

**Letter from Rabbi Modechai Eliyahu**

**August 20, 1998**

**Chief Rabbi of Israel**

*Peace and Blessing!*

*In reply to your request which was referred to me, I herewith reply and render my opinion, that it is a great mitzvah to educate and bring close to the members of the community who are awaiting aliyah in Ethiopia.*

*The holy language (Hebrew) the principles of the Torah of Israel, the evening of the Seder that is approaching, holidays and festivals, the observance of the Sabbath – all these, and more, constitute important preparation in anticipation of their return in complete penance to the Nation of Israel in the Land of Israel.*

*This reply of mine relates to the whole community that is waiting in Addis Ababa, and in as much as possible, to those in their villages. May it be the will of God that you are counted among those who act on behalf of the total ingathering of the exiles from the four corners of the earth to our country. May your efforts be strengthened.*

Mordechai Eliyahu  
Rishon LeZion Chief Rabbi of Israel