To that end, the college offers living facilities including an early childhood daycare center at the college as well as housing for newly-married couples.

The College offers **two types of dorm facilities** for its students. One caters to approximately 100 single students; the other consists of "caravans" (modular housing) for 50 married couples. The caravans on campus help these couples in two ways. The first advantage they offer is their proximity to the College; the other is the reasonable rental for a young couple starting out (NIS 1,200, in contrast to NIS 2,500 for a small housing unit in the adjacent community of Elkana).

Over the past few years the number of young couples in the caravans has grown to 50. Still, the demand now outpaces the number of available caravans. (Last year, Orot could not accommodate all of the young couples who were not able to afford other housing options in the area) In addition, the caravans are extremely old and within a few years will no longer be fit for use.

In 2013, Orot dedicated the "Cymberknopf Student Housing Building" which currently houses six young couples in studio apartments. Today we have a pressing need to construct permanent housing units to replace the failing caravans. We hope to construct a new student housing building which will include 24 "studio" units able to house a couple + 1 child. These units will provide desperately needed housing for newly married students during a challenging period in their lives.

Endowment Opportunities

Building Naming	\$1,000,000
Individual Apartment Dedication	\$100,000



About the Orot Israel College of Education

The Orot Israel College of Education is the largest Religious Teachers College in Israel, and is accredited by Israel's Ministry of Education. Founded in 1979 by Rabbi Dr. Yehudah Felix, Orot has a student body of approximately **4,000** studying towards government-approved **B.Ed.** (Bachelors of Education) and **M.Ed.** (Masters of Education) degrees as well as a Teacher's Certificate (professional certification) in a range of educational fields, from Jewish Studies, such as Jewish Law to Mathematics, Informal Education and History, to technological areas including Information Technology and Biology. Orot offers separate classes for men and women geared to both the **Religious Zionist community**, as well as the **Charedi/Yeshivish populations**.

Under the leadership of **Professor Yuval Sinai**, Orot's unique educational approach, which combines rigorous academic excellence and devotion to Judaism with a love for the State of Israel, trains the future Israeli educators who will shape the next generation of children in the Jewish State.



A Message from Orot President Professor Yuval Sinai

As we prepare to demonstrate our deep appreciation for the outstanding work of the founder of our College, **Rabbi Dr. Yehuda Felix**, on the occasion of his 80th birthday, let us contribute to the further development and realization of his vision for Orot College. Thanks to his far-reaching vision, **thousands of students** stand at the forefront of the educational field in Israel and the world. Let us open our hearts, and assist those students who are unable to meet the costs of tuition and living expenses. Let us join in **the building of Eretz Yisrael** by establishing the student residences at Orot Israel College, where dozens of young couples will reside while dedicating their lives to Jewish education in Israel and the Diaspora.

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