

## **CURRICULUM VITAE**

### **MR. BINYAMIN (FUAD) BEN ELIEZER**

Mr. Ben Eliezer was born in Iraq. In 1950, at the age of 13, he traveled alone via Iran to Israel where he joined Kibbutz Merhavia.

He was reunited with his family in 1953 after his parents immigrated to Israel. The family settled temporarily in a transition camp in Pardesia.

Mr. Ben Eliezer joined, the Israel Defense Forces at the age of 18, where he embarked on an illustrious military career which spanned over thirty years. Starting out as a soldier and an officer in infantry combat units Mr. Ben Eliezer rose through the ranks to high command positions, including commander of Israeli forces in South Lebanon (where he initiated the “Good Fence” border crossing), commander of the Judea and Samaria region (West Bank), and, thereafter, Coordinator of Government Activities In Judea, Samaria and the Gaza District.

In 1984 he was discharged from the army with the rank of Brigadier General, and turned, almost immediately, to public life.

Mr. Ben Eliezer was elected to the Knesset (Israeli Parliament) in 1984 and has been its member ever since. As a Knesset Deputy, he served as a member and later as the Acting Chairman of the prestigious Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee.

Since the early nineties, Mr. Ben Eliezer has held a broad range of ministerial appointments in a number of governments. His first appointment in the Rabin Government, was Minister of Housing and Construction (1992), followed by an appointment as Minister of Communications in the Bank Government ,(1999) and Minister of Defense in the first Sharon Unity Government (2001).

In November 2001, Mr. Ben Eliezer was elected as Chairman of the Labor Party.

Mr. Ben Eliezer was appointed Minister of National Infrastructures in January 2005, and again in May 2006. In April 2009 Mr. Ben Eliezer was appointed as Minister of Industry, Trade and Labor.

Mr. Ben Eliezer is a graduate of the School of Command and Staff of the Israel Defense Forces, and of the Academy of National Security.

Mr. Ben Eliezer is married and a father of five children.