



## United Hatzalah of Israel

# *Highlights of the week in Israel* 12<sub>March</sub> 2008

*Dear Friends and Supporters,*

This past week, the people of Israel and indeed, the entire Jewish Nation, have suffered the tragic loss of eight of its finest boys, who were murdered in cold blood while studying Torah in Yeshiva Merkaz HaRav in Jerusalem.

Words cannot express the grief and pain the families of the victims are experiencing. Our hearts are with them.

We send our deepest condolences to the families of two of the victims: Mr. Tzemach Heirschfeld, a United Hatzalah volunteer from Kochav HaShachar, over the loss of his son in the terrorist attack; and Mr. Binyamin Kelremen, a volunteer from Nof Ayalon, over the loss of his nephew in the attack.

Hamakom Yenachem Etchem - May God comfort all of us.

Sincerely,

**Eli Beer**

Chief coordinator

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## **Terrorist attack - Jerusalem**

06.03.08

A terrible terrorist attack this past Thursday evening occurred when a terrorist walked in to Yeshiva Merkaz HaRav and began shooting at the Yeshiva boys who were gathered there.

8 young boys were murdered,

7 people are in moderate condition,

3 remain in critical condition.

United Hatzalah volunteers were on the scene while the shooting was still taking place. Only volunteers with bulletproof gear were able to enter the building to start treating the victims.

Unfortunately, the terrorist was able to refill his weapon several times before he was shot and killed.



The scene of the attack was chaotic: holy books were lying on the floor, chairs were overturned and the aisles between the book cases in the library were filled with bloodstains of the victims. “It was one of the hardest terror scenes I have ever dealt with « says Yossi Refaeli, who was the first volunteer to enter the building while the shooting was still in progress”. There is no way the human mind can accept the sights we saw; young boys trying to shield themselves with the holy books they were holding while they were being massacred». May G-D avenge their wrongful deaths. HY”D.

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## Tragic Accident - Jerusalem

07.03.2008

The life of a small family was destroyed this past Friday when, in a fatal car accident, a mother and her nearly two-year-old baby were killed. The father and another passenger were moderately injured.

The accident took place at 9AM Friday morning on the north end of Jerusalem (The Pisgat Zeev road). United Hatzalah volunteers tried to revive the mother and baby but there was nothing more they could do and both were pronounced dead at the scene.



The volunteers were able to treat the father and another man who was the driver of the vehicle; both men were rushed to the hospital for treatment. The woman killed in the accident was in her early twenties and the baby was not even two years of age.

The young couple, it seems, was waiting at the bus stop for a bus to take them into town when a neighbor offered them a lift. The mother and baby got into the back seat and the father sat next to the driver.

“The back of the car was completely demolished» says Zeevi Kashash, United Hatzalah chairman who arrived at the accident only seconds after it took place. “The mother and the baby were in bad condition. We tried to revive them but there was nothing we could do to help them.” Zeevi, who is a neighbor of the family, tried to calm the father who kept asking for his wife and child.

This tragic accident occurred only hours after the terrible terror attack which took the lives of eight Yeshiva boys.

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## Crime doesn't pay

An intruder who tried to break into a home in Jerusalem fell from the first floor and was severely injured.

United Hatzalah volunteers David Steinberg and Itzik Assaraf were on the scene and treated the wounded man.

He was then taken to the hospital, handcuffed, for further treatment.

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## Eilat - New Volunteers in Action

This past week, Eilat's volunteers were kept busy running from emergency to emergency:

**06.03.08:** A car accident at the entrance to Eilat, two injured and treated by United Hatzalah volunteers.



**09.03.08:** United Hatzalah volunteers secure ten of students on a trip up north to Hermon Snowy Mountain.



**10.03.08:** A fire breaks out in a boys' school; United Hatzalah volunteers quickly came on the scene, treating tens of children who were hurt from smoke inhalation. The fire demolished over half a million shekels worth of school supplies, but thankfully no one was seriously injured.



## Search - Missing Person, Hadera

Volunteers from the Hadera Area joined the police in search of a boy who had threatened to hurt himself.

After hours of search, lead by United Hatzalah Head of Division, David Birenbaum, the boy was found.

Luckily, he was found on the train tracks only moments before a train was due to arrive.

He was taken into medical care.

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## Sderot - For the Community

In a personal initiative, United Hatzalah volunteer Edi Howard from our Tel Aviv branch felt he wanted to do another something extra for the children in Sderot. After hard work and careful planning, tens of buses brought in children of all ages from Sderot to the Tel Aviv area for special activities. At the end of the fun day, presents were handed out to the happy and very thankful children.

We wish to congratulate Edi on a job well done!!

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**Thank you to all who have given us the opportunity to continue our work.**

**We hope you will continue to support us in the future.**

**United Hatzalah** is the largest emergency rescue volunteer organization in Israel which, working hand in hand with MDA has the endorsement of the leading Rabbis in Israel.

**United Hatzalah** has branches in almost every city in Israel from the Golan Heights in the north to Eilat in the south.