



יובל החמישים לישראל
ISRAEL 50 JUBILEE
תש"ח-תשנ"ח 1948-1998

AUBREY HERMAN
Executive Vice-President

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March 2, 1998

Mr. Ron Gottlieb
4900 Cooper
Cincinnati, OH 45242

Dear Ron,

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to express my congratulations and thoughts on the occasion of the 10th Anniversary of Rabbi Hanan Balk's Service to Golf Manor Synagogue and the Jewish community of Cincinnati.

Cincinnati has had a marvelous tradition of being able to handle the diversity of all Jews over the past many decades. Following in the footsteps of Rabbi David Indich was an enormous task for a young Rabbi Balk. I have had the opportunity to personally observe Rabbi Balk's growth as the Rabbi of the largest Orthodox synagogue in Cincinnati and as a community leader when he is called upon to represent the Orthodox community acknowledging when pressures and challenges are present.

Rabbi Balk's passion for achieving the highest in Halachick standards, while understanding the need to balance community concerns without sacrificing those standards, is a positive statement about Rabbi Balk's unique role in our community this past decade. Our community has faced difficult challenges during this time, but Rabbi Balk has always been available to listen, counsel, confront, and solve community problems when required.

His sensitivity and perspective on the recent assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin demonstrated his ability to calm the waters, engage with community partners, and provide positive direction during a very painful period for our worldwide and local Jewish community.

Rabbi Balk and Barbara demonstrate a unique partnership in involving themselves in the community in a meaningful Jewish way.

Opportunities are not always available on a regular basis to pay tribute to leaders like Rabbi Balk. I am pleased to participate with you in paying tribute to this leader who will show us in the next decade much more of his leadership than we have already had the opportunity to witness.

May Rabbi Balk, Barbara, and his family continue to thrive, grow, mature and provide leadership and comfort for our Jewish community.

Sincerely,


Aubrey Herman
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