

The Rebbe; *Our* Nossi

Throughout the years, the Rebbe constantly assured us that even years after his Histalkus, a Rebbe remains connected to his Chassidim much as he was before and it remains our duty to strengthen our Hiskashrus with each passing year. The following is a small selection of Sichos on this subject.

Eternal Two-way Bond¹

THE TZADDIK REMAINS CONNECTED BELOW

After a Neshoma leaves this world, its connection to the physical world will vary through different stages. During the first twelve months for example, we are told that the Neshoma constantly ascends and subsethey want to be.

This is especially true after their passing because Tzaddikim are greater after their passing than during their lifetime (as stated in Masechta Chullin). Hence, the Tzaddik is given the option to remain connected to the physical world even after the completion of the twelve-month period – if he decides that it is in his better interest to do so.

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quently descends, but when the twelvemonth period ends, it only ascends, without coming down anymore.

Although the above is true regarding all *Yidden* – great *Tzaddikim* and simple people alike - nevertheless, a select few are not bound by this protocol. Chaza"l tell us that very great *Tzaddikim* are given control over what happens in this world "צדיק גוזר") and והקב"ה מקיים; הקב"ה גוזר וצדיק מבטל") are therefore capable of deciding where it is

THE REBBE'S MESIRUS NEFESH

The (Frierdiker) Rebbe is one who most certainly wishes to remain with us here in this lowly world.

Throughout his lifetime we observed how he willingly sacrificed his material and spiritual welfare for the sake of his fellow Jew. [This he based on the premise set by the Alter Rebbe that Ahavas Yisroel is the basis for Ahavas Hashem; when one focuses on Ahavas Yisroel, not only will this not negate in his personal service of Hashem, on the contrary, it only strengthens his Ahavas

We also find in the Gemora that once a person has completed most of the years of his life in good conduct, he can be certain that things will continue in this manner.

In our instance: the (Frierdiker) Rebbe sacrificed himself throughout his lifetime for others; we can be sure that now as well – even after the twelve-month period when the Neshoma typically only goes higher and ceases its connection with this world - the (Frierdiker) Rebbe continues to stay connected with us here.

Despite the fact that while remaining on high he would enjoy many heavenly revelations, nevertheless he negates these 'delights' in his desire to do good for others. His love and care is unconditional and beyond reason, as we saw time and again throughout his lifetime.

AT THE YEAR'S CONCLUSION: STRENGTHENING OUR HISKASHRUS

Practically speaking:

We now have passed the (Frierdiker) Rebbe's first *Yom-Hilula*.

[It should be noted that all along, I have tried to avoid the use of the term "first

Yortzeit"; when I feel the need to say "first" I say "the first *Hilula*." We all hope that there will not be any more than one Yortzeit², for we will see the fulfillment of the Possuk "הקיצו ורננו שוכני עפר, and we will no longer commemorate any Yortzeit's, only Hilula's (which are applicable after Techiyas Hameisim as well).]

Some may think that, Chas Ve'Sholom, our Hiskashrus with the Rebbe is now weakened somewhat. The truth though, is quite to the contrary. Now that the (Frierdiker) Rebbe is continuously going higher and higher, there is more in his power to share with us here below, making it easier for us to strengthen ourselves in doing what he would want of us; i.e. the Shlichus he gave each of us.

"DER REBBE HUT ALTZ BAVORNT"

This is also the reply to those who have been asking whether or not to continue reciting the (Frierdiker) Rebbe's Kapitel each day even after Yud Shevat, and if yes, until when must this continue? The answer is: continue saying it until Yud Beis Tammuz, when the (Frierdiker) Rebbe will grow one year older and we will move on to recite the following Kapitel. For even after the Neshoma leaves the body, there is reason to say that she still grows from year to year. This can be proven based on various Torah sources, but one clear indication in this regard can be found in the (Frierdiker) Rebbe's own writings:

[I have stated already a long time ago: the (Frierdiker) Rebbe has already explained and clarified everything we need to know ("דער רבי האט אלץ באווארנט") we must only identify where in his writings a subject is discussed, either explicitly or in allusion.]

In a *Reshima* recorded by the (Frierdiker) Rebbe after his arrival in the United States. he writes of a vision he had of his Father where he commentated on his new Kapitel – Pei-Dalit - years after he had long passed on. Clearly then, the Rebbe is indicating, even after the Histalkus, the Neshoma continues to grow year by year.

Constantly Increasing³

BLESSINGS CONTINUE INCREASINGLY

Throughout his lifetime, the (Frierdiker) Rebbe imparted to us great capabilities, including the power of true Mesirus Nefesh, enabling us to accomplish the missions he gave us and follow his teachings.

But this stream of blessing from the Rebbe does not end with his *Histalkus*. After his passing, his care and concern for us only grows stronger, for, as the Alter Rebbe assures us in Iggeres Hakodesh, a true leader won't forsake his people. As the Gemora relates about Moshe Rabeinu, the first faithful shepherd of the Jewish people, מה להלן "עומד ומשמש אף כאן עומד ומשמש, he continues to serve his people from on high.

MORE THAN TWENTY YEARS!

We are now standing twenty years after the Histalkus. In Torah, we find a clear example by Shimshon, whose role was similar to that of a Nossi, taking care of the Yidden in all matters, and who continued to lead his people even twenty years after his passing.

The Talmud Yerushalmi states:

One *Possuk* says of Shimshon "He judged the people for forty years", while another Possuk says "He judged the people for twenty years," implying that the Pelishtim were afraid of him for twenty years after his passing, just as they were during his lifetime.

What happened after the twenty year period was over? We cannot assume that after the twenty years there was a decline in Jewish leadership, for holiness only gets stronger with time, "מעלין בקדש".

Concerning the leadership of Shimshon,

he was succeeded by another Shofet twenty years later, however, regarding a Nossi מי יתן לנו תמורתו" his Nesius only grows stronger from year to year, even after twenty years!4

Leading us Out of Golus⁵

THE REBBE WILL LEAD US OUT OF **GALUS!**

May Hashem help that the (Frierdiker) Rebbe will come back in a Guf and lead us out of Galus! True, the normal order of things is that *Techiyas Hameisim* will only be after the coming of Moshiach, but certain select individuals ("Yechidei segula") will be able to arise earlier⁶. Beginning with my father-in-law, the Rebbe; he will come back in a Guf (no difference how; whether through the door, the window, or the roof) - he'll gather all the Jewish people and announce: "It's time to leave the Galus! Let us go to Eretz Hakodesh!

- 1. Based on the Sicha of Yud Shevat, 5711, as it appears in Lekutei Sichos vol. 2 pg. 494, with some additions from the Rebbe's original words as they can be heard on the audio recording of the Farbrengen.
- 2. The Rebbe cried while saying these words.
- 3. The following are short excerpts of an incredible Sicha said by the Rebbe on Motzoei Shabbos, Yud Shevat, 5730. For a better comprehension of the subjects discussed, it is advisable to see the Sicha in its entirety as it appears in SIchos Kodesh 5730 vol. 1 pg. 412, or listen to the recording of the Farbrengen, Sicha 6.
- 4. שבט תשמ"ג: "מציאותה של בכללות הענין, ראה בשיחת י' שבט תשמ"ג: הנשמה נצחית היא גם לאחרי ההסתלקות. וכאשר מדובר אודות נשמתו של נשיא בישראל - אזי מתבטא ענין הנצחיות שבנשמה גם בענין הנשיאות, כלומר שפעולתו בעולם (שזהו תוכן ענין הנשיאות) היא גם באופן נצחי..." עיי"ש באריכות הביאור. (התוועדויות תשמ"ג ח"ב עמ' 890 ואילך).
- 5. Sicha Shavuos, 5710. (Toras Menachem Vol. 1 pg.
- 6. See the Rebbe's handwritten response published in the Expanded Derher - Shevat 5772.