



HANDS THAT GIVE

Tzedakah To Children

A common scene in 770, after rallies or in and out of *tefillos*, was the Rebbe's constant distribution of coins for tzedakah exclusively to children under the ages of bar and bas mitzvah. This practice began formally during 'Shnas Hachinuch' - 5736*, when the Rebbe showed a special interest and focused on education, specifically of children.

לע"נ
הילדה התמימה אלטא מינא ע"ה
בת יבלחט"א הרה"ח הרה"ת
ר' ישכר שלמה ומרת שיינא שיחיו
טייכטל

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כ"ג טבת ה'תש"נ
ת.נ.צ.ב.ה.

נדפס ע"י
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The Rebbe would make sure that each child received the coin themselves directly in their hands, and if near a *pushkah*, would often wait for the child to put the coin in.



STISHREI 15745, LEVI FREIDIN VIA JEM 213484



2 CHESHVAN 5746, LEVI FREDIN VIA JEM 271521



4 TISHREI 5747, VELVEL SCHILDKRAUT VIA JEM 749170

The Rebbe motions to a child to put the coin in the *pushkah*.



2 CHESHVAN 5746, LEVI FREIDIN VIA JEM 271321



ELUL 5737, LEVI FREDIN VIA JEM 209579



24 ELUL 5741, LEVI FREDIN VIA JEM 200432

At the start of this practice circa 5736*, there were times that the Rebbe himself lifted children who could not reach the *pushkah* on their own.

These distributions would often be lengthy, especially during the month of Tishrei. On one occasion, while entering the main shul for Shacharis on the fourth day of Chol Hamoed Sukkos 5748* at approximately 10:00 a.m., the Rebbe began distributing coins for a full 45 minutes (!), before starting *Hodu*.





20 TISHREI 5748, LEVI FREIDIN VIA JEM 15927



20 TISHREI 5748, LEVI FREIDIN VIA JEM 15940



20 TISHREI 5748, LEVI FREIDIN VIA JEM 15936



20 TISHREI 5748, LEVI FREIDIN VIA JEM 15939

Reb Shmaryahu Katzen related:

One Chol Hamoed, I stood upstairs in 770 with two of my children who were very young at the time to receive coins from the Rebbe. Next to me was a Jew who did not look like a Lubavitcher Chossid, but seemed like a *choshuve Yid* with a special *levush*, watching as the Rebbe went around to each child.

After all the children received and put their coins in the *pushkah*, the Rebbe suddenly stopped right in front of this Yid and myself, pointed or somehow faced towards my children and said to him these words: “אט האסטו דא מעשה האסטו דא הבל שאין בו חטא, אט האסטו דא מעשה האסטו דא הבל שאין בו חטא – here you have ‘breath without sin,’ here you have ‘deed without sin’” and then continued walking.

I assumed that this Jew whoever he was, was wondering why the Rebbe was putting such an emphasis in having the small children give tzedakah.



CHOL HAMOED SUKKOS 5740, LEVI FREIDIN VIA JEM 192436



20 TISHREI 5742, LEVI FREIDIN VIA JEM 202064



CHOL HAMOED SUKKOS 5740, LEVI FREDIN VIA JEM 192526

“We have recently been *koching* about educating Jewish children in the mitzvah of tzedakah, through giving them a coin to put into the tzedakah *pushkah*. There are those who look for problems, and argue: What’s the point? Children are not obligated to fulfill mitzvos and they don’t even have their own money.

“The answer lies in a clear *possuk*: חנוך לנער גו' גם כי יזקין'—לא יסור ממנה—Educate a child... even in his old age he will not deviate from it.’ When you teach a child to put money into a *pushkah*, he will certainly continue doing so when he grows up. This trains his hand to be ‘a hand that distributes tzedakah.’”

(*Simchas Torah 5737*)



13 TISHREI 5748, LEVI FREDIN VIA JEM 15114