

New Israel Fund  
Annual Report 2009

**SHARED SOCIETY** HUMAN RIGHTS **INCLUSIVITY** **PEACE**  
SOLIDARITY AND EQUALITY **CO-EXISTENCE** RELIGIOUS PLURALISM **GENDER EQUALITY**  
WOMENS RIGHTS **CO-EXISTENCE** GREEN POLICIES **POSITIVE CHANGE**  
**SECURITY** JEWISH VALUES



**PLURALISM** ENVIRONMENT DEMOCRACY DIGNITY  
TOLERANCE RESPECT **JUSTICE** CIVIL RIGHTS  
INDEPENDENT JUDICIARY EQUAL PAY **CO-OPERATION**  
CLOSING SOCIAL GAPS EMPOWERMENT **EQUAL RIGHTS** ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP

# Our Mission

## New Israel Fund

The New Israel Fund (NIF) – a partnership of North Americans, Israelis and Europeans – is the leading organisation advancing democracy and equality for all Israelis. NIF UK is part of this international network. NIF is unashamedly pro-Israel, existing to support projects which seek to ensure Israel's long-term survival and prosperity by underpinning its democracy. We believe that Israel can live up to its founders' vision of a state that "ensures complete equality of social and political rights to all its inhabitants, without regard to religion, race or gender."

Widely credited with building Israel's progressive civil society from scratch, NIF has provided more than £140 million to over 800 cutting-edge organisations since our inception. We fight inequality, injustice and extremism because we understand that justice is the precondition for a successful democracy – and the only lasting road to peace. The New Israel Fund's founders wanted to connect with Israel in a way that reflected their progressive values, and thousands of Israelis and Diaspora Jews have joined with us for that reason. Our supporters love Israel, and see it clearly as striving for an ideal not yet attained.

Visit [www.newisraelfund.org.uk](http://www.newisraelfund.org.uk) to learn more, and to join the growing community of progressive supporters of Israel who think for themselves about Israel's future.

## SHATIL

New Israel Fund is at philanthropy's cutting edge thanks in large part to SHATIL, NIF's Initiative for Social Change. NIF founded SHATIL in 1982 to complement its grant-making and provide NIF grantees and other social change organisations with hands-on assistance, training, resources and workshops on various aspects of not-for-profit management.

SHATIL employs more than 100 ethnically diverse professionals, support staff and interns, with offices in Jerusalem, Haifa, Beer Sheva, Lod, Baqa Algharbiya and Eastern Galilee, serving nearly 1,400 organisations. SHATIL has gained international respect for its innovative work and official UN recognition as an NGO advancing issues of interest to the UN.

SHATIL's work brings together organisations in large coalitions to accomplish what no single group can achieve on its own. It also carries out special projects to foster citizen action on issues and among population groups neglected by other institutions.

Today, SHATIL often takes the initiative in spearheading national advocacy campaigns and in partnering with business, academia and government to develop knowledge and skills, as well as increase access to public services for the underserved.

**We believe that Israel can live up to its founders' vision of a state that "ensures complete equality of social and political rights to all its inhabitants, without regard to religion, race or gender."**

# Chairman's Statement

Dear Friends

We would like to thank all of you for your continued support for NIF during these challenging times. Once again, we are delighted to report a good year in fundraising to support our many critical areas of work and we are particularly grateful in view of the harsh economic climate. As you will see in the report, NIF, Shatil and our many grantees are able to announce significant progress in many important areas this year.

Fortunately, the New Israel Fund is now well-positioned to lead the fight for democracy in Israel. With strong support from our family of organisations, we are now building an advocacy capacity to defend not just ourselves against the expanding attacks on progressive civil society, but to uphold our values and Israeli democracy itself.

In 2009, we secured positive change for Ethiopian women threatened by domestic violence... for Israelis at risk of losing their homes to foreclosure or state-sponsored demolition... for gay parents...for Arab professionals seeking employment in the hi-tech industry...and many, many others for whom social change is personal, dramatic and urgent.

Today, the progressive civil society that NIF built and supports is working harder than ever to build bridges across the emerging divisions in Israeli society. Findings from a recent survey show that British Jews are becoming more progressive in their relationship with Israel, feeling they should be able to criticise Israeli policies without being construed as altering their support and love for Israel. We are the voices of hundreds of thousands of Israelis and lovers of Israel worldwide, utterly committed to an Israel that is free and fair, open and equitable, self-aware and just.

The recent attacks on the democratic values of NIF have only served to galvanise us further into taking positive action to assist the underprivileged and the marginalised. Now is the time to stand with us and show your support. At this crucial moment when the issue is not just about Israel but about who we are and what we stand for in our love for Israel, please join with the New Israel Fund to help us make progress together.

Please continue to honour us with your support. Now more than ever, it means so much.

Sincerely,



Nicholas Saphir  
Chairman NIF UK

**We would like to thank all of you who have continued to support NIF during these challenging times. This is a moment of opportunity as well as uncertainty and, as you will see in this report, we are delighted to present how NIF, SHATIL and our family of grantees are again making significant progress in a number of critical areas.**

## 2009 Achievements

**In 2009, we secured positive change for Ethiopian women threatened by domestic violence...**

**for Israelis at risk of losing their homes to foreclosure or state-sponsored demolition...**

**for gay parents...**

**for Arab professionals seeking employment in the hi-tech industry...**

**and many, many others for whom social change is personal, dramatic and urgent.**

**Here are a few examples...**

## Civil and Human Rights

### **Separation Fence for Security, not for Convenience**

The Supreme Court ordered the Israeli government to dismantle and reroute 6.6 kilometres of the Separation Fence east of Netanya following a petition by ACRI – The Association for Civil Rights in Israel – and residents of four West Bank Palestinian villages. The ruling repeats an earlier decision that this section of the Fence must be rerouted because it is designed with the expansion of the nearby Jewish West Bank settlements in mind, rather than Israel's security. In this latest ruling, the Court also ordered the government to rebuild the barrier on a new route proposed by NIF grantee Council for Peace and Security, a non-partisan organisation bringing together some thousand members, each with a rich background in fields associated with security and diplomacy from the IDF, Mossad, GSS, Police, government and academics.

### **Healing the Humiliation**

In a major victory in late 2009, the Israeli court awarded five Ethiopian immigrant families financial compensation for suffering discrimination against their children in preschool. Six years previously, the families' children were expelled from the municipal kindergarten in Arad because there were 'too many Ethiopians enrolled'. Represented by NIF grantee Tebeka – Center for Legal Aid and Advocacy for Ethiopian Jews in Israel, the families will be able to spend their awards on educational tools and enrichment for the children. More importantly, they will have successfully fought discrimination and defended the right of their children to participate as equals in Israeli schools.

The decision raised the spirits of the Ethiopian parents. "I never believed that the court would rule in our favour," said Nehama, Shlomo's mother. "The pain and humiliation are still there but the court ruling finally convinces us that we did nothing wrong."



# Social and Economic Justice

## Health Care Close to Home

After a hard-fought 18-month campaign organised by SHATIL, a new radiotherapy centre for cancer patients will open in Safed. Currently, the only radiotherapy centre in the entire Northern region is located in Haifa, forcing cancer patients to travel long distances daily for their treatment which often takes only a few minutes. The victory followed dozens of letters, phone calls, a petition, meetings with MK's, official parliamentary questions, cancer patients' visits in the Knesset and SHATIL-generated media.

## Helping Israel's Charity Sector Weather the Recession

The advocacy efforts of dozens of organisations, led by NIF/SHATIL and grantee Yedid, the Association for Community Empowerment, resulted in a government decision to increase an emergency fund for civil society organisations suffering from the financial crisis. The decision amounted to a more than threefold increase in funding for 2009 – from NIS 30 to NIS 100 million – and an additional NIS 100 million for 2010. Additional tax breaks will also be available for the organisations.



## Tel Aviv Municipality Pledges Employment Rights to Cleaners

A senior Tel Aviv Municipality official has promised that all future tenders will contain clauses, which will ensure contractors are committed to pay employees and employees of subcontractors their full salary and entitlements

The move came in response to a letter from NIF grantee Kav LaOved – Worker's Hotline, which drew the municipality's attention to the fact that many refugees employed by subcontractors to undertake cleaning and maintenance work for the city had not been paid their salaries. The municipality said it is now committed to enforce the new tender clauses.



## Rights for Gay Families

In another precedent-setting achievement for the rights of same-sex couples, an Israeli woman was granted a widow's pension by the government's National Insurance Institute following the death of her partner. Ella Bar-Ilan, who will receive the pension, was represented by NIF grantee New Family, which promotes recognition of all forms of family units and equal eligibility for rights and entitlements.

# Religious Pluralism and Tolerance

## Everyone Should Be Able to Marry in Israel

In August 2009, Nico Tarosyan and Olga Samosvatov were married in the first-ever public non-Orthodox Jewish wedding held in Israel, funded and organised by NIF and grantees Havaya – Israeli Wedding and Fishka Club. Nico is one of the more than 300,000 Israelis who are prohibited from marrying in Israel because they are unable to prove their Jewish status to the rabbinate, or who are Jewish only on their fathers' side. The event raised awareness worldwide of the need for civil marriage in Israel.



# Shared Society

## Fairness for Israel's Diverse Population

Following the deaths of three children in recent years, the Israeli government agreed to allocate £12.3 million to pave roads to nine schools in the Negev, serving eight recognised and five unrecognised Bedouin villages. Additionally, five years after the Negev Bedouin village of Darijat was recognised by the Israeli government, the 900 residents have finally been connected to the national water grid and have running water in their homes. The victories are part of NIF's campaign to win full government recognition of unrecognised villages, and ensure that all Bedouin villages have the same infrastructures and services as their Jewish neighbours.

## Kicking Racism Out of Israeli Football

For the first time ever, the Israel Football Association (FA) deducted a league point as punishment for the racist chanting by a team's fans. During one match, Betar Jerusalem's fans repeatedly sang chants insulting the prophet Mohammed and Arabs. The Israel FA disciplinary committee based their evidence on the reports of the volunteer observers in NIF's campaign to Kick Racism Out of Israeli Football. Betar was also ordered to play one game without spectators. The Israel FA's strong stand sends a clear message to all clubs and fans that racism is not to be tolerated.

At the end of the 2009 season, NIF crowned the Bnei Yehudah football team as having Israel's fairest supporters – lowest on the weekly ratings of violence, incitement and racism.

## UK Task Force on Issues Facing Arab Citizens of Israel

In autumn 2009, New Israel Fund joined the Pears Foundation, UJIA, The Abraham Fund Initiatives, Board of Deputies and Zionist Federation in establishing the UK Task Force on Issues Facing Arab Citizens of Israel. Its purpose is to deepen UK Jewish engagement and understanding of the challenges facing Israel's Arab citizens and leverage communal resources to provide effective solutions. NIF is proud to take a leading role in this new Forum towards these ends.

## Environment

### Holding On to Green Space in Jerusalem

Putting an end to a nine-year struggle, the Jerusalem District Planning and Construction Committee formally approved the plans for a 64-acre urban park in Gazelle Valley instead of developing the land for high-rise buildings of flats. The victory was the result of a grassroots effort led by the residents of one of Jerusalem's most disadvantaged neighbourhoods, which has no other significant green spaces. The residents were empowered by SHATIL and NIF grantees, particularly Community Advocacy: Genesis Israel. The Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel, supported by NIF through the Green Environment Fund, has been active in planning the new park.



## Our Events This Year

A wealth of high-profile speakers from Israel, such as Rabbi Michael Melchior, Avram Burg, Dr. Tzvia Greenfeld and Prof. Naomi Chazan, toured the UK to speak at numerous events. This heralded a tremendous year for NIF's Educational and Events Programme, doubling the number of programmes and participants on the previous year, bringing to NIF many new supporters.

'Israel Question Time' and lively New Generation (young adult NIF) evenings generated vigorous debate and dynamic interaction.

The well established annual Human Rights Awards Dinner with 2009 winners Helmi Kitani (Shared Society) and Anat Hoffman (Religious Pluralism) resulted in wide exposure for New Israel Fund and our work on these issues.

The breakfast series hosted by APAX Partners initiated in late 2008 was expanded, proving a huge success with an invited audience of key supporters and leaders of the Jewish community. These breakfasts focused on NIF core issues such as, equality for Palestinian citizens of Israel, Religious Pluralism, Democracy, Social Justice, Israel-Diaspora Relations and Women's Rights.



L to R Nicholas Saphir, Chairman NIF UK, Award winners Anat Hoffman and Helmi Kitani, and Ellen Goldberg Executive Director NIF UK.

# Our Grants

Select New Israel Fund grantees and programmes are presented with the full New Israel Fund international contributions. New Israel Fund UK contributes towards these grants and programmes. For a more complete listing, please visit our website: [www.newisraelfund.org.uk](http://www.newisraelfund.org.uk)

## Civil and Human Rights

NIF works to help Israel live up to its founders' vision of a state that ensures complete equality of social and political rights to all its inhabitants without regard to religion, race or gender. From women's and LGBT rights to the controversial issues of synagogue/state and minority rights, NIF has founded, funded, trained or led a coalition of every significant human and civil rights organisation in Israel.

Association for Civil Rights in Israel (ACRI) .....	£361,406
Adalah: Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel .....	£34,625
Al-Auna: Regional Council for Unrecognized Bedouin Villages in the Negev .....	£46,250
Bimkom: Planners for Planning Rights .....	£280,625
Bizchut: Center for Human Rights of Persons with Disabilities .....	£198,813
Breaking the Silence .....	£30,625
Council for Peace and Security .....	£12,500
Ir Amim .....	£96,750
Hotline for Migrant Workers .....	£32,883
Machsom Watch: Women's Fund for Human Rights .....	£24,688
Tebeka: Center for Legal Aid & Advocacy for Ethiopian Jews in Israel .....	£66,230
Tmura: Israeli Anti-Discrimination Center .....	£18,750
Workers' Hotline: Kav LaOved .....	£134,063

## Social and Economic Justice

NIF's work has helped to empower thousands of underprivileged Israelis by equipping them with the tools to speak up, organise and confront injustice. From the Galil to the Negev, and from urban centers to isolated development towns, NIF is assisting single parents, the elderly, Israeli Arabs, new immigrants and Mizrachim to make their case, and win the victories they deserve.

Absorption of Immigrants from the Caucus Region .....	£12,500
Adva Center .....	£172,500
Ahoti: Sister for Women in Israel .....	£51,580
Arab Center for Alternative Planning .....	£141,250
Association for the Promotion of Arab Education in Haifa .....	£12,500

Center for Jewish-Arab Economic Development .....	£66,600
Community Advocacy: Genesis Israel .....	£60,024
The Economic and Society Program at the Van Leer Jerusalem Institute .....	£96,875
Follow-Up Committee for Arab Education .....	£57,188
Friends of Kedma School .....	£30,000
Israeli Center for Food Security .....	£27,344
Israeli Center for Social Justice .....	£18,000
Itach –Maaki: Women Lawyers for Social Justice .....	£78,300
Ma'an – The Forum for Bedouin Women's Organizations .....	£38,125
Mossawa .....	£133,125
Mahapach: Education, Housing, and Livelihood .....	£114,375
New Discourse (The Democratic Mizrahi Rainbow) .....	£33,750
Noar Kahalacha .....	£28,125
Organisation for Housing Rights .....	£12,500
Sviva Tomechet: Supportive Community .....	£33,125
Women Against Violence .....	£183,750

## Religious Pluralism and Tolerance

NIF works to promote freedom of – and from – religion in Israel, to foster a more tolerant society that embraces the rich diversity of Jewish identity, expression and practice, and that creates a sphere of non-religious, civil law for all Israeli citizens.

Association for the Protection of Mixed Family Rights .....	£17,188
Bina: Center for Jewish Identity and Hebrew Culture .....	£62,577
Center for Women's Justice .....	£43,359
12 Heshvan: Promoting Tolerance in an Orthodox Context .....	£22,458
Idan Hadash (New Era) .....	£27,500
Israel Religious Action Center of the Movement for Progressive (Reform) Judaism .....	£239,156
Kitar .....	£23,125
Kolech: Religious Women's Forum .....	£20,563
Ne'emanei Torah Va'Avodah .....	£47,813



# Our Programmes

In addition to our work supporting hundreds of civil society organisations, NIF proactively tackles some of the most difficult issues facing Israeli society through projects we operate alone or with partners. From expanding the civil rights bar in Israel to fighting racism to teaching civics education, NIF and SHATIL programmes are making a real difference.

## New Israel Fund

### Civil and Human Rights

Abu Basma Bedouin Community Development Project..... £27,405  
Israel-US Civil Liberties Law Program  
– Training Human and Civil Rights Lawyers..... £129,654  
'New Voices in the Stadium'  
Campaign Against Racism in Football..... £51,381

### Social and Economic Justice

Active Citizenship Education  
– Combining Classroom Learning and Social Action..... £42,500  
NIF/SHATIL Social Justice Fellowships  
– Internships for Community Leadership..... £76,923

### Religious Pluralism and Tolerance

Strengthening Progressive Voices in Orthodoxy..... £37,500

### Environment

Green Environment Fund  
– Foundation Partnership in Environmental Justice..... £643,187

## SHATIL

### Civil and Human Rights

Workers' Rights  
Advancing Accessibility to Health Rights  
in Israel's Northern Periphery

### Social and Economic Justice

Bedouin Women's Leadership Project  
Back from the Edge – Strengthening Immigrant Youth-at-Risk  
Local Sustainable Economic Development  
– Breaking the Cycle of Poverty  
Negev Forum for Multi-Sector Leadership  
Professional Assistance to Ethiopian Immigrants Projects  
Equality and Dignity for Women  
– Sexual Harassment, Wage Gaps and Microbusiness

### Religious Pluralism and Tolerance

Jewish Identity and Renewal

### Shared Society

Palestinian Jewish Dialogue Initiative  
Conflict Transformation Management Center (CTMC)

### Environment

Environmental Justice and Leadership Project



# How You Can Help

## Donate

[www.newisraelfund.org.uk](http://www.newisraelfund.org.uk)

- Make a contribution
- Make a recurring monthly gift
- Honour a friend or loved one with a tribute gift, or in memory of a loved one
- Leave a lasting legacy through planned giving

NIF can work with you to tailor your giving to your philanthropic interests. Whether it is an unrestricted gift for NIF, a gift underwriting an area of work or a project, or a donor-advised gift to a specific organisation – a gift to NIF is a statement for democratic values, support and love for Israel.

Donations can be made easily and securely online at [www.newisraelfund.org.uk](http://www.newisraelfund.org.uk). Please call 020 7724 2266 to speak with a member of the NIF staff, or post your contribution to: NIF, 25/26 Enford Street London W1H 1DW

## Travel

Go behind the newspaper headlines and television sound bites to examine the realities of contemporary Israeli life. Meet the leaders of Israel's dynamic social change movement up close and personal – Jews, Arabs, Bedouin, foreign workers and others; religious, traditional and secular; Ashkenazi and Mizrahi; immigrants and natives; men and women.

Through personal encounters learn about key challenges facing Israel as a Jewish and democratic state and the steps Israelis are taking to meet these challenges. NIF study tour participants come back energised partners in the joint effort to build a more just society in Israel. See our website for forthcoming tour details.

## Learn, Act, Get Involved!

Stay informed about what is happening in Israel and what you can do to help.

Join us for educational events, sign up for our monthly e-newsletter, receive action alerts, lead study sessions, volunteer, and join us on Facebook.

**The New Israel Fund is a powerful engine for democratic change in Israel. NIF believes that Israel is strengthened by its diversity, and by fulfilling its promise of equality and dignity to all of its citizens. It is also a network of people around the globe who work together in common purpose. These people – donors, volunteers, advocates, activists – make change possible.**

# Financial Statement 2009

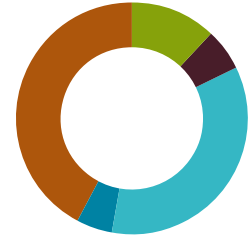
	Total 2009 £	Total 2008 £	Total 2007 £
Contributions	1,235,192	1,282,187	1,086,466
Investment Income	214	9,733	4,188
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,235,406<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>1,291,920<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>1,090,654<sup>3</sup></b>
<b>Transferred to Grantees</b>	<b>916,506</b>	<b>906,302</b>	<b>779,488</b>
Shatil	58,425	104,175	24,556
Civil & Human Rights	325,521	297,958	191,484
Religious Pluralism & Tolerance	41,445	73,052	69,807
Social & Economic Justice	384,145	283,661	434,725
Environment	106,970	147,456	58,916
<b>Educational Programme Expenditure</b>	<b>243,432</b>	<b>206,981</b>	<b>127,377</b>
<b>Cost of Generating Funds</b>	<b>165,678</b>	<b>160,180</b>	<b>163,865</b>
<b>Governance Costs</b>	<b>9,472</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>5,000</b>
<b>Total Resources Expended</b>	<b>1,335,088</b>	<b>1,278,463</b>	<b>1,075,730</b>
<b>Surplus/(deficit) for the Year</b>	<b>-99,682</b>	<b>13,457</b>	<b>14,924</b>

1 In 2009 additional contributions in the amount of £52,086 were received by NIF US directly from UK donors.

2 In 2008 additional contributions in the amount of £70,242 were received by NIF US directly from UK donors.

3 In 2007 additional contributions in the amount of £50,027 were received by NIF US directly from UK donors.

## Grants and Programmes UK Expenditure 2009



- Shatil 6%
- Civil & Human Rights 35%
- Religious Pluralism & Tolerance 5%
- Social & Economic Justice 42%
- Environment 12%

# New Israel Fund Offices

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# Our Issue Areas

Civil & Human Rights

Social & Economic Justice

Religious Pluralism

Shared Society

Environment