

ISRAEL FREE LOAN ASSOCIATION

UPDATE

Tishrei 5754

Fall- Winter 1993 - 1994

MORE LOANS, GREATER DEMAND

Since the Israel Free Loan Association granted its first interest-free loan in early 1990, we have given over 3,500 such loans, at a rate of up to 270 per month, to Russian, Ethiopian and other immigrants in Israel. Currently, \$2.5 million in IFLA loans are circulating to help new immigrants pay for housing, rent, purchase basic household needs, advance their education, pay for medical care, college tuition, school books, or open small businesses.

As more and more immigrants find employment in Israel, thus becoming eligible for our interest-free loans, the demand on IFLA is constantly increasing. Although most loans are repaid promptly and "recycled" into new loans, this money covers less than 40% of new loans granted. Without additional income, IFLA will be forced to function on a very limited basis! *That is why we depend upon you -- our friends and supporters around the world -- to help finance new, desperately-needed loans.*

U.S. DONOR PROVIDES NEW PREMISES

Concerned by the overcrowding and lack of privacy for loan applicants in the IFLA Jerusalem office (which serves the entire country), two of our most dedicated supporters have purchased a modest four-room apartment which they will rent to IFLA for the token sum of one dollar per month. When renovations are completed early this Fall, IFLA will move into the new premises with enhanced capacity to extend more comfort and confidentiality to our loan applicants in addition to the courtesy and respect we provide as part of our credo.

WITH REFERENCE TO IFLA...

British Chief Rabbi, Dr. Jonathan Sacks, and Lady Amelie Jakobovits, wife of the former Chief Rabbi, have become patrons of IFLA in the United Kingdom. These dignitaries join other notables around the world, including Henry and Edith Everett, New York, N.Y., Rabbi Yitzhak Greenberg, New York, N.Y., Danny Siegel, Rockville, Md. and Morry Weiss, Cleveland, Oh. who serve as references for IFLA, answering inquiries from potential donors who

seek further information. A complete list of Reference Persons and their addresses is available on request from the Israel office of IFLA.

FUNDRAISING NOTES

* The Helen Bader Foundation of Milwaukee, Wi., has funded a generous \$40,000 grant towards the operating and overhead expenses of IFLA, thus ensuring that more money from donations goes directly toward new loans.

* Many IFLA supporters are transferring ownership of their Israel Bonds to IFLA as a means of funding new loans. To transfer bonds, contact your local Israel Bonds office, or contact IFLA for further information.

* IFLA's first fundraising drive in Israel netted four times the cost of the campaign and many letters of support, a clear indication that the Israeli community can play a major role in funding free loans for new olim.

* Remembering IFLA in a will or legacy ensures that your gift will provide loans *in perpetuity* for new immigrants in Israel!

A VERSATILE LOAN ADVISOR



Everyone who meets IFLA loan advisor Fasil Eshkol expects him to speak Amharic. But Russian loan applicants are especially surprised as the 28-year-old Ethiopian immigrant assists them in fluent Russian. Fasil, who arrived in Israel four years ago, acquired his expertise in Leningrad where he was sent by the Ethiopian government to study engineering on a scholarship. With English and Hebrew also on the tip of his tongue, Fasil, one of IFLA's three full-time loan advisors, is able to assist nearly everyone who walks into our office.

SUCCESS STORIES (THANKS TO YOU)

The photography shop opened by Oleg Uliansky and Igor Grishin, two entrepreneurs who



immigrated from the Ukraine in 1990, is just one example of an IFLA loan at work. Other small businesses started by new immigrants with IFLA assistance include custom dressmaking, architectural design, desktop publishing, refrigeration technology, engineering and electronics. Ruth and Kurt Borchard have been major supporters of these loans, and IFLA seeks additional donors to shorten the waiting list of applicants.

A letter from one grateful client reported on a novel use for his loan: "I used the loan to help pay the fee for my examination in the Bar Exams of the State of Israel, which I just passed successfully," wrote Benzion Rozenfeld, a lawyer from Moscow who immigrated in 1990. Now employed with a Jerusalem law firm, Rozenfeld adds, "With your assistance, I now have the opportunity to help others with their legal problems."

CARDS AND CERTIFICATES

Cards and certificates acknowledging contributions to IFLA are now available for marking such celebrations as bar/bat mitzvahs, weddings, birthdays and anniversaries or for commemorating a late friend or family member. For donations of \$700 or more, IFLA will send the recipient a scroll certificate in your name.

HELP US GET THE WORD OUT!

Friends of IFLA in cities including New York, Cleveland, Atlanta, San Diego and Los Angeles have funded the publication of a small IFLA ad in their local Jewish, organizational and synagogue newspapers -- with excellent results. We encourage you to do the same in your community! A copy is available upon request.

THE ISRAEL FREE LOAN ASSOCIATION

Chairman: Prof. Eliezer Jaffe.

Advisory Committee: Yosef Begun, Prof. Herman Branover, Asher Ceilinggold, Prof. Zev Falk, Prof. Solomon H. Green, Prof. Reuven Hammer, Yehoshafat Harel, Rabbi Dr. David Hartman, Rabbi Richard Hirsch, Dr. Israel Katz, Prof. Alexander Lerner, Uri Lupoliansky, Rabbi Dr. Shlomo Riskin, Prof. Michael Rosenak, Dr. Pesach Schindler, Rabbi Shubert Spero, Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz, Prof. Ephraim E. Urbach, z"l.

ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX-EXEMPT IN ISRAEL, THE U.K., THE U.S.A. AND OTHER COUNTRIES.

ISRAEL:

POB 4171, Jerusalem 91041

Tel: (02) 619594, 637450, Fax: (02) 669504

Bank Transfers: First International Bank, Branch 13, 27 Rechov Aza, Jerusalem, Israel (IFLA account number: 105-212512)

IN THE UNITED KINGDOM:

British Friends of the Israel Free Loan Association
c/o Mrs. Audrey Druce, 30 Greyhound Hill,
Hendon, London NW44JP; Tel. (081) 203-7196
Charity Commission Regulation Number: 1009568

IN THE UNITED STATES:

American Friends of Israel Free Loan Association,
Inc.

c/o Mrs. Rosylin G. Eichen, 120 Hards Lane,
Lawrence, NY 11559; Tel. (516) 239-7435, or
P.E.F. Israel Endowment Funds, Inc. (earmark
donation for IFLA)

41 East 42nd Street, Suite 607, New York, N.Y. 10017;
Tel. (212) 599-1260.

IRS Tax Exemption Number: 13-3691494

IN CANADA:

Mizrachi Organization of Canada

c/o Rabbi Gopin, 3101 Bathurst St., Apt. 503, Ontario
M6A 2A6; Tel. (416) 789-7576; Fax (416) 789-7733, or
New Israel Fund, 40 Dundas St. West, Suite 231,
Toronto, Ont. M5G 2C2; Tel. (416) 630-7575