



# Shadmot Mechola

## PROTECTING A JEWISH PRESENCE IN THE LAND

Located along the eastern border of Israel, Jewish communities in the Jordan Valley are not only biblically significant but are of vital strategic importance as a defense against intrusion from the east. Historically, these communities have lived in relative peace with their Arab neighbors. But last September, during the night of Yom Kippur — the holiest day on the Jewish Calendar— two masked terrorists torched and burned to the ground a farm in Mechola. As firefighting crews fought to put out the flames, community members watched their life's work burn before their eyes. Terror had arrived in the Jordan Valley.

When the original pioneers came to Shadmot Mechola in 1984, there were no fields to plow. Indeed, except for a few neighboring communities that had already begun reclaiming the desert land, there was nothing fertile for miles. But hard work and perseverance, coupled with Israeli innovation in irrigation methods and God's blessing, enabled the moshav to grow and thrive. Today, Shadmot Mechola is the second largest community in the Jordan Valley, with nearly 150 families and an already sold-out housing project under construction that will add forty new homes.

The Yom Kippur arson terror attack in the neighboring community of Mechola, a short walking distance away, coupled with a recent increase in weapons smuggled from Jordan, has created a new reality for the people of Shadmot Mechola. Shooting incidents, Molotov cocktails, and stone-throwing are now commonplace on the roads surrounding the community. A few months back, an Arab terrorist, armed with assault weapons and firebombs, ambushed and attacked a bus transporting soldiers and civilians near Shadmot Mechola. Thankfully, the attack did not result in any loss of life, but next time things could end differently.

The people of Shadmot Mechola have every reason to be frightened. Surrounded by difficult-to-defend terrain, a short distance from the border, the community is ill-equipped to defend against hostile attacks. In the past, criminal infiltrations resulted in stolen property and equipment, including guns. But in light of the new hostile environment, no threat can be taken lightly. Without surveillance equipment to alert security team members of potential terrorist threats, the people of Shadmot Mechola are sitting ducks. Lives are on the line.

**The people of Shadmot Mechola desperately need to install a surveillance system to enable swift detection and effective response to hostile infiltrations. Located near a porous border and hostile Arab neighbors, they are vulnerable to terrorist attacks. Your help will ensure the safety of these inspiring religious pioneers who have dedicated their lives to making the desert bloom in Biblical Israel. Your support will save lives.**

# COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT

- ✧ Founded: 1984
- ✧ Location: Northern Jordan Valley, just over 20 km (14 miles) south of Bet Shean
- ✧ Biblical Significance: Located near Biblical Abel Mechola, home of Elisha the Prophet, where Elijah summoned him as he ploughed his fields
- ✧ Population: 150 families



*You can help Shadmot Mechola with vital surveillance equipment and save lives!*



*Surrounded by a difficult-to-defend terrain, Shadmot Mechola is extremely vulnerable to hostile terror attacks*

## SHADMOT MECHOLA SURVEILLANCE

### PROJECT BUDGET

Surveillance System, Infrastructure & Installation .....	\$305,655
Government Support .....	-148,790
<b>TOTAL FUNDS REQUIRED .....</b>	<b>\$156,865</b>

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