

אוניברסיטת תל-אביב ראשת החוג ללימודי התרבות העברית Tel Aviv University Chair of Hebrew Culture Studies

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## A letter of recommendation for Dr. Rami Saari

I met Dr. Saari when we were both teachers of 'Hebrew as a Second Language' in the Rothberg International School of the Hebrew University, Jerusalem. Rami was a graduate student in the linguistics department at The Hebrew University and had a wonderful reputation of an excellent, professional, devoted, loved, and inspiring teacher. He was then starting to gain his reputation as a promising young poet and as a unique and gifted translator. The list of his translator form Finish, Albanian, Spanish, Estonian, Greek, Hungarian, Portuguese, and Catalan is very long and impressive. As a fruitful translator he widened the cultural horizons of Hebrew readers by introducing them to the world's classic and modern literature with eye opening scholarly introductions. Saari is involved in worldwide cultural activities and gatherings. His masters perfectly, Spanish, Finish and Modern Greek and of course Hebrew and English .

Dr. Saari won the 2010 Asraf award of the Hebrew Language Academy. This prize followed other awards: The Israeli Prime Minister Prize for literature, The Ministry of Science Prize, and the highest Israeli prize for translators: Tschernichovsky Prize .

Along this fruitful cultural activity Saari managed to engage himself in two equally demanding yet successful activities: 1) He won scholarships to stud y Semitic and Uralic languages at the Universities of Helsinki, Budapest and Jerusalem and finishing his PhD studies in linguistics at the Hebrew University, Jerusalem. He wrote a very original dissertation on 'Maltese Prepositions' under the supervision of the late eminent Israeli Semitic Scholar, Prof. Goldenberg. It was published as a book in 2003. 2) Saari thought Hebrew as second language and Hebrew literature in various academic institutions: in Jerusalem, Boston, Helsinki, and Budapest. He won

everywhere the admiration and love of his students and the appreciation and respect of his fellow teachers .

As a native Hebrew speaker and poet and as a linguist who masters so many languages and understands their inner mechanism, Saari brings to his teaching a unique combination of sensitivity and deep knowledge.

He is extremely devoted to his work and any institution that will hire him will gain a devoted and friendly stuff member as well as an excellent teacher and a intellectual, and a respected acclaimed poet, translator and editor. I see no one who can compete with this unique combination of merits. I wish my department could have offered him a job, and I recommend him to you enthusiastically.

Yours Cordially

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