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Bar-Ilan University

The Mozes S. Schupf Fellowship Program

Recommendation for Netanel Flamer, ID 300921319

My name is Ilan Maman, a Colonel (in reserve) in the Israeli Defense Forces. I have recently retired, after 30 years of service at the Israeli Military Intelligence Forces. I familiar with Netanel, whom I recommend for your program with all my heart, for more than a decade.

I first met when I was the head of the Gaza Strip research bureau at the Southern Headquarters in 2008. Netanel was a young officer at the Southern Information Security Unit. From the very beginning, I noticed that he is an exceptionally talented man and a brilliant officer. He excelled in the analysis of terrorist organizations in the Gaza Strip, bringing a unique way of thinking. He succeeded in the complicated mission of drawing the picture of the perception of these organizations of Israel and the IDF, which was the base of their activity. That is why, I decided to exceptionally join Netanel to a special thinking group, under my command, its mission was to reveal Hamas' secrets. There, I got to know him even better as a man and officer with a creative spirit and wisdom, accurate and with top-level personal qualities of humility, excellent human relations, and kindness. Thus, **Netanel has soon became my best and closer partner for the analysis and research activity.**

In the end of 2008, Israel launched Operation Cast Lead in Gaza Strip, leaded by the Southern Command. During the operation, we made an extraordinary effort, with the combination of both intelligence and firepower, to hit Hamas. It was a big challenge to reveal the disappearing enemy. It was Netanel that with a creative and "out of the box" thinking Have found an insight, which was presented to the Commander of the Southern Command, that enable to conduct an operational activity that made it possible to track the enemy and hit it hard.

After a few years, when I wished to work with Nathaniel again, my wish finally came true. In 2013, I was appointed Chief of the IMI Intelligence School. Netanel has begun his role as a commander in the Intelligence Officers Training Course. These times, the course was old-fashioned and partially irrelevant. Netanel, with the course commander, conduct a thorough and comprehensive process to analyze the needs and develop a brand-new concept for the training process, including dozens of meetings with various people, from different disciplines. This concept was enthusiastically accepted by the Head of the Israeli Military Intelligence (Who is nowadays the IDF Chief of Staff), as well as other officials. Netanel also conducted the implement of the concept, including Dealing with resistance to change, training of course staff, and developing new contents and programs.

One of the most important programs Netanel has developed was the program of Leadership, Values, and commanding called "Vision" (in Hebrew: MAOF – acronym of Manhigut, A'rachim ve Pikud). In this program the course cadets participated in many workshops and meetings dealing with diverse topics as: The values of an IDF officer at a whole and those of an intelligence officer particularly, leadership perceptions and skills, involvement and care to the Israeli society in order to nurse the fragments between Religious to the secular people and so on. Netanel's personality and believes were strongly illustrated by these programs. The course concept and this specific program was successful and therefore it is still implemented in the IMI Intelligence School.

As the chief of the IMI Intelligence School, I could carefully examine Netanel's leadership abilities. The cadets under his supervision really appreciate him and therefore he always got high scores in the course's feedback procedures as well as in sociometric questionnaires, including lots of verbal comments describing his social skills and his love and care for both cadets and colleagues. Netanel always see the human behind the exterior cover and the functional aspect. His activity has always combined the professional aspect together with the human aspect. In the IMI School of Intelligence, he turned my gaze to our responsibility, as officers, to deal with the Israeli society problems such as reducing the social gap between Religious and secular.

That is why I was not surprise when right after his release from the IDF, in July 2016, he started a new career as a high school teacher, Simultaneously with his PhD studies. Today, when I am also work in the educational field, I feel free to consult with Netanel. I really appreciate his unique point of view, his original and creative way of thinking, and his ability to Connect the theoretical aspect together with the practical aspect.

In conclusion, throughout the years Netanel is an important partner for me, in both military and educational field. I'm sure that his extraordinary abilities and Characteristics will allow him to make a great contribution to the Academic discourse as well as the entire Israeli society.

Therefore, **I strongly recommend Netanel to get the honored Schupf Scholarship** in order him to successfully finish his dissertation and continue his important activity.

Best regards,

Ilan Maman, Colonel (in reserve)

Former IDF Southern Command Chief Intelligence Officer and the Head of IMI School of Intelligence

And currently part of the managing program of Amit Education Network

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