

CHOF BEIS SHVAT

Reflections of a Chossid

Not much is known about the Rebbetzin. Her private life was carefully guarded, her privacy vigilantly maintained. So discreet was she that for many it was only when they observed the Rebbe after her passing that they realized what she meant to him.

Those present in the days following the Rebbetzin's Histalkus, will recall the intense grief the Rebbe displayed and the tears he openly shed. Only then did the Chassidim begin to understand who the Rebbetzin truly was and what she meant for the Rebbe. For the Chassidim present it was heartrending to behold...

When approaching a day like Chof-Beis Shevat, we, as Chassidim, naturally contemplate what this day meant for the Rebbe. The wealth of Sichos in which the Rebbe spoke about the Rebbetzin, reveal many insights into the special Neshoma she possessed, and the crucial role she played in Dor Hashvi'i.

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On the Shabbos following Chof-Beis Shevat, 5748 (still during the Shiva) the Rebbe spoke about the Neshomos of Tzaddikim (and Tzidkoniyyos) that descend from "Atzilus" and have no connection with evil-forces. These special Neshomos don't need to go through long processes of "Tikunim", but are elevated by Hashem Himself! (*Sefer Hasichos* 5748 pg. 262).

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At the conclusion of the Shiva, the Rebbe said a Sichah in his home, thanking all those who sent consoling wishes and calling upon Chassidim to establish Torah institutions in the Rebbetzin's memory.

The Rebbe went on to say that the Z'chus of those who sent words of comfort is all the more great since the one who passed on is the daughter of a Nossi. According to Chazal that "*Ish mazria t'chila yoledes nekeiva*", a daughter is more connected to her father than a son. Since this Nossi is in direct sequence to all the preceding Rabbeim, the power of the Rebbetzin to bring blessings to all the comforters is great - not only in her own right, due to her own good-deeds, but in the merit of all the Rabbeim as well! (*Sefer Hasichos* 5748 pg. 273).

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On Motzei Shabbos Teruma 5748, the Rebbe said a Sichah in his home on a wide variety of subjects - beginning by again thanking all those who expressed their wishes after the Rebbetzin's passing.



Mentioning the Rebbetzin, the Rebbe noted that one of her last accomplishments during her physical lifetime was the pivotal testimony she gave, "My father, along with all his Seforim and manuscripts, belong to the Chassidim".

With this statement, she attested to the eternity of Toras Hachassidus and the eternity of its leaders, the Rabbeim, who will carry on through the coming of Moshiach. While this is a true fact regardless, she had the special ability and her words carried such power, they impressed the secular judge. Her words conveyed and revealed the unbreakable connection between a Rebbe and his Chassidim so clearly, that even an earthly court, in a material, physical world, gave a verdict corroborating her words.

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The Rebbe and Rebbetzin had been a source of blessing for so many, but they were not to have children of their own. A young boy once visited the Rebbetzin's home and naively asked her, Rebbetzin, where are your children? The Rebbetzin responded: All Chassidim are the Rebbe's children.