APPENDIXES
APPENDIX I
NUMERICAL VALUES OF THE LETTERS OF THE ALPHABET
AND THE CONVERSION OF A HEBREW DATE (YEARS) TO A GREGORIAN CALENDAR DATE

The use of the letters of the alphabet as numerals in Hebrew is ancient and predates the use of Arabic numerals. Nowadays, letters are used instead of numerals to mark pages and chapters in religious texts and to indicate the Hebrew date.

1. Converting letters into numerical values

As seen in the chart below, the numbers 1–9 are represented by the first nine letters, from א to ט, the numbers 10–90 are represented by the next nine letters, י to א, and 100–400 are represented by ק to ת.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>9=ט</th>
<th>8=ז</th>
<th>7=ב</th>
<th>6=ג</th>
<th>5=ד</th>
<th>4=ה</th>
<th>3=ו</th>
<th>2=ז</th>
<th>1=א</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90=ד</td>
<td>80=ת</td>
<td>70=ף</td>
<td>60=ך</td>
<td>50=ף</td>
<td>40=ת</td>
<td>30=ך</td>
<td>20=ף</td>
<td>10=ת</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1.1 Written from high to low, the letters combine to create numbers up to 999, which would be represented by the sequence תתקצט: ת = 400 + ת = 400 + ק = 100 + צ = 90 + ט = 9.

1.2 Note that the numbers 15 and 16 are written as 9+6 (ט"ו) and 9+7 (ט"ז), respectively, to avoid creating letter sequences that signify God’s name.

1.3 To indicate thousands (as might be needed for dates), letters followed by inverted commas are used. For example, the year 5,708 to the creation of the world according to Jewish tradition is ח"תש"ח.

2. Converting Hebrew calendar dates into Gregorian calendar dates

To convert a date specified in Hebrew letters to its Gregorian calendar equivalent, two steps are necessary:

(a) In dates beginning with ז (five thousands count to the creation of the world according to Jewish tradition), the thousands are ignored and each of the remaining letters are added up according to their numerical value.

1 The appendix was researched and drafted by Ms. Orna Goldman.