

# *MATANEL FOUNDATION*

## *ACTIVITY REPORT*

**Program:** *Straus-Amiel, Ohr Torah Stone, International Virtual Conference*  
**Year:** 2020

Please present your activity report according to the following lines. The whole report will not exceed 2 or 3 pages (as word document).

Name of the Program: Straus-Amiel, Ohr Torah Stone, International Virtual Conference

Year of activity: 2020

Name of the report's writer: Rabbi Eliahu Birnbaum

Function of the report's writer: Director

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<https://www.facebook.com/Straus.Amiel/>

Number of active participants in the program: 300-350

Attached please find a list of participants who signed up for the conference. In addition, there were participants who did not sign up in advance, who participated both through Zoom and Youtube.

Estimated number of impacted participants: We believe that the conference made a great impact and created inspiration in all the participants. We received very positive feedback from many of the participants, during and following the conference.

Give the actually state of the program (where the program stands at the date of the activity report, no more than ten lines): The program has ended as the conference was a two-day program.

The main achievements during the last year of activity (main achievements, number of events, number of participants, etc.): Not relevant.

The evaluation (methodology, results, comparisons with the precedent year, conclusions for the future...): The high number of participants in the program, the positive feedback from the participants.

Provisional guide lines for the advancement of the program in the next year: We will continue to hold regional seminars through Zoom and hope to be able to hold actual seminars abroad as well, very soon.

### Testimonies from the participants:

- "Thank you. It's nice to brush up on my Hebrew. yesterday and today and to be here. I really feel part of something larger - especially after rarely leaving home over the past months."  
Ari Ellis, Jewish Education, Southfield, Michigan, USA
- "מרשים ומרגש לראות את כל המשתתפים בכנס." הרב ויטמן, רב קהילה, ומרצה במכון  
"It is impressive and moving to see all the participants in the conference."  
Rabbi Zev Weitman, Community Rabbi, Kosher Supervisor for Tnuva and lecturer at Straus-Amiel.
- "בוקר טוב.  
תודה רבה על הכנס אתמול.  
למרות שאנחנו לא גדלנו ב"עמיאל" זה נותן תחושה של חוסן, של ביחד"  
שרה ויחיאל ברוקנר
- "Good morning.  
Thank you for the conference yesterday.  
Although we didn't grow up in Amiel, it gives a feeling of strength, of togetherness."  
Rabbi Yechiel and Sarah Brukner, Community Rabbi, Köln, Germany. Participated in past Straus-Amiel conferences.
- "ישר כח לכל המארגנים ובע"ה נתראה בקרוב לא רק בזום!"  
הרב יהודה פושקין, רב קהילה, שטוטגרט, גרמניה  
"Well done! Congratulations to all the organizers and please G-d we will meet soon, not just through Zoom!"  
Rabbi Yehudah Pushkin, Community Rabbi, Stuttgart, Germany
- "ישר כח גדול כבוד הרב על הכנס! החכמנו הרבה ויצאנו מחוזקים.  
הרב יהודה סטרול, סגן רב, טוקומן, ארגנטינה  
Well done and congratulations rabbi for the conference! We learnt a lot and left strengthened."  
Rabbi Yehudah Strul, Assistant Rabbi, Tucuman, Argentina

The full recording of the conference on Youtube: [Straus-Amiel Ohr Torah Stone International Conference 2020](#)

### Articles:

Kipa website article in Hebrew: <https://g.kipa.co.il/1104148/1/>

Arutz Sheva article: Int'l rabbinical emissaries conference looks ahead to 'post-Covid'

Jewish world: <http://ch7.io/cbhR3>