

Rabbi Saul Zucker
Teaneck, New Jersey

16 Av 5771
August 16, 2011

Dear Reader,

The term "Torah" as used by the Sages of Israel has always had an intimate association with the ideals of truth and profound wisdom. These ideals have been transmitted throughout the millennia in the Oral Law, whose origins go back to the Revelation at Sinai. Indeed, the covenant with Israel was made on the basis of the Oral Law. References and allusions to this Oral Law abound in the Written Law, and quite a number of authors have written about the authenticity of the Oral Law as presented by the Sages.

The work that you hold in your hands is a masterpiece of scholarship in that genre. It is, in my opinion, an invaluable contribution to works on the Oral Law. As someone who has been involved in Jewish education on many levels during the past thirty years, as the founding *Rosh Mesivta* of the *Mesivta of North Jersey* and as a *maggid shiur* in various venues, I am well aware of the challenges that face a generation of Jews who are exposed to information from an array of different, competing disciplines. To that generation, my dear friend and erudite scholar Rav Michael S. Bar-Ron has written this excellent book, citing proofs and demonstrations of the authenticity of the Oral Law. His proofs and demonstrations are compelling and profound; they reflect serious scholarship and thorough research. The work is particularly valuable as it presents overwhelming evidence while avoiding the pitfall of loose speculation that is sometimes characteristic of materialistic academia, and while avoiding the pitfall of unsubstantiated dogmatic fiat that is sometimes characteristic of religious zealotry. In short, the book that you hold presents facts and wisdom, designed to speak clearly to the reader's mind.

I have known Rav Michael Shelomo for a number of years. He is a humble servant of *HaShem*, sincere, thoughtful, caring, and very wise. He represents the ideals of Torah wisdom and compassion most excellently. I wholeheartedly commend him for this wonderful book, and I wish him the greatest success, confident that his work will serve its purpose of bringing the truth and wisdom of *HaShem's* noble Torah to a host of readers seeking knowledge.

I close with blessings of Torah for wisdom, happiness, fulfillment and success.

Sincerely yours,



Rabbi Saul Zucker