

Ninth Annual Semikha Ceremony

Rabbi Dr. Daniel Sperber

Posek HaYeshiva



All the Hebrew books have as their first page a picture of a gateway. It's called a *sha'ar*. And the beginnings of books are now called *shearei ha-sefarim*.

One entered into the world of Torah, into the world of the books of Torah through that gateway - that *sha'ar* - and one entered into a new edifice, an edifice that has many rooms. And each of those rooms had a *sha'ar* - a gateway to go through. One went through these various gateways, each time increasing one's understanding and depth in the understanding of Torah and *Halakha* and *pesika*.

You are beginning now on a long and adventurous undertaking, having gone through the first gateway - the first *sha'ar* - and you will continue to go through the various rooms, deepening your understanding of Halakha and the practical rabbinics.

I can only wish you all the blessings of God, that you continue on this important journey - important because it will help *Am Yisrael* so that you can succeed in your aspirations to be important, rabbinic personalities.