

Executive Director, Katz Prize

In the three years that have passed since the departure of the founder of the Katz Prize, Mr. Marcos Katz, the educator and man of chesed, it has been my privilege to carry on his life's work - the Katz Prize. His charity project and his special personality are still bringing great light to the world.

As in past years, this year we published a call for submissions for the Katz Prize. The committee received many submissions from individuals and institutions that meet the criteria.

Rabbi Alfonso Pedazur Arbib, the Chief Rabbi of Milan, Italy, is an outstanding rabbi and educator with a large following, religious and secular alike. As the Av Beit Din of Italy and member of the Council of Italian Rabbis, he constantly deals with contemporary halachic problems and challenges.

Rabbi Eliezer Melamed, the head of the Har Bracha yeshiva and town, is an author of the easy to understand and popular Pninei Halacha series.

Rabbi Ratzon Arusi - the Chief Rabbi of Kiryat Ono and an expert in Jewish jurisprudence, has extensive involvement in publications, lectures and conferences in the field of Jewish jurisprudence in

general and in financial law in particular.

Professor Yaacov Choueka, a world-class Israeli scientist in computer science, was one of the founders of the Responsa project, which has made a tremendous and significant contribution to the application of halacha in life with the aid of modern technology.

I am grateful to the members of the Prize Committee, the Chairman of the Committee, Professor Menachem Ben Sasson; the Chief Rabbi of Jerusalem, Rabbi Aryeh Stern; the Dayan, Rabbi Shlomo Dichovsky; and the author and rabbi, Rabbi Chaim Sabato.

I would like to express my thanks and appreciation to Mrs. Adina Katz and all the Katz family for devoting their wealth, advice and wisdom to continuing the Katz Prize in honor of Marcos and his family.

May you all be blessed,

Meirav Catriel Shtarker