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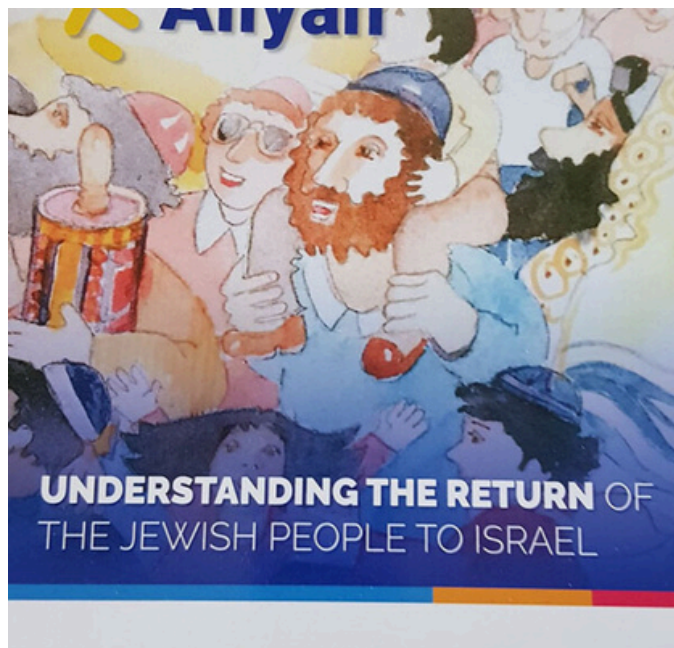
July 2025



AZERBAIJANI DREAM

The landlocked and mountaneous country of Azerbaijan has oil connections with Scotland but very few know anything more about this ex-Soviet central Asian country. Although officially secularised and a strategic partner of Israel, in practise Azerbaijan can still be a tough place for minorities such as Jews and Christians where the vast majority of population is Muslim.

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ALIYAH SUMMER COURSE

This summer, we have been running an Aliyah summer course, one locally near Glasgow and another online, with participants from further afield. The course has been well attended and it has challenged the summer brains in vigorous learning.

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Samir and Anar, workers of Ezra Azerbaijan.





FAIRYTALE FROM BAKU

"I had heard that I have Jewish roots, but I never thought about claiming them, proving them or moving to Israel. For me, it was some kind of a fairy tale. Until the very end, I did not believe that I would be able to move to live in Israel. When my Jewishness was finally confirmed, I was in 7th heaven! I was impatiently waiting to receive a visa and move to Israel. When I received a visa and was registered for a flight, it felt like this was some kind of a dream! I was afraid that I would wake up and all this would vanish into thin air! When I was brought to the airport and I checked in for a flight to Israel, I realised that it was all true and a new life awaited me!"
Mammad from Baku, capital of Azerbaijan.

EAST KILBRIDE PRAYER GROUP

Earlier this year we started a local prayer group to support the work of Ezra, whilst studying Pat Frame's book 'Intercession for Aliyah'. The group has stopped during the summer, while the Aliyah Summer Courses are on, but after the summer, in September, the group will gather again once a month for a fruitful prayer meeting amidst warm fellowship. Anyone in and around Glasgow who would like to join the group in September, please contact mirjam@ezrainternational.org for more details and to register your interest!



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The reports vary regarding the actual number of Jews in Azerbaijan which consists of three different subgroups, the mountain Jews, Ashkenazi Jews and Georgian Jews.

Some estimates say there are over 16'000 Jews still living in Azerbaijan, in lively communities in various cities and clusters, in relative harmony with their muslim neighbours, some wealthy, some desperately poor.

Prayer Focus Points

- Pray for our workers in Azerbaijan and their families, for all their needs to be met in abundance, including energy, health and joy!
- Pray for continued peace in Azerbaijan where anti-semitism is all time low; pray it will continue to be so!
- Pray for fruitful partnership and respect between Azerbaijan and Israel, and that Azerbaijan would flagship Muslim-Jew partnerships on the global arena!
- Pray for more Jews being reached and being ready and willing to go!

Ezra has worked in Azerbaijan since the year 2000, helping around 2'500 impoverished Jews to repatriate to Israel during this time. Samir and his part-time assistant Anar work hard to continue to help Jews in need, offering information and financial support for all the costs of Aliyah process, prior to permit being given to leave to Israel and to settle there for good.



Summer of Learning



As well as our regulars, we have had a few guests joining us for the Aliyah Summer Course whom we have been delighted to share time and fellowship with! Please pray for both of the Aliyah courses, that not only knowledge is shared but the vision of the need of Aliyah at our time and age! Join us in praying that the course would be more widely used in the UK and elsewhere, in particular that we'd find a way to gather young people to learn about Aliyah and them catching the vision! Pray we will find the correct digital tools to make the course available online for easier access and a greater exposure.