



# **OUR FOUR PILLARS**



#### **TORAH AS A MEANS**

At YTVA, we believe that the goal of your year in Israel is not only to amass Torah knowledge. Torah is not an end--we learn Torah as a means to affect our character, our relationships, and to inform and enable awareness of our future. We aren't just the readers of a book, but people who are transformed and changed by its messages.

• Gemara through Styles: All shiurim focus on meaning and its impact on each individual's lifestyle

• Middot HaRav Kook: We immerse ourselves in Torat Eretz Yisrael and shape our character through the daily learning of Middot HaRav Kook

• Time for Reflection and Journaling: We spend time considering how our learning has affected us in the present and how it shapes our goals for the future

• Chavruta: Enabling consistent learning in the future

• Close Relationships with Rebbeim: Learning is a means to form relationships with role models

# **INTEGRATION WITH AM YISRAEL**

As a Bnei Akiva Yeshiva, we believe that it is a privilege to be involved with Am Yisrael. We must spend this year taking an active role in Israeli society, and taking responsibility for the future of the Jewish people in Medinat Yisrael.

- Community Based Beit Midrash in Katamon: Our Beit Midrash is open to the community and is integrated into Eretz Chemdah, which trains dayanim (Rabbinic judges)
- Community Service and Chesed: Embedded into the weekly schedule of our yeshiva

• Chagim and Tefilot with Am Yisrael: We break out of the walls of our Beit Midrash to pray and dance with Am Yisrael

• Focus on Tanach: We focus on the study of Tanach as a way of attaching ourselves to the ongoing story of Am Yisrael

• Hebrew: Through Ulpan and language skills we can develop a relationship with Am Yisrael

## **ERETZ YISRAEL AS A LIFESTYLE**

Our Beit Midrash is only possible in Israel. Israel for YTVA, is not just a location where our yeshiva happens to be, and it is not merely a change in mindset--it is a lifestyle.

- Energy and Excitement: Our dynamic Beit Midrash is active, engaged and full of happiness
- Tiyulim: A trip in YTVA is not a break or a day off - it is a day in to internalize the messages we learn in yeshiva

• Shabbat: Shabbat in the yeshiva is a time to reflect through song and tefilla. Monthly Shabbatonim allow us to experience different communities in Israel

- Kibbutz: Our students learn and live in places that enabled the return of Am Yisrael to Israel. They meet the rigorous demands of continuing their learning along with finding time to work the land.
- Physical elements and exercise are built into our schedule: including bi-weekly 5:45 optional shiurim and workouts to habituate a successful lifestyle
- Unique learning relevant to Israeli society: We focus on Israel advocacy tools and exposure to issues regarding Religion and State in Israel today

## RESPONSIBILITY

We believe that the best You is not about You--and that Torah values demand giving and not taking. The year is not about selfishness, it's about outwardness!

• Monthly Stretcher Runs develop community and help us learn to take responsibility for each other

• Importance of Toranut in the Beit Midrash and the Dorms: Mundane routines as a means to becoming a more responsible adult

• Focus on developing a healthy relationship to technology: We demand of our students to take responsibility for their time and look up from their devices to engage one another

• We demand of ourselves to take responsibility to have a one-on-one relationship with each student

• Tefilla: Prayer is valued as part of our responsibility to ourselves and to Am Yisrael. Daily shiurim and workshops on various aspects of tefilla turns our prayer into an opportunity and privilege rather than a burden

#### בית מדרש חובת התלמידים





RAV YOSEF CARMEL Rabbinical Dean, Eretz Chemdah



Director of Experiential Education





CINER Night Seder Ra"m

YESHIVAT TORAH V'AVODAH Israel: Brurya 2, Jerusalem NY: 520 8th Avenue, 15th FI New York NY 10018 www.ytvaisrael.org Phone: (212) 465-9536 Fax: (212) 216-9578 email: office@tvaisrael.org

Yeshivat Torah v'Avodah is a project of Bnei Akiva of the US and Canada and World Bnei Akiva