



Celebrate with Me

Behind every name there is a face,
a heartbeat, a dream

Help my dream come true!

Share my moment of joy
through your personal connection:

Provide a kippa, a tallit
and a kiddush cup for me: \$180

Make sure I get the proper
alternative communication device: \$500
Adopt me for the 6 month learning process
and the ceremony: \$1,000

You will receive a photo
and a short biography of one of our students.

You will make a special difference
in the life of a special person.

Who can "Celebrate with Me"?

| An individual | A Sisterhood |
| A bar/bat mitzvah class | A congregation | A school |



For more information
and to make a contribution, contact:

in Israel & outside the USA and Canada
The Masorti Movement
98 Hevron Road, PO Box 7559, Jerusalem 91074
masorti@masorti.org | www.masorti.org | +972 (2) 565 8000

in the United States
The Masorti Foundation for Conservative Judaism in Israel
475 Riverside Drive, Suite 832, New York, NY 10115-0122
info@masorti.org | www.masorti.org | +1 (212) 870 2216

in Canada
Canadian Foundation for Masorti Judaism
1000 Finch Avenue West, #508, Toronto ON M3J 2V5
canada@masorti.org | www.masorti.ca | +1 (416) 667 1717

Contributions in the UK
New Israel Fund
25-26 Enford Street, London W1H 1DW
| +44 (20) 7724 2266 |

Our supporters:



Bar/Bat Mitzvah

for Children with **Special Needs**



"Educate a child in his/her own way"

(Proverbs 22:6)

Bar/Bat Mitzvah for Children with Special Needs

is the only national program working with 40 special education schools in Israel, touching almost 300 children each year.

We provide Jewish enrichment for youth and adults with autism, mental retardation, hearing impairments, cerebral palsy, Down syndrome and other special needs.

The learning process culminates in a bar/bat mitzvah ceremony attended by family and friends in one of Israel's Masorti synagogues.

Each aliyah to the Torah is unique, designed around the specific strengths and needs of each individual. Communication devices, sign language and blessings written in communication symbols are just a few of the techniques used by the youngsters.

The Masorti Movement in Israel, through its 50 kehilot, is dedicated to advancing pluralism and tolerance within traditional, halakhic observance. The Masorti Movement creates and nurtures spiritual communities that combine prayer and ritual with community service.



The Picture Communication Symbols © 1981-2008
by Mayer Johnson LLC. All Rights Reserved Worldwide. Used with permission



Contributions to our program are greatly appreciated.

Your gift makes a difference

- Develop new educational programs and computerized software for children with special needs.
- Purchase alternative communication devices.
- Empower children with special needs so that they, too, can perform mitzvot, and take an active role in tikkun olam.
- Raise the self-esteem of children often marginalized by society.
- Reach out to as many youngsters as possible.

The day I met G-d

When you have a child with special needs, family and friends often drift away. As our daughter Reut approached Bat Mitzvah age, we began to wonder whether or not to mark the occasion, and, if so how we would celebrate.

Reut does not speak, but communicates through alternative communication devices. She told us about all she had learned, about going to the synagogue and kissing the Torah. If it were not for the Masorti Movement and the Bar/Bat Mitzvah Program, our daughter would have never experienced such a celebration. She deserves to celebrate just like any other person and we have no moral right to deprive her of it.

There are no words to express the happiness and excitement we felt during the whole process and especially at the ceremony itself. On the day Reut was called up to the Torah and we stood behind her on the Bimah, we felt as if we were lifted up and brought to heaven. I felt as if I met G-d.

Translated from Hebrew

Aharon Hoffman

Father of Reut, a pupil at the Shachar School in Beersheva for children with moderate to severe retardation.

