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Partners' Update from Regavim

Dear Friends and Partners,

The year 5783, with its storms that washed through the halls of the High Court of Justice and spilled onto the streets sparking pointed and often harsh debate and discord in Israeli society, is drawing to a close.

At Regavim, we look back at this year as one of intensive activity, successes and struggles, and most importantly, as a year in which we planted seeds that we hope and pray will blossom in the coming year.

We wish you and your families a year of renewal, achievement and fulfilment, and raise our hopes and prayers for a year in which the connection to our beloved homeland grows deeper and wider.

May we share a happy and healthy new year.

Regavim

וְשַׁבְתִּי אֶת שָׂבוֹת עַמִּי יִשְׂרָאֵל
וּבָנוּ עָרִים נְשֻׁמוֹת וַיֵּשְׁבוּ
וַנִּטְעוּ כִרְמִים וְשָׂתוּ אֶת יֵינָם
וַעֲשׂוּ גִנוֹת וְאָכְלוּ אֶת פְּרִיהֶם

(עמוס, ט, י"ד)

צילום: איתן מלט



שנה טובה ומתוקה, מתנועת רגבים

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BIG WIN for Regavim: Court decision is a precedent...for justice!
It's a David and Goliath story, a modern-day Maccabean struggle: After a protracted legal battle, the court handed down a precedent -setting decision. [Read more >>>>](#)



**The verdict that clears the way for the growth of Dimona:
Bedouin squatters' camp will be removed!**

After years in the courts, the Beer Sheva Magistrates Court ruled that the Raas Jaraba squatters' camp must be evacuated within 7 months. At long last, the plans for new neighborhoods and the expansion of Dimona to twice its current size, plans that have been stalled for years, will finally move ahead. [Read more >>>](#) or see an interview with Regavim's Tamar Sikurel on Israel's [Channel 11 News \(Hebrew\) >>>](#)



IDF Firing Zone 203: Who's pulling the trigger?

We filed a new court petition against the free-for-all that is resulting in the hostile takeover of IDF Firing Zone 203, located in the center of Israel, on the back fence of Rosh Ha'Ayin. The training grounds have become a paradise for illegal construction, smuggling operations, environmental abuse and ecological hazards. [Read more here >>>](#)



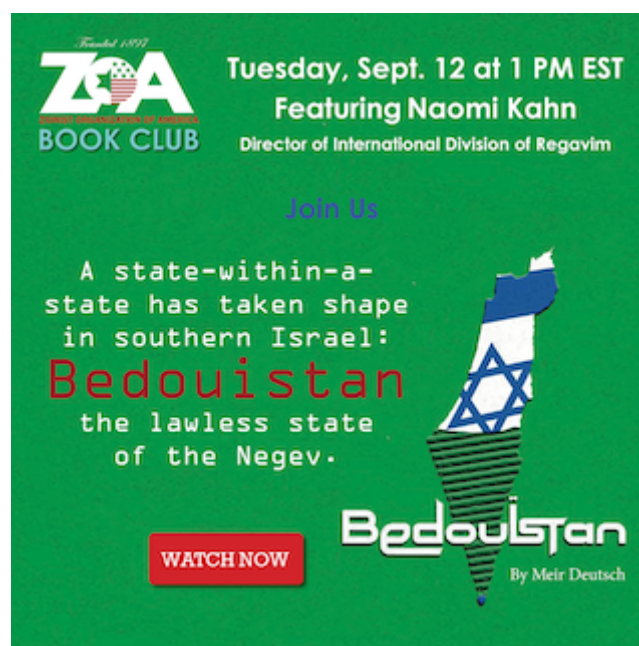
In the Field with Regavim:

This past month we hosted more of our fact-finding field tours for members of the Knesset Land of Israel Caucus, to give them a deeper and wider perspective on the issues and get them involved – from the field to the Knesset plenum.

Stop the looting of our heritage: Against the backdrop of the upcoming UNESCO vote to recognize the archaeological sites of ancient Jericho as “Palestinian heritage sites,” we led an emergency tour of the historic site, in conjunction with the Land of Israel Caucus, the Binyamin Regional Council and “Preserving the Eternal.” As a result of what the MKs and Ministers saw in the field, they initiated a government response to fight against the UNESCO designation.

Preserving the Nature Reserve: We hosted MK Limor Sohn Har-Melekh, co-Chair of the Knesset Land of Israel Caucus, on a field tour in the Judean Desert Nature Reserve, for a first-hand look at the environmental damage and the hostile Arab takeover. This is only one of the steps we are taking in a program spearheaded by the Gush Etzion Regional Council, to enlist the Knesset and the government and spur them to act on this crucial challenge.

Getting to Know the Negev: MK Ariel Kalner, also a member of the Land of Israel Caucus, joined us on a field tour in the Negev, where the burning issues that are impacting the Negev were examined in real time, particularly Bedouin land-ownership claims and the government’s history of failed attempts to resolve them.



Delving into Bedouistan with the ZOA:

Regavim's Naomi Kahn was a guest of the Zionist Organization of America for a panel discussion of "Bedouistan," Meir Deutsch's book on the situation in the Negev. To see the recorded event and learn more about Regavim's activities in the Negev, [click >>>](#)


Luxury Villa!

Almost 2 dunams

(but illegal)

**In the heart of
Area C**

**On the future
Funduq bypass
road**



The criminal: I'll request a permit
CA: No chance we'll approve, but we
won't demolish
High Court: Reasonable enough!

**What does Israel's High Court of Justice consider "reasonable"?
Rewarding Palestinian Arabs who build illegally on our state land!**

In a petition we filed in the High Court of Justice, we demanded that the Civil Administration's policy for suspension of enforcement be corrected, and at the very least, brought up to the same standards as those of Israeli law. The High Court of Justice spent an unusually long time considering the case, handing down its decision three months after the hearing. The decision reprimanded the government for its inconsistent arguments, but decided nonetheless that the government is acting "within the range of reasonableness." Does this seem reasonable to you? Read Regavim's opinion - on reasonableness, unreasonableness and the abuse of Israel's legal system - [here >>>](#)



Mazal tov! A new factory is born...

In the past few months, a gigantic new factory has sprung up in Area C just east of Efrat. Our field coordinator went to investigate, and [here's what he found >>>](#)

From the entire Regavim Family, best wishes for a sweet, productive new year!

Regavim

***Protecting Israel's Resources
Preserving Israeli Sovereignty***

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