

Detailed report of the second half of 2013

Our main focus in this last half of 2013 (since our last report) has been the launching, developing, testing and piloting of the Sugia platform.

Most newly developing software are deemed for "bugs". Therefore as expected we needed a rigorous process of "de-bugging" which was essential before launching the pilots.

With the ready platform we started to run 2 pilots during the summer Yeshivat Mahanaim and Alma College.

On the basis of the lessons we learned from these experiences we began to plan and execute an upgrade of the platform.

In parallel we launched another pilot with Neve Shechter (which was not a success)

In the meantime we started to work with Prof. Ruth Gavison, Israel prize winner in law (who was lately appointed by the minister of justice Mrs. Zipi Livni, to lead the difficult task to create and suggest (at last) a base for the constitution for Israel).

Our goal was to create a format for a high level model of Sugia involving "Chachamim" in issues pertaining to the "Jewish versus democratic state" dilemmas in which Prof. Gavison specializes. The format we decided jointly to try was starting with open public panels with top level experts in these topics – after which will be transferred to our Sugia platform and then opened for discussions.

Therefore Metzika launched a series of panels at the Van-Lear institute, dealing with issues of marriage and divorce in Israel. These sugiot deal both with the universal issues of the crisis of the traditional family structure across the world.

The first Sugia is being posted in a few days (once we finish with the new upgrade).

The next challenge we are dealing with is the social work Beit Midrash. Here too we are planning to post a first Sugia immediately after we finish with marriage sugia.

One sobering lesson we have learned is that rate of our development is slower than we expected. The technological aspect is much more time (and financial) consuming and so is the preparation period needed with the different Batei Midrash. Since we are also in an initial learning period there are a lot of "trial and error" experiments needed until we can create the right model for each group.