



Dafyomi Advancement Forum

Produced by Kollel Iyun Hadaf • Rosh Kollel: Rabbi Mordecai Kornfeld

'Your Chavrusa in Yerushalayim'

בס"ד

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Talmud-study publications:

In English:

Insights to the Daf
Background to the Daf
Dafyomi Review Q & A
Outlines of the Daf
Halachah Outlines for the Daf
Ask the Kollel (email/fax)
Weekly In-Depth Video Lectures
Daily Quizzes on the Daf
Mishnah Yomis Review Q & A
Revach l'Daf

בעברית:

יוסף דעת (הערות)
יוסף דעת (שאלות לחזרה)
גלי מסכתא (סיכומי סוגיות)
טבלאות לכל דף
חידוני חזרה

Bookmarks & Calendars

Leather-bound 12th-cycle calendar
Yearly Dafyomi-schedule bookmarks
Dafyomi-cycle bookmarks
Rishonim-on-the-Shas bookmarks
Hadran cards

Chovos ha'Levavos, the monumental work of Rabeinu Bachye ben Yosef Ibn Pakuda, a judge in Islamic Spain (circa 1040), is one of the earliest works on Jewish philosophy and beliefs. It remains one of the fundamental works of Musar and Hashkafah. Even the great Rambam (Maimonides) bases a large part of his treatises in these fields on the revered words of the Chovos ha'Levavos. (It has been suggested that Rav Shlomo Ibn Gevirol took ideas from the Chovos ha'Levavos as well.)

Originally written in Arabic, this classic was translated into Hebrew not longer after its original publication, and more recently to many other languages. Among works of Jewish philosophy, its prominence in even the most traditional houses of learning makes it unique. The Chovos ha'Levavos' methodical and systematic analyses or every aspect of the human character makes reading it an experience in growth through introspection.

We owe a debt of gratitude to Rabbi Yosef Sebag for his exceptionally readable English translation of this important work. By adding translations of classic commentaries on the text, he has made the depth of the work available to all. Rabbi Sebag's investment of time and effort is evident in every part of the work, but especially in the Sha'ar ha'Yichud, the somewhat "controversial" section dealing with philosophical proofs of G-d.

I have known Rabbi Sebag for many years, and I have witnessed firsthand his overwhelming dedication to Torah-study and to raising a family on Torah-true ideals. His careful adherence to the instructions of our Torah giants, coupled with his strong will to teach others the timeless lessons of the Torah, has made him a true "Ben Aliyah."

May his investment bear the dividends of allowing him to help many of our brethren improve their faith and strength of character!

With Torah blessings,

Rabbi Mordecai Kornfeld

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