

How to give to Habonim Dror

Maimonides had his ranking for Tzedakkah. Now, after centuries of waiting -mainly because we did not exist for all of those centuries - Habonim Dror has come up with its own original guide for the perplexed Boger of the movement who wants to donate money to Habonim Dror.

By the way, if you are either tight fisted, impoverished or resentful about something that happened to you during your years in what we still call, most of us, the Movement, don't bother to read on. Or rather, if you are impoverished let us know and we will send you a Chultzah for this coming season in ever fashionable blue (let me know whether you like your red lace long or short).

There is an equation for giving and it goes like this. You can give either in the currency of the country you presently live in or from the country you grew up in (of course if you grew up in Zimbabwe, you will soon become the smallest donor in world history).

Here comes the Habo Dror Maths:

- The basic unit of giving is in multiples of 18 (Cultural Judaism, remember) of your chosen currency
- If you enjoyed being a member of the Movement start by giving 18
- Times this by the number of Machanot you went to (if you were sent home from a particular Machaneh you may subtract 18 from your total as a way of getting back at the Mazkirut)
- If you went on Shnat or any other of our year programmes in Israel add 18
- If you went on a summer programme with us add 18
- If you married someone from the Movement add 18 (if you subsequently got divorced do not add anything)
- If you are single, either because the Movement introduced you to the writings of R.D. Laing or for any other reason, please add 18 for every great sexual adventure you indulged in if it had anything to do with that wonderful education we received!
- For each child add 18 (for both the married folks and the single folks, nobody knows how many you add here)
- If the Movement gave you skills which made you employable or turned you into an entrepreneur add 18
- If you became an impoverished kibbutznik, well, you decide what to do with this
- This one is entirely subjective: if you made Aliyah as a result of the movement you could add 18 (or you could subtract 18 and then we would understand a thing or two about your feelings about Israel today).
- To add to the complications, if you married in Israel as a result of your Aliyah to Israel add 18 (unless of course this ended in divorce)
- If you want to strengthen the progressives voices in Israel by helping our work in bringing young members of the Movement today on Aliyah add 18 (if you have become either extremely right wing or have moved into the heady realms of post-Zionism you are exempt on this one only)

- If you are excited by an ex-South African, me, becoming the Mazkir of the World Movement add 18 (this probably has limited appeal only mainly to ex-South Africans)

I hope that this has ended up being a healthy sum and that you are now ready to go to our website and press our little [PayPal button](#).

Very important: This reached you, but probably has not got to most of your Chaverim from the Movement. Please pass it on to them. If you want to help the movement in any other way please be in touch with me (see below)

Seriously, as someone who feels totally blessed by the years I spent as a Chanich, then a Madrich, then an Oleh, then a Shaliach and now as Mazkir of the World Movement, please help me in my attempt to move Habonim Dror back to its rightful place as the Jewish Youth Movement which works for a progressive and safe Israel and for the building of Jewish Leadership.

Thank you and if you want to talk to me please email me at resnicj@gmail.com (don't phone as it is unclear what time zone I might be in). Now let's go to the campfire!!

Julian Resnick

Somerset West Habonim 1966-70, Cape Town Habonim 1970-6, Machon Le'Madrichei Chul 1972, Volunteer on Kibbutz Yizre'el during the Yom Kippur War, Aliyah with Garin Yeud 1976, Nachal 1978-9, Chaver Kibbutz Tzora 1989-present, Central Shaliach HDNA 2010-3, Mazkir Clali World Habonim Dror 2013-present