

NLH
copy

Dr. Norman Lamm

IN HONOR OF DR. NORMAN LAMM

Jacob J. Schacter

Lamport Auditorium

March 21, 2010

It is with great pleasure that I pay tribute to Dr. Lamm on the occasion of the celebration of the Rabbi Dr. Norman Lamm prize presented this week to Rabbi Dr. Lord Jonathan Sacks.

Dr. Lamm has been a distinguished leader of American Orthodoxy for more than half a century and of our yeshiva for close to three decades. One *pasuk* in the biblical book that bears his name describes Dr. Lamm's tenacious and passionate efforts on behalf of our community. "...Man the guard posts, watch the road, gird your strength and gather much vigor" (Nachum 2:2).

I want to frame my few words of tribute in honor of Dr. Lamm by making reference to the titles of some of his many works. Visionary leader and gifted orator, multi-faceted intellectual and powerful thinker, Dr. Lamm has devoted his life to the Jewish community. His "*royal reach*" has embraced those who have both "*faith and doubt*," and the profundity of his teachings has illuminated many of the "*seventy faces*" of Judaism, especially "*Torah Umadda*." His thoughtful writings have contributed to our understanding of both Rabbi Hayyim of Volozhin's "*Torah lishmah*" as well as "*the religious thought of Hasidism*." His works have constructed a "*hedge of roses*" protecting and enhancing the "*treasury of tradition*," the "*halakhot ve'halikhot*" of Jewish life, lore and practice. Collectively, they comprise a "*library of Jewish law and ethics*," serving as guides to contemporary Jewish life. In a lifetime of service to *Klal Yisrael*, Dr. Lamm has valiantly toiled to ensure that contemporary Jewish life be a "*good society*," governed by the value of "*shema*" or respectful listening.

May *Hakadosh Baruch Hu* grant Dr. Lamm many more happy years of good health and sound mind to continue his very important work and to enjoy together with Mindy and all the members of their extraordinary and wonderful family.