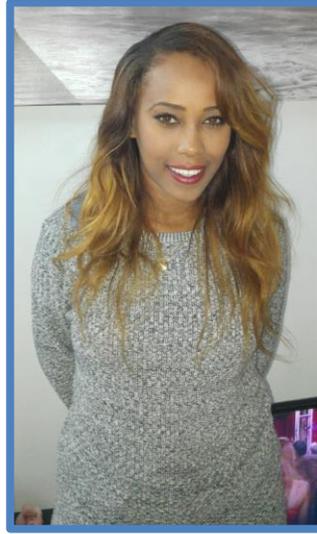




## Israel at Heart Ethiopian Program Scholarship Student 2015/2016



**Mazal Menashe**  
**Law and Government**

An ambitious and modest young woman, Mazal Menashe has recently embarked on two new journeys in life: her studies in Law and Government at IDC, and marriage.

Mazal was born in Addis Ababa, and moved to Israel with her family during Operation Solomon in 1991, when she was one month old. When Mazal was born, it was quite a difficult period for her mother, and so she named her "Asemash", which means "to listen" in Amharic, as a way of asking God to listen to her prayers.

The family first moved to an absorption center in Mabu'im in the South, near Be'er Sheva. They lived there for year until moving to Netivot, where they lived until Mazal was 6, and then Ashdod, where they live today. Her mother is a carer for the elderly and her father works in a factory. Mazal is the second youngest of five siblings.

She attended boarding schools, one near Eilat and another in Kfar Silver youth village, near Ashkelon.

Mazal will soon be moving to an apartment in Herzliya with her husband of two months, who she met in the army; he is still serving in as an officer.

She was drafted to the IDF in 2010, and completed training in the Logistics Corps as an outstanding soldier. After serving in the Paratroopers Brigade for two months, she was asked to go to officers' training, which she accepted. Her roles included being a logistics officer in the Nachal Brigade and



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second commander for the 894 rescue unit, where she was responsible for a company of 150 soldiers. Mazal was released from the army after five years with the rank of Lieutenant.

She met her husband while serving as an officer on a training base in the South, and spends her free time with him and the rest of her family.

Mazal chose to study at IDC because she wanted to study both Law and Government, and it was the only college that offered that opportunity. *"In my opinion it's the best possible platform,"* she says. *"I always wanted to study law, since I was a little girl. I believe in law and justice."*

In the future, Mazal hopes to be a successful career woman. *"I want to be a role model,"* she says, *"and for people to look up to me. I believe that if you're very determined and motivated, you can get anything that you want."*

Mazal is extremely thankful for the opportunity that has been given to her, and hopes that one day she will be able to give to others the way she has been given to.

