

# A Legacy of Tolerance

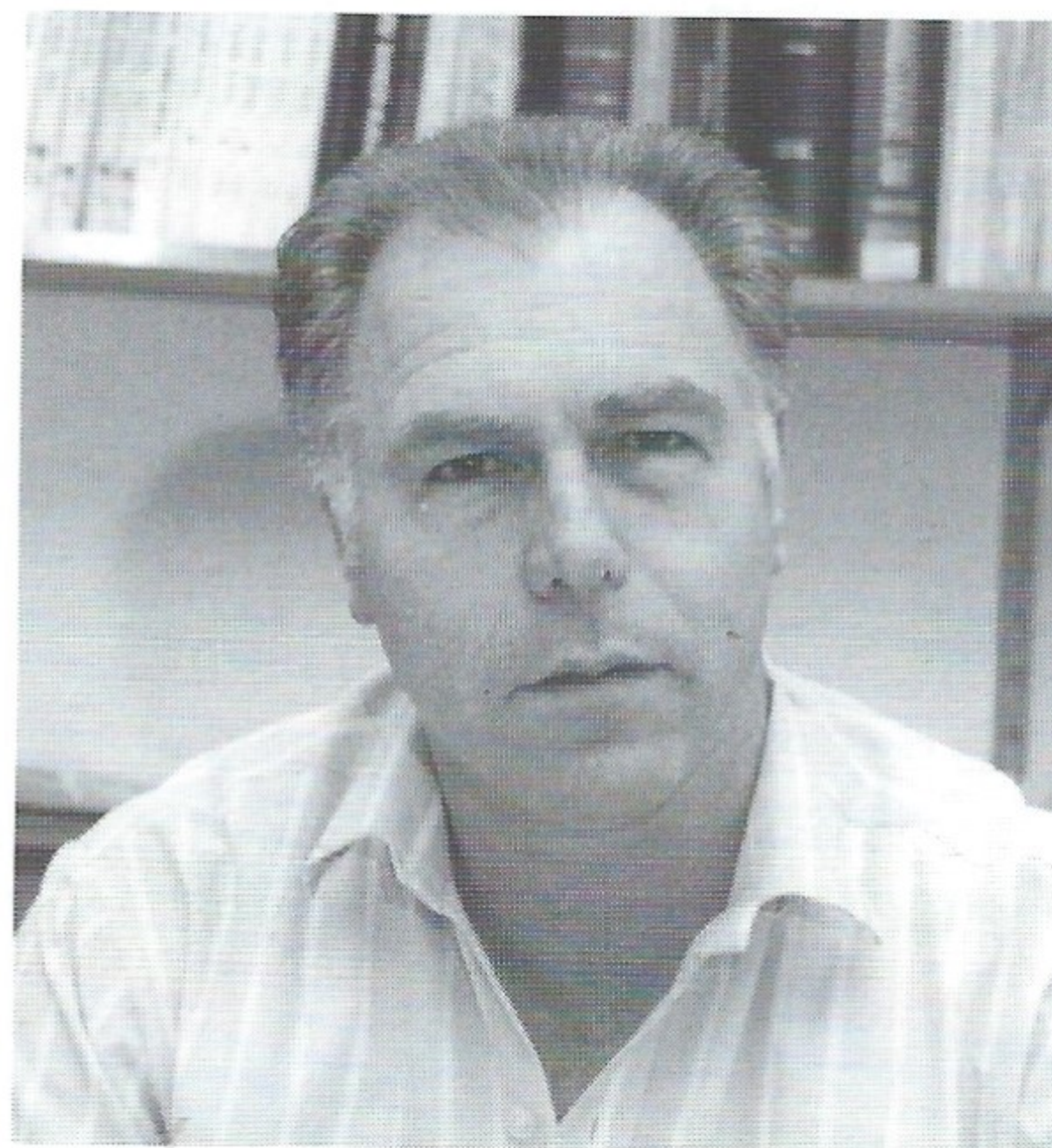
Prof. Ariel Rosen-Zvi, the late Dean of TAU's Buchmann Faculty of Law and one of Israel's most prominent jurists, was memorialized at a ceremony held at TAU to mark thirty days of his passing. Prof. Rosen-Zvi passed away after a five-year fight with cancer at the age of 52. He is survived by his wife and five children.

At the ceremony, colleagues and friends described him as warm and intellectually courageous, and praised his ability to reconcile deep commitments to both Orthodox Judaism and liberal, Western democracy.

A widely-respected jurist and public servant, he was well known for his recent participation in the Shamgar Commission of Inquiry into the assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

The author of numerous books and articles, Prof. Rosen-Zvi received his master's degree in law from the Hebrew University, and

his doctorate from TAU. He was appointed to the academic faculty of TAU in 1971 and served as Dean of the Buchmann Faculty of Law for the last five years. He was one of a group of TAU jurists involved in drafting a proposal for an Israeli Constitution a decade ago.



Prof. Rosen-Zvi

In a moving eulogy, his eldest son Issie Rosen-Zvi described him as a man who believed both in God and in the spirit of man. "Father assimilated the values of humanism and ethics. He was guided by a love of man, faith in the honor of all men, the perception of human individuality as a supreme value, and the acknowledgment of each person's right to control his life and deeds. A call for equal rights for women and all minorities came forth from father's teachings," he added.

Another son, Avri, spoke of his and his father's plans to publish a book together: "Today only an empty title is left in the computer," he said. "Once there were plans, now only memories remain..."

The new Dean of the Faculty, Prof. Eli Lederman, praised Prof. Rosen-Zvi's legal-social doctrine for its contribution to family and

administrative law in Israel. Among Rosen-Zvi's achievements as Dean of the Faculty were the absorption of a new generation of young and talented teachers, the improvement of the Faculty library, the establishment of international ties, and the endorsement of affirmative action for underprivileged students who wish to study at the Faculty.

"A creative religious person who lived in complete harmony with secular friends and colleagues, Rosen-Zvi exemplified the tolerance that is so critical to Israeli society," concluded Prof. Lederman. Adv. Dr. Yaacov Weinrot delivered a eulogy, "Crying for Ariel."

Justice Meir Shamgar, former President of the Supreme Court, described Rosen-Zvi as a "true son of his country, who grew up amidst the greatest struggles and finest moments in the history of the State." He praised the LLM in Judicial Studies Program track developed by Prof. Rosen-Zvi and Prof. Ruth Ben-Yisrael at TAU, and the publication of the *Israeli Law Yearbook*.

Justice Shamgar noted that in matters concerning religion vs. state, Rosen-Zvi formulated operational guidelines for smoothing over areas of contention and preventing the unjustified suppression of one norm by another. "His tolerant and open approach joined opposing parties instead of leading them to a collision," Shamgar observed.



Justice Shamgar