

## OU JERUSALEM CENTRE.

RABBI DR ALAN ABRAHAM KIMCHE

### “20 Great Jewish Thinkers”

1. **R.Yosef Karo** (*Mechaber*, 1488–1575), 16th-century Spanish and Land of Israel halachic codifier of the Shulchan Aruch
2. **R.Judah Low ben Bezalel** (*Maharal*, 1512–1609), 16th-century Prague mystical philosopher and Talmudist
3. **Isaac ben Judah Abarbanel** (1437–1508), Jewish statesman, philosopher, Bible commentator, and financier.
4. **R.Israel ben Eliezer** (*Baal Shem Tov*, c.1700–1760), kabbalist and founder of Hasidic Judaism
5. **R.Moshe Chaim Luzzatto** (*Ramchal*, 1707–1746), Italian ethicist, philosopher, and kabbalist.
6. **R.Elijah ben Solomon (the Vilna Gaon or Gra**, 1720–1797), Talmudist and kabbalist, Lithuanian leader of the *Mitnagdim*,
7. **R.Shneur Zalman of Liadi** (1745–1812), (*Alter Rebbe of Chabad*), kabbalist and Talmudist, founder of Chabad Hasidism
8. **R.Naftali Zvi Yehuda Berlin** (1816–1893), (*Netziv; Ha'emek Davar*) great talmudist, rosh yeshiva of the Volozhin Yeshiva,
9. **R.Jacob Ettlinger** (1798–1871), German scholar, author of the *Aruch La-Ner*, fierce opponent of Reform Judaism
10. **R.Azriel Hildesheimer** (1820–1899), philosopher, halachist, a founder of Modern Orthodox Judaism
11. **R.Samson Raphael Hirsch** (1808–1888), German founder of the *Torah im Derech Eretz* movement, prolific author.

12. **R.Zvi Hirsch Kalischer** (1795 – 1874), German talmudist who taught active messianism, in favor of the Jewish re-settlement of the Land of Israel, which predates Herzl and the Zionist movement
13. **R.Yitzchak Yaacov Reines** (1839–1915), Lithuanian founder of the Mizrachi Religious Zionist Movement, a correspondent of Theodor Herzl
14. **R.Yisrael Lipkin Salanter** (1810–1883), father of the Musar movement in Orthodox Judaism, rosh yeshiva and Talmudist
15. **R.Moses Sofer** (1762–1839), (*Chasam Sofer*), Rabbi of Pressburg and prominent halachic authority.
16. **R.Abraham Isaac Kook** (1865–1935), first Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi of Palestine, philosopher and Kabbalist, founder of the Mercaz HaRav Yeshiva and Religious Zionism.
17. **R.Shlomo Zalman Auerbach** (1910-1995), Influential Orthodox rabbi, posek, and rosh yeshiva of the Kol Torah yeshiva in Jerusalem
18. **R.Moshe Feinstein** (1895–1986), (*Igrot Moshe*), Russian-American halachic authority and Talmudist
19. **R.Joseph Ber Soloveitchik** (1903–1993), distinguished Rosh Yeshiva of the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary and Maimonides School, author, posek, modern Jewish philosopher, leader of Modern Orthodox Judaism.
20. **R. Ovadia Yosef** (1920–2013), Iraqi-Israeli former Israel Sephardic Chief Rabbi, prominent posek and scholar, "de facto" leader of Sephardic Jewry