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Department of Judaic Studies

October 27, 1999

For: YAFFA

President Norman Lamm  
Yeshiva University  
500 West 185th Street  
New York, NY 10033-3299

Dear President Lamm,


Congratulations upon the publication of your new book *The Religious Thought of Hasidism - Text and Commentary*. It includes many important elements of Hasidism and is a fine contribution to the study of Hasidism. I hope it will become a college text book, which will also be a great asset to my seminars on Hasidism.

Among the very interesting themes, I did not find references to my interpretation of the origins of Hasidism, which was the subject of articles as well as my dissertation *Jewish Hasidism, Russian Sectarrians Non-Conformists in the Ukraine, 1700-1760*. (When I wrote my dissertation my Professor of Jewish history and the dissertation guide was Prof. Salo W. Baron.)

Recently it also became part of scholarship and research at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. They too were able to prove this theory from original source material from Eastern Europe, as I did during my research.

Once more congratulations on your new book and much success with future ones.

All the best,

  
Professor Yaffa Eliach  
Professor of History and Literature

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