Eliaz Cohen, poet, editor and peace activist

Born in 1972 to a pluralistic religious family, he was named after his uncle, Eliezer Feldman, who was killed in the Sinai Campaign of 1956.

In 1979 the family moved to Elkana in Samaria, where Eliaz grew up. The fact of his being part of a bereaved family and his neiboring to Palestinian villages influenced his world and finds expression in his work.

Cohen studied in the Bnei-Akiva Yeshivot, and served in the armored division of the army.

In 1994 he began to publish his writings in various magazines and newspapers, starting with prose writings which were followed by poetry.

He is an editor of the "Mashiv Haru'ach" journal of poetry, and author of five published collections of poetry. In addition, a bilingual edition (Hebrew-English) of his poetry was published in 2010 by Toby Press, and a collection from his poetry translated to French by Levant publishing house.

Cohen was the recipient of the "Prime Minister Award" for literature in 2006. In recent years he has stood out as a social activist dealing with such issues as religion and state, narrowing socio-economic gaps, and the sanctity of life. During 2009 he was one of founders of "Yerushalom" a movement for dialogue and peace between Palastinians and Israeli Settlers, that led to the founding of "Roots" center in 2014. Another initiatives that Cohen is leading are "Light Tag" - against the jewish vandalism and hateress attacks that under the name "Price Tag", and the new peace initiative "A land for all - 2 States, 1 Homeland".

He is a member in kibbutz Kfar-Etzion, married and a father of four.
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