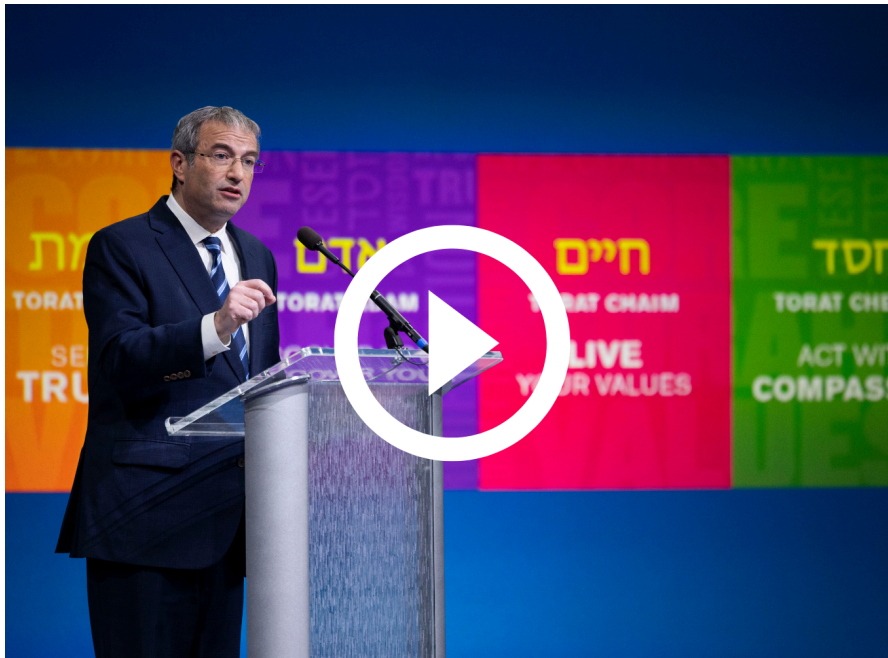




My Dear Friends,

As I walked onto the center stage into a crowd of almost 10,000 students, alumni, and faculty at Brigham Young University, I was reminded of the feeling that has constantly been reinforced throughout my recent travels in Rome, Morocco, London, and Israel.



Click [here](#) or on the image above to watch excerpt.

To watch the full speech, click [here](#).

In all my meetings with religious educational leaders, international university officials, chief rabbis, Israeli dignitaries, and most importantly Jewish and non-Jewish college-age students from around the world, I have felt a hunger for meaning. We are experiencing a time where people are in search of the truth and are dissatisfied with the answers being provided by contemporary society.



More and more, I see religious values providing our next generation with the comfort, joy, and purpose inherent in tradition. And more and more, I see people turning to Yeshiva University as the flagship institution that is educating the leaders of tomorrow based on core values that inspire a life of meaning, contribution, and service.

This was the subject of my talk at BYU and the positive response throughout the world has been overwhelming. But I must say that I am not surprised, I sense this daily when I am on campus. As I walk among our students who are kind, thoughtful, and eager to impact the future, I am left confident that our Torah values are well represented by our students, who are not just today's ambassadors, but tomorrow's leaders.



As much as I enjoy my visits abroad, there is simply no other experience that is more invigorating and confidence-boosting in our society's future than seeing the vitality and vibrancy of our campus life. Our Spring semester started with much excitement as we welcomed a record number of enrolled students in both our undergraduate and graduate schools. All throughout our campuses we are seeing the results of our Rise Up campaign with renovations of labs and classrooms and preparations for the Belz Building well underway. With our continued rise in our academic rankings, now standing with Columbia and NYU as the #3 ranked university in NYC, there is a deep appreciation for the quality of our students and the caliber of our education. And the generous support from our community has been humbling. With over \$350 million raised towards our \$613 million campaign, our community continues to express its appreciation for our students, the leaders of tomorrow.

The significance of Yeshiva University as our nation's flagship Jewish university is greater than ever before, and its influence is known throughout the world. As the source of our strength and the vehicle through which we connect to something greater than ourselves, our values anchor the lives of our students. Ha-Kol Lichvodo, everything we do is in service of our higher calling and purpose, and may we be blessed to continue having such opportunities to be forces of good and blessing to the world.

My warmest wishes,
Ari

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the name 'Ari'.

Rabbi Dr. Ari Berman
President, Yeshiva University

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