

## RABBI SACKS THE ROLE MODEL

CHIEF RABBI WARREN GOLDSTEIN

The Menorah of the Temple Sanctuary had seven branches – a middle branch and three branches coming out of either side of it, and their flames leaning towards the center.

Rabbi Samson Raphael Hirsch explains that the middle branch represents the light of Torah wisdom, while the other six branches represent the wisdoms of the world. The six outer branches emerge from the central branch and then their flames turn inward to face the central branch it came from.

Rabbi Lord Sacks was a menorah. He lit up the world with the Torah's teachings by showing how all true wisdom in the world emanates from and turns toward the light of the Divine wisdom of the Torah.

Rabbi Sacks was not only a great scholar. He was kind, caring and giving, a true character role model for Jews of all ages all around the world.

## RABBI SACKS THE STUDENT

SIVAN RAHAV MEIR

As a young college student, Rabbi Sacks paid a visit to the Lubavitcher Rebbe with questions he wanted to ask. The Rebbe asked Sacks questions in return. How many Jewish students were there on his college campus? What was he doing in order to involve them in Jewish life? The Rebbe explained to Sacks that the Jewish world was in crisis, that ignorance was our greatest enemy. Therefore, it was Sacks' obligation to help, to utilize his talents in order to study and teach Torah. Sacks eventually became the Chief Rabbi of Great Britain, a professor, and a member of the British House of Lords. "When we make Judaism our top priority – we lose nothing," he used to say. Can all of us become professors, rabbis, and lords? No. But all of us can make full use of our talents. All of us can imagine standing opposite the Lubavitcher Rebbe and answering questions about our commitment to Judaism and what we are doing about it.

Even if we will not reach his level, we cannot allow ourselves to merely mourn Rabbi Sacks' passing. All of us, each in our own way and with our own talents, must answer the call and help to fill the void created.



1. Chief Rabbi Warren Goldstein 2. Rabbi Andrew Shaw and Sivan Rahav Meir 3. At a Hachnassat Sefer Torah at Kehillat Alei Tzion 4. With Bnei Akiva leaders at the Lord Sacks Forest in Jerusalem