

THE REBBETZIN'S YAHRTZEIT



THE REBBE DELIVERS A SICHA IN THE OVERLY CROWDED SHUL AT 770, CHOF BEIS SHEVAT, 5752 (CREDIT: M. ASMIN / LUBAVITCH ARCHIVES)

In the years that followed, the Rebbe always made mention of the Rebbetzin on *Chof Beis Shevat*. In 5749, *Chof Beis Shevat* fell out to be on a *Shabbos*. The Rebbe dedicated almost the entire *Farbrengen* speaking about the *Yahrtzeit*.

The next year, 5750, *Chof Beis Shevat* fell out on *Shabbos* as well. The Rebbe connected every point spoken about throughout the *Farbrengen* to the *Yahrtzeit*.

In 5751, the first annual *Kinus Hashluchos* took place in Crown Heights on *Shabbos Parshas Mishpatim*, following *Chof Beis Shevat*. On Sunday, 26 Shevat, the Rebbe addressed the women who attended the *Kinus*.

KOVETZ CHOF BEIS SHEVAT

In 5752, on the night of *Chof Beis Shevat*, the Rebbe davened *Maariv* at the *Amud* in 770 as he would every year. Following *davening*, the Rebbe ascended upon his *bima* and began to say a short *sicha*. Due to the enormous crowd that had come to be with the Rebbe for this day, the Rebbe's *bima* was filled mostly with elder *Chassidim* and only a small enclosed area remained for the Rebbe to stand near his *shtender* (see picture).

Speaking about the Rebbetzin, the Rebbe made special mention of the fact that she has the merit of having so many children named after her.

After the *sicha*, the Rebbe distributed a pamphlet to all of the *Chassidim*; men, women, and children.

The pink-colored booklet (the color was chosen by the Rebbe's special request) entitled "*Kovetz Chof Beis Shevat*" contained *sichos* and letters of the Rebbe regarding the role and unique qualities of the Jewish Woman, and was handed to each and every individual, along with a five dollar bill and a piece of *lekach*. The Rebbe stood for many long hours until the entire crowd managed to pass by, eventually handing out a total of over ten-thousand booklets!

During the distribution itself, the Rebbe seemed to be high spirited, and he encouraged the singing in a manner that looked similar to the way he would at *Kos Shel Brocha*. When a young girl went by and told the Rebbe that her name is *Chaya Mushka*, the Rebbe responded:

"וחי, זאלסטו לאנג לעבן מיט געזונטע יארן" ("Chaya; you should live long and healthy years!") ■