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Yeshivat Ateret Yerushalayim

IN THE HEART OF THE OLD CITY OF JERUSALEM

Ha-Rav Shlomo Aviner on...

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Just About Everything

The Israeli daily newspaper "Ma'ariv" asks well-known Israelis their opinions on just about everything. Rav Aviner was interviewed and here are Ha-Rav's answers.

Antisemitism

An old affliction. It seems that we threaten evil. In the end, they will love us.

Assimilation

It disturbs my sleep. All of our problems in the Land of Israel are dwarfed in comparison to the spiritual holocaust which is occurring in the Exile,

The Chief Rabbinate of Israel

Patience. It will still turn into the spiritual leader of the State.

Ha-Rav Avraham Yitzchak Ha-Cohain Kook

The unique heavenly messenger who shined in order to illuminate our revival.

Rabbis of Tzohar

Personal and dear friends. They have many merits in implanting the Torah in those who are far from Torah.

His Torah is his Profession (People who learn Torah full-time)

An essential matter. They are not parasites. They are building the soul of the Nation.

Charedim (The Ultra-Orthodox)

Wonderful people, faithful to Torah and mitzvot. Regarding building the State – patience.

Kabbalists and Amulets

Somewhat genuine. Many are crooks. Either way, this is not the main path of Judaism.

Tel Aviv

A holy city. The backbone of the economy of the State.

The Temple Mount

Our Rabbi, Rav Tzvi Yehudah Ha-Cohain Kook said: "We have much work before this."

Arabs of Israel

They must decide. They accept the authority of the State and follow the law or they...

Hilltop Youth

Idealistic and courageous youth. They need to learn patience.

Chomesh First (One of the settlements in N. Shomrom from which Jews were expelled)

We will return to every settlement.

Tzahal

A holy and supreme mitzvah. It includes protecting the Nation, the Land and sanctifying Hashem's Name. We are fortunate that we have merited it.

Mamlachtiyut (Seeing the State of Israel as a partial revival of the Kingdom of Israel)

The Torah tells me to be loyal to the State even if I have criticisms against her.

Atchalta De-Geulah (The Beginning of the Redemption)

The beginning was the First Aliyah, the building of the Land and the Return to Zion. We are now in the middle of the Redemption.

Bagatz (Israeli Supreme Court)

The laws of the Torah are greater than those of the Turks, British, etc...

The Article "Ha-Dor – The Generation" by Rav Kook

It describes an idealistic generation. Our Rabbi, Rav Tzvi Yehudah, was once asked if the article "Ha-Dor" is true for this generation. He responded, "It is even truer." Someone said: "This is not correct," and Rav Tzv Yehudah answered him: "Did you live then or did I?"

Herzl

He raised the flag of the national revival. He is similar to Zionism which is spiritual at its foundation.

Religious Zionism

It is now revealed that being religious is being Zionist and being Zionist is being Religious.

The Destruction of Gush Katif

What a crime! A halachic, national, military and humanitarian crime. We will heal.

Refusing an Order

We should not refuse or confuse. There are times, however, when we cannot. If you say, "There is no such thing as 'I cannot,' there is only 'I don't want to,'" I am here to tell you: There is an "I cannot."

Ha-Rav Avraham Shapira

A beacon of true genius to the Nation of Israel. We are fortunate.

Religious Homosexuals

There is no legitimacy. We all have inclinations and must wage war. Those who want will be healed. There is 100% success. A person with opposite inclinations must act on the instructions of a psychiatrist who can give him a green light when to get married, and if he should tell a potential spouse or not.

Datla"shim (Formerly Religious Individuals)

There has been a breakdown of faith for 200 years already. The Datla"shim have good character traits in their hearts, and this is also part of faith.

Modern Orthodoxy

I am modern and Orthodox, but separately.

Modesty

To be introverted. To be humble. To be pure.

Torah Learning for Women

All of Your sons and daughter are students of Hashem. Each in his own realm.

Mixed Youth Groups

We must keep the mixed part to the right time and the right place. After marriage.

Army Service for Religious Women

Absolutely not. The same applies to secular women. This is bad for them and for the army.

The Phenomenon of Singles

Perhaps it is because a person searches for a spouse perfectly suited to himself/herself.

Television

A horrible damage to humankind. There are low and shameful messages on it. One passively becomes stupefied.

Rabbinic Dress – Hat and Jacket

It is required, but my tradition only reaches the jacket.

Humor

Recommended, but with two conditions. Minimal and positive content.

Mathematics

The love of my youth along with theoretical sciences. It still lives in my heart, but I have found a more beautiful bride – The Torah.

Non-Hebrew Songs

There are three conditions which must be met in order to listen to songs in general. Kosher words, a kosher melody and a kosher singer. A kosher singer means a non-Jewish singer who fulfills the seven mitzvot incumbent upon non-Jews and a Jewish singer who fulfills the 613 mitzvot.

The Mossad (Israel Secret Service)

It is known that I was invited by the Mossad to work in their ranks, but I rejected the offer because of my desire to continue learning in yeshiva. I was later sent on two brief missions in a special role to enemy states. The people in the Mossad are wonderful and have great self-sacrifice. There are almost no religious there, and this needs to be rectified.

Halachic Organ Donor Card

I have one. What is greater than saving lives? Call immediately.

Academics

Give the academics what concerns academics and give the yeshiva what concerns the yeshiva.

Those who refuse to accept a divorce

Only one percent is in the category of not accepting a divorce. 99% accept a divorce. We must struggle with self-sacrifice against this one percent.

Civil Marriage

They are anti-civil since our Nation is a holy Nation which observes the holiness of marriage.

Quick Conversions

A backdoor for non-Jews. Conversion is only according to Halachah.

Text Message Responsa

A great help for someone who needs a brief and quick answer, and an opening for a wider discussion.

Internet

A poison snake for gossip, insults and infringement of modesty. One needs a 100% block.