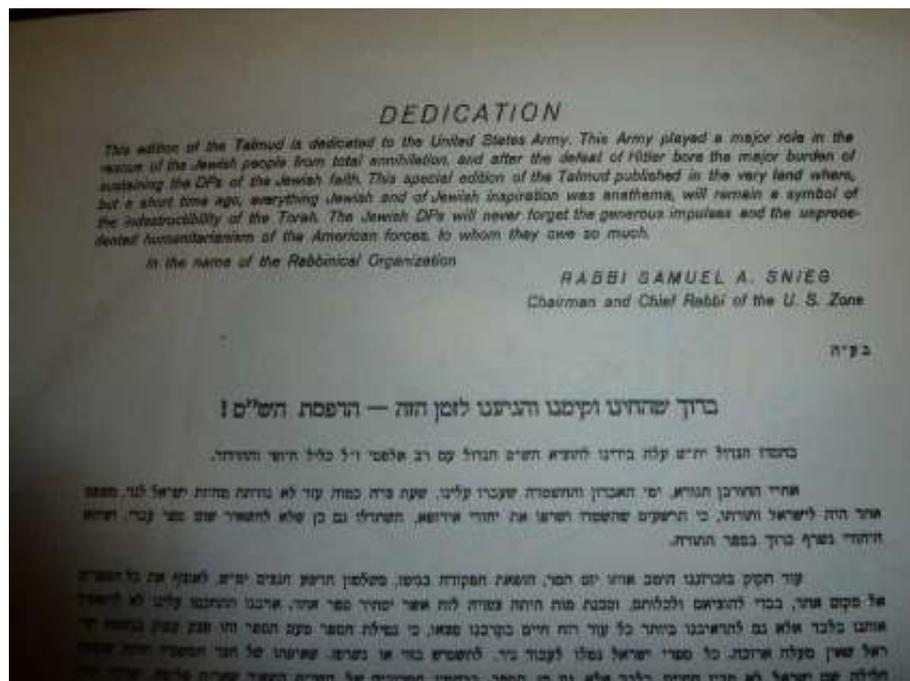


# FOR SALE: THE UNITED STATES ARMY TALMUD

A copy of the US ARMY Talmud also known as the  
Survivors Talmud published in Heidelberg in 1948.

*Blessed who has granted us life, sustained us to reach this occasion...  
the Printing of the Shas (the Talmud)*



*This edition of the Talmud is dedicated to the United States Army. This Army played a major role in the rescue of the Jewish people from total annihilation, and after the defeat of Hitler bore the major burden of sustaining the DPs of the Jewish faith. This special edition of the Talmud published in the very land where but a short time ago, everything Jewish and of Jewish inspiration, was anethema, will remain a symbol of the indestructibility of the Torah. The Jewish DPs will never forget the generous impulses and the unprecedented humanitarianism of the American Jewish forces, to whom they owe so much.*

*In the name of the Rabbinical Organization Rabbi Samuel A Snieg (Chairman and Chief Rabbi of the U.S. Zone.)*

## **An Historic Monument to the Survivors and a Recognition of the efforts of the US Army in the rescue of Jewish people.**

Immediately after the liberation of the concentration camps, the survivors tried to rebuild their shattered lives and look to the future. One of their first priorities was to reconstruct their cultural life, so schoolbooks, religious texts, newspapers and periodicals began to be published soon after the camps were liberated. They were published mainly in Hebrew

Yiddish and German by the Vaad Hatzala, The Joint Distribution Committee and by individuals and small publishers such as Yaffa (in the Fernwald DP camp).

The most ambitious of these projects was the publication of a full size folio edition of the Babylonian Talmud in 19 volumes. There was an agreement signed in September 1946 by General McNarney from the US Army and the Joint Distribution Committee for a set of the Talmud to be produced under the auspices of the US Army. It took longer than expected to produce because of the shortage of paper and the difficulty of finding a complete set of the Talmud in Germany at the time (in fact 2 sets were sent from the USA). Eventually, it was printed in Heidelberg in 1948 and is the only Talmud to have been published by a national government. Ironically, it was printed by the Carl Winter Printing Plant in Heidelberg, which had previously printed Nazi propaganda.

See

Gros, Michael, The Printing of the Survivors' Talmud, Hamodia April 7, 2011

Mintz, Sharon and Goldstein, Gabriel, Printing the Talmud, From Bomberg to Schottenstein, Yeshiva University Museum, 2005. [www.printingthetalmud.org](http://www.printingthetalmud.org)

### **FOR SALE: Two copies of the US ARMY Talmud.**

1. *19 Volumes, 40cm high, folio. Good condition. A Photo-offset of the standard Vilna Talmud. Heidelberg, 1948. There is a special decorative title page containing images of both hope and despair. At the top of the page there is an image of Israel or Jerusalem with light and peace. At the bottom there is an image of the Labour camps with barbed wire. It also states in Hebrew that it was produced with the assistance of the Chief of the American Army in Germany and the Joint Distribution Committee. An extremely good set. £4.500*
2. An ex library set with some wear to spines but with a presentation sticker from Rabbi Dr Mate Miklos of Budapest. **£3,250**

