



לעבן מיטן רבי'ן



FARBRENGEN 10 SHEVAT 5746.

ע"י בנם  
ר' יקותיאל יהודה  
וזוגתו מרת פּעסל לאה ומשפחתם שיחיו  
רוהר

טור 'לעבן מיטן רבי'ן' הוקדש לזכרון ולעילוי נשמת  
ר' שמואל ב"ר יהושע אליהו ז"ל  
ואשתו מרת שרה ע"ה בת ר' יקותיאל ומרת לאה ה"ד  
ת"נ צ"ב

# “Leave The Questions In Galus!”

SHEVAT 5746\*



**T**he month of Shevat 5746\* was a particularly eventful month. In addition to the regular excitement associated with Yud Shevat and the influx of visitors, all of this year's highlights were in the shadow of the *sefarim* court case.<sup>1</sup>

Another unique event that occurred this month was a surprise dollar distribution on Yud-Alef Shevat, which was the first of its

kind. The next time such a thing took place was three months later on Yud-Alef Nissan. Retrospectively, Chassidim realized that what had occurred that day in Shevat was a precursor to the famous ‘Sunday Dollars.’

Much of the material used here was collected from the diary of Meir Yechiel Herschkovich, a *bochur* in 770 at the time, and was supplemented by other yomanim.

## SHABBOS PARSHAS VAEIRA - ROSH CHODESH SHEVAT

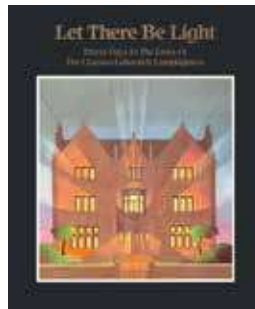
During the Shabbos farbrengen,<sup>2</sup> the Rebbe distributed *l'chaim* to several Chassidim as a form of participation in different events that were taking place in the coming week.

Reb Zushe Silberstein brought a group of college students from Montreal for the “Pegisha” Shabbaton, and in between *sichos* the Rebbe acknowledged them and smiled at them.

At the conclusion of the farbrengen, the Rebbe instructed the father of Chazzan Moshe Teleshevsky (who was absent at the time) to sing “*sheyiboneh*” in place of his son, and encouraged the singing from different sections of the crowd.

### FRIDAY - 7 SHEVAT

Before Shabbos, three new *sefarim* were brought to the Rebbe; the two most recent releases of the Friediker Rebbe’s *maamarim* (5680\*-81\*, 5682\*-83\*), and a book called “*Let There Be Light*,” a photographic album chronicling the international menorah lighting ceremonies arranged by Chabad this year. These three *sefarim* were recently published at the behest of the Rebbe.<sup>3</sup>



Shortly before candle-lighting, a large crowd stood outside the library (where the Rebbe and Rebbetzin would be staying for Shabbos), singing enthusiastically as the Rebbe arrived. Walking into the library, the Rebbe waved one hand to encourage the singing, and held the photo album in his other hand.

### SHABBOS PARSHAS BO - 8 SHEVAT

Many of the guests who came for Yud Shevat arrived before Shabbos.

In the first *sicha* of the farbrengen, the Rebbe raised his voice and passionately addressed the *shturem* that the Friediker Rebbe had made regarding teaching children *kriah*. He took a strong stance that children should be taught how to read with the traditional “*kamatz alef uh*” method, and to avoid the adoption of supposedly faster modern approaches.



JEM 24092, VIA YOSHI MELAMED, 29 KISLEV 5746

The end of the fourth *sicha* was about Yidden who are so reluctant to leave *galus*, that “בשלח פרעה—Paraoh will have to send them out.” The Rebbe then concluded, “Instead of mentioning this undesirable possibility, let us better sing a *niggun simcha*.”

Chassidim began to sing the *niggun* “*U'beyom Simchaschem*.” At first, the Rebbe held a solemn expression, but once he started waving his hands and the singing picked up steam, his expression became more joyous.

While clapping his hands and encouraging the singing, the Rebbe instructed several of the assembled to say *l'chaim* on a large cup. One of them had recently brought some facsimiles of rare handwritten manuscripts of the Rambam’s *Pirush Hamishnayos*, which the Rebbe had greatly appreciated. When the singing reached a crescendo, the Rebbe waved his hands with great energy.

The Rebbe then distributed several bottles of *l'chaim*. Reb Yossel Wineberg received a bottle in honor of the farbrengen he was arranging the next day, celebrating the printing of the final *sefarim* of *Shiurim B'Sefer haTanya* (thus completing the set).

Also receiving bottles were Reb Mordechai Avtzon and Reb Dovid Chanzin, for the farbrengens that were to be held in their respective locations of Hong Kong and Petach Tikvah.

Towards the end of the farbrengen, there was a minor scuffle that caused a disturbance but was silenced after the Rebbe turned and gave a look in that direction.

After Mincha, the fellow who was responsible for the disturbance, approached the Rebbe and asked for a *bracha* that he should be a *mentch*. The Rebbe responded “*bekarov mamosh*.” He then wished the Rebbe a *bracha* for good health, to which the Rebbe answered “*amen*.”



10 SHEVAT 5746\*

### SUNDAY - 9 SHEVAT

The Rebbe instructed the team of “Sichos In English” to prepare a *sefer* out of the booklets they had previously published, to hire more editorial staff, and to have the *sefer* ready by the upcoming Erev Shabbos. Indeed, the team swiftly got to work, and spent the next few days and nights working around the clock to have the *sefer* ready within five days.

### MONDAY - YUD SHEVAT

The Rebbe was *chazzan* for all the *tefillos*. After Shacharis, ten Mitzvah Tanks took to the streets to do *mitvzoim*.

Due to the many visitors, the shul downstairs was packed for the farbrengen (even more full than Yud-Tes Kislev), especially near the *bima*. As a result, it took a little longer for the Rebbe to enter. The Rebbe noticed that an elderly man was forced to stand as there were no seats, and expressed displeasure.

Throughout the *niggunim*, the Rebbe constantly encouraged the singing. The Rebbe also said *l'chaim* to the camera crew. At various intervals in the farbrengen the Rebbe spoke to Reb Efraim Yolles. After the Rebbe said the *maamar* (*Basi Legani*) *ke'ein sicha*, Chassidim sang *Didan Notzach* and the Rebbe was particularly joyous.<sup>4</sup>

Although dollars had been prepared for the Rebbe to distribute to the *tankisten* at the end of the farbrengen, the Rebbe did not distribute the dollars and left right after *bracha acharona* while singing *Ki V'simcha*.

### TUESDAY - YUD ALEF SHEVAT

Today, the Rebbe arrived in 770, and went into his room. Immediately afterward, Rabbi Groner announced that the Rebbe would soon distribute dollar bills to anyone who would come. A table was procured and set up in the lobby outside the Rebbe's room with the dollar bills lined up.

The Rebbe came out of his room in a silk *kapota* and *gartel* and began to distribute the dollar bills. Every individual who passed by received a dollar.

At first, there were not many people, but once the word of this unprecedented event spread, thousands flocked to 770. There were separate lines for men, women, and children, and all three groups rotated throughout the distribution.

When the preschool classes in Beis Rivka approached the Rebbe, the Rebbe's face lit up, and he nodded to the *morahs* who brought them.

A Yemenite Jew approached and sang the *possuk* “*Yaavducha amim v'yishtachavu lecha leumim*” in a Yemenite tune, and the Rebbe responded “*amen*.”

At a certain point, the line was stopped and the Rebbe sent out dollars to be distributed to those who did not yet receive. Before leaving, the Rebbe noticed an elderly woman standing by the door and asked her if she had received a dollar. When she answered that she had not, the Rebbe gave one to her.

Altogether, the Rebbe stood and distributed dollars for approximately three consecutive hours.

Later in the day the Rebbe went to the Ohel. As he was about to enter the car, a woman approached the Rebbe and asked for *tzedakah*. The Rebbe gave her a coin. She then complained to the Rebbe that she had been pushed when trying to approach. The Rebbe responded (in English) that they didn't





11 NISSAN 5746

mean it. She then informed the Rebbe that her heart is in pain, and the Rebbe responded, "We must be happy as there is a wedding soon."

#### WEDNESDAY - YUD BEIS SHEVAT

*Yechidus kloris* took place tonight for three groups; guests, bar mitzvah boys, and *chassanim-kallos*. Member of the Israeli Knesset Moshe Katzav was scheduled to arrive after the crowds left for an opportunity to speak to the Rebbe, but ultimately he did not make it in time and instead toured 770 at midnight.

The wedding of the grandson of Reb Mendel Futerfas and the daughter of Reb Yudel Krinsky took place.

Dr. Weiss related that he asked the Rebbe whether to come in for Yud Shevat or for the wedding, and the Rebbe told him to come for the latter, explaining that a wedding is higher than Torah.

#### SHABBOS PARSHAS BESHALACH - CHAMISHA ASAR B'SHVAT

A large fruit platter was brought to the farbrengen and the Rebbe partook from some grapes.

The third *sicha* culminated in a passionate plea about *galus*. The Rebbe held back tears as he spoke. "*Hert zich ain Yidden*, go out and scream with joy that Hashem must send the Yidden out of *galus*! Ay, you have *kashyos*? Go out of *galus* and leave the *kashyos* in *galus*!"

The Rebbe then distributed *mashke* for eight events and gatherings taking place in the upcoming week.

In the fourth *sicha*, the Rebbe spoke about and encouraged the grand *siyumei haRambam* being planned for Rosh Chodesh Adar II.<sup>5</sup> The Rebbe urged the organisers to up the ante, to ensure that the *siyum* should be greater than last year and even more than what was already planned for this year. Bottles of *mashke* were given to those involved in the preparations.

At the end of the farbrengen, the Rebbe said that "*Bnei Heichala*" should be sung and encouraged its singing.

The echoes of the *sicha* about *galus* were strongly felt. After Mincha, Chassidim sang *Zol Shoin Zain Di Geulah*. Also, later that night a farbrengen was held in the upstairs *zal* for *anash* and *bochurim*. The words '*ad mosai*' and '*daloi galus*' were added to every *niggun*.

#### SHABBOS PARSHAS YISRO - CHOF BEIS SHEVAT

Much to the surprise of many Chassidim, there was no farbrengen this Shabbos. This was the first time the Rebbe didn't farbreng on Shabbos since the beginning of the *sefarim* case on Yud-Tes Kislev.

#### TUESDAY - CHOF HEI SHEVAT

Before Mincha, the news arrived of the passing of Rabbi Yaakov Landa, the rav of Bnei Brak. After Mincha, Rabbi Groner approached Rabbi



RABBI YAAKOV LANDA, THE RAV  
OF BNEI BRAK.

Moshe Ashkenazi and handed him a note from the Rebbe instructing him to go to the Ohel and ask the Friediker Rebbe to inform his father, the Rebbe Rashab, of the passing of Rabbi Landa.

#### THURSDAY - CHOF ZAYIN SHEVAT

This morning, two Yidden from Migdal Ha'emek came to 770. They brought the Rebbe a note detailing their issues for which they sought *brachos*. One had a son who was to undergo a liver transplant and required necessary publicity (to find a donor), and the other also had a sick child.

To the first person, the Rebbe wrote to follow the expert medical advice of the two doctors who are dealing with it, and "*Azkir al hatziyun.*" The second person also received the response "*Azkir al hatziyun.*"

#### FRIDAY - CHOF CHES SHEVAT

This morning, a group of *baalei-batim* from Lyon, France waited outside 770 for the Rebbe to arrive. Among them was the mayor of the city. At 10:00 the Rebbe exited his car and warmly greeted them with a salute. Once in his room, the Rebbe informed Rabbi Groner that he wished to give them each a dollar bill for *tzedakah*. The Rebbe then stood in the lobby outside *Gan Eden Hatachton* and presented each of them with a dollar.

#### SHABBOS PARSHAS MISHPATIM - CHOF TES SHEVAT

In between *sichos* of the farbrengen this Shabbos, Reb Shimon Goldman approached the Rebbe to receive a bottle of *mashke* for the annual *melava malka* of the Gemach Shomrei Shabbos. As is the custom each year, he put on a *shtreimel* and told a story to the crowd.

The story was that Reb Nochum of Chernobyl once lodged with a simple villager, and as customary, he woke up at midnight to say *tikkun chatzos*. The villager noticed Reb Nochum crying and asked him, "Is there anything you need? Can I offer you some food?" Reb Nochum answered him, "I am crying for the Beis Hamikdash that was destroyed, and davening that we should be able to return Yerushalayim."

Reb Nochum then asked the villager, "When Moshiach comes, would you want to come to Yerushalayim?" The villager said, "I must ask my wife and see if she agrees." Upon his return, he told



JEM 197546 (24 TISHREI 5744), VIA LEVI FREIDIN

Reb Nochum, "My wife says that life is good over here. We have a house, a cow and everything we need. There's no need to go to Yerushalayim." Reb Nochum then asked, "What if the Cossacks come and take away your house and cow?" Stumped, the villager went back to consult his wife. When he returned, he told Reb Nochum, "My wife says that you should daven that the Cossacks go to Yerushalayim so that we can remain here in peace."

The Rebbe smiled throughout the story and gestured several times that Reb Shimon should face the crowd and address them, instead of facing the Rebbe. Later in the farbrengen, in the *sicha* regarding *n'shei u'bnos Chabad*, the Rebbe said that now there is no need to bring such stories from *Poilisher tzaddikim* as today's Jewish women want Moshiach to come.

At the end of the farbrengen, the Rebbe sought Chazzan Moshe Teleshevsky to sing *sheyiboneh*, but neither he nor his father were there. The Rebbe turned to the pyramid of *bochurim* and a *bochur* from France took the cue and started to sing *sheyiboneh* upon the Rebbe's encouragement. The Rebbe then gave some *mezonos* to the organizers of the *kinus N'shei u'Bnos Chabad*, and that concluded the farbrengen. **T**

1. Much of the year 5746 has previously been serialized in Derher, searchable at [index.derher.org](http://index.derher.org).
2. This farbrengen was edited a mere two days later, on Monday. The Rebbe was seen looking over the *hanacha* while in the car on the way to the Ohel.
3. See *Hei Teves, Behind the Scenes*, Derher Teves 5779.
4. In the recording of the farbrengen the Rebbe can be heard singing along to *Didan Notzach*.
5. The Rebbe was *magiah* this *sicha* several days later, and although every *sicha* generally went through two layers of edits, a copy of the first edited draft was given to the *orchim* who were traveling back on Sunday before the second edit was completed.