



Yeshiva University / Office of the Chancellor

June 11, 2013

To: Rabbi Lawrence S. Zierler
Mr. Michael Linetsky

The study of the (Babylonian) Talmud has grown phenomenally in both Israel and in the Diaspora. Now the time has come for the sister-volumes of the "*Bavli*" (Babylonian Talmud,) and the Jerusalem Talmud (Talmud Yerushalmi), to meet, and, as it were, to "compare notes." A number of scholars have taken upon themselves the "redemption" of the *Talmud Yerushalmi*, allowing it to flourish alongside the far more voluminous Babylonian Talmud.

The time has now come to bring to the attention of scholars the richness of both Talmudim. Who knows what literary and religious treasures remain to be discovered for our generation and what new relationships will yet appear as the two great literatures are compared and contrasted!

I hail especially Mr. Michael Linetsky for his time and talent and for taking the initiative in bringing back the *Talmud Yerushalmi* to the attention of scholars.

Clearly, it is rare to find the likes of such a scholar with unique abilities to pierce the veil that otherwise clouds the Yerushalmi texts and textures; who in so many realms is self-taught and highly disciplined and is laboring with all available energies to bring the Yerushalmi within reach of those who are fascinated by the phenomenon of two Talmidim.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized loop followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

NORMAN LAMM