



1 Adar I, 5768 7 February, 2008

Issue no. 15

February Newsletter

Do you know anyone who can benefit from our services? Please forward this newsletter to them and let them know that we can help.

Protecting the Rights of Converts



When Immanuelle Del Conte received a letter from Israel's chief rabbi authenticating her conversion, she was certain that she was a full member of the Jewish people. But for the Israeli Interior Ministry, the fact that Immanuelle is

considered Jewish by the entire Jewish world wasn't enough. In late December, ITIM sued the Interior Ministry on behalf of Immanuelle in the Israeli Supreme Court demanding that they recognize her conversion immediately. Though the temporary injunction was granted, Immanuelle continues to wait for her formal recognition. To read more about Immanuelle from Haaretz, click [here](#).

New Youth Website Now Fully Operational



The ITIM youth website, supporting the more than 12,000 students registered in the Drasha program supported by the Legacy Heritage Fund Limited, is now operating at full functionality. Students are using the site by

the hundreds to read up about their parsha, or to view the video magazines that support the program. Thanks to the Tisch Family Zoological Gardens in Jerusalem, students can learn about the animals of the Torah on our website. To view the video magazine, click [here](#). To view the website, visit www.itim123.org.il

ITIM tops out at Google.com



Following a new campaign, ITIM's lifecycle topics have broken through the upper tier of Google searches. At present, searches in Hebrew for the eight ITIM lifecycle events (Brit Milah, Pidyon Haben, Simchat Bat, Bar/Bat

Mitzvah, Marriage, Divorce, Burial and Conversion) bring up ITIM either first or second. More than 172,000 unique users visited the ITIM website in 2007!

While you are visiting the site, see our surveys or

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Dear Friends,



The snow in Jerusalem closed down the office but not the queries arriving at ITIM. Our answering service and on-call staff were able, through two days of storm and snow, to help tens of individuals open wedding files, perform pidyon haben ceremonies, and bury relatives, each with dignity and meaning. Your support helps ITIM continue to help hundreds of Jews in the exploration of Jewish life. Thank you.

Rabbi Seth (Shaul)
Farber, Ph.D.
Director, ITIM

To make a donation:
ITIM: The Jewish Life Information Center is a registered amuta (organization) in Israel.

In Israel, donations may be sent to ITIM, POB 4724, Jerusalem, Israel

In the United States, tax deductible donations can be given through:

use our ecards system. And make sure to view Rabbi Farber's latest essay on conversion, published last week in the [London Jewish Chronicle](#).

PEF Israel Endowments
317 Madison Avenue
Suite 607
New York, NY 10017

Comments...Questions...

For more information, general inquiries, you can reach us by:

E-mail at: itim@itim.org.il

By phone toll free: 1-700-500-507.

Outside of Israel dial: 972-2-648-2205

In the memo, one should include the statement "for project ITIM."

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