Rabbi Zalman Nehemiah Goldberg

Rabbi and Rabbinical Judge, Teacher of Torah and one of Israel's leading Halachic Authorities and Respondents

Transformations and changes occur constantly in our world. Modern technology does not rest for a moment. Innovative scientific developments create serious ethical and moral issues.

Yet the Torah of Israel is eternal and contains answers to all these questions. But only a select few who have spent their best years engaging the Torah are able to reap those precious pearls from its depths, pearls which shine brightly and answer these latest questions.

One such special individual is the illustrious Rabbi Zalman Nechemia Goldberg, one of the leading Halachic authorities and respondents in the Jewish world.

Even in the field of *Choshen Mishpat*, which covers civil and monetary law, he has the depth of knowledge necessary to combine the customs of the State with the laws of the Torah in dealing with Halacha relating to torts, relations between neighbors, loans and property.

The Rabbi serves as editor-in-chief of the Talmudic Encyclopedia, an immense work whose aim is to summarize the Halachic section of Oral Law, and as *Av Beit Din* - chief judge of the rabbinical courts for civil matters.



Due to his unchallenged distinction in Torah, Rabbi Zalman Nehemiah Goldberg is an accepted authority in all circles and communities in the Torah world. He serves as Rosh Yeshiva of the *Deat Moshe* religious seminary of the *Sadigura Hasidim*, as well as of *Machon Lev* the Religious College of the Jerusalem College of Technology, an institution that combines religious and technology studies.

He is both an outstanding scholar and a soaring intellect – a courageous and daring halachic authority who does not shy away from new issues that have never before been adjudicated. He has published hundreds of responsa and rulings on every area of the Torah dealing with every aspect of modern life, leveraging his broad knowledge in the fields of technology, medicine and the law, as well as to his tremendous greatness in Torah.

The Rabbi's responsa cover every part of the Torah, dealing with everyday questions as well as with issues requiring difficult decisions, such as organ transplants, those prohibited from marrying, the freeing of *Agunot* ("chained" women whose husbands will not grant them a divorce) from their marriages, fertility and artificial insemination. These are laws that require immediate decisions and involve listening to the pain and anguish of those seeking responses, yet preserving the sanctity of the Jewish home.

Highly regarded by Chabad Hasidim and the "Lithuanian" yeshivas alike, his teachings are eagerly studied by top students. The Rabbi delivers regular lessons at the Hesder yeshivot of *Or Etzion* and *Kerem B'Yavneh*, and at the Ariel Institute's Harry Fischel Institute. His lessons are characterized by their acuteness, by their organization and by wonderful clarity, and demand effort and advance preparation from the audience.



Over the course of his life, the Rabbi has ordained thousands of rabbis and rabbinical judges, and scholars from Israel and abroad come to the Rabbi's house every day in order to be examined by him. Many of his students now serve as rabbis and rabbinical judges throughout the Jewish world.

His modesty and humility have become well-known. The Rabbi lives in a modest and simple house, open to anyone who asks, at all hours of the day.

In consideration of the above, the selection committee has decided to bestow Rabbi Zalman Nehemiah Goldberg the Katz Award for 5774 (2014).

Rabbi Israel Meir Lau

Professor Menahem
Ben-Sasson

Rabbi Adin (Even Israel) Steinsaltz

