

# "אתה הא-ל עושה פלא"

## YUD-ALEPH NISSAN WITH THE REBBE

As Purim passed, the spirit of Yud-Alef Nissan is palpable in the atmosphere at 770.

On Motzei Shabbos Parshas Shemini, 23 Adar II, the Rebbe held a fabrengen in honor of Shabbos mevorchim Nissan.

At the conclusion of the farbrengen, the Rebbe gave out kos shel brocha. Before the distribution began, the Rebbe gave Rabbi Moshe Yeruslavsky the leftover challah and water from the farbrengen, to be given to the guests that were already in town, as well as for those who would still come for Yud-Alef Nissan.

[Reb Moshe would oversee the hachnosas orchim for the guests that would come to spend yomim tovim with the Rebbe.

When he entered yechidus after spending Purim in 770, the Rebbe inquired as to when he plans to travel back to his home in Eretz Yisrael; he replied "Gimmel Nissan." The Rebbe then asked him what will be with the guests that come for Yud-Alef Nissan...? He obviously decided to stay through Yud Alef Nissan.]

### Tuesday, 4 Nissan

Before mincha, the Rebbe went to the library to see off the matzos being sent for anash of Eretz Yisrael. The Rebbe removed a few pieces of matzah from each box, performing hafroshas challah, and then turned to the messengers who were transporting the matzah, telling them:

"I am making you shluchim to give over the matzah in Eretz Yisrael. It should be distributed in the same manner as last year, through the Vaad Haruchni of Kfar Chabad. May you have a kosher and freilechen Pesach."

The Rebbe turned to Reb Zushe Rivkin, one of the shluchim, and said:

"You probably received my answer to your letter."

[Reb Zushe was the gabbai of the newly constructed Beis Menachem shul in Kfar Chabad, which was to be inaugurated on that very Yud-Alef Nissan. Anash in Eretz Yisrael decided to invite the Rebbe to the celebration, sending Reb

11 Nissan

Zushe with a letter signed by over four thousand people, asking the Rebbe to come to Eretz Yisrael to attend the celebration.

The Rebbe answered that he would not come, but sent \$60 to be changed into lirot and distributed among all that signed.]

The Rebbe now told him that there will probably be more signatures added in the near future, so he will give a few more dollars for them as well, adding that the leftover money should be used for "gutte

Rabbi M. M. G. expressed his wish that they should merit to spend the next



RABBI MORDECHAI MENTLIK TEACHES A NEW MICHTAV-KLOLI TO THE BOCHURIM IN THE UPSTAIRS ZAL AT 770

Pesach together with the Rebbe in Eretz Yisrael, to which the Rebbe replied "ותחזינה עינינו בשובך לציון". Reb Zushe then added, "Der Rebbe zol zein gezunt." The Rebbe answered, "Gam atem."

Before leaving to daven mincha, the Rebbe gave Reb Zushe a crown for the Sefer Torah of Beis Menachem, saying, "May this be a Kesser Torah for all Yidden."

#### Monday, 10 Nissan

Today, many orchim have arrived from throughout the United States and beyond, as well as many shluchim and bochurim that were on Merkos Shlichus in many different areas. An entire group of guests arrived from England, including Rabbi Nachman Sudak and Rabbi Chaim Farro, as well as an individual by the name of Mr. Greenberg. (After mincha on Yud-Alef Nissan, Rabbi Hodakov gave them matzah—in the Rebbe's name—to distribute in their respective cites in the United Kingdom.)

As the Rebbe exited the shul after maariy, the crowd began to quietly sing the nigun on the Rebbe's new kapittel for this year-"Atah hokail oiseh felle"—but the Rebbe did not react to the song. Later, when the Rebbe left for home, those present began to sing again, and this time the

Rebbe encouraged the singing vigorously. Throughout the remaining hours of Yud-Alef Nissan, the Rebbe's countenance shone with a special happiness, which of course spread to the Chassidim that had come to 770 in honor of the special occasion.

A short while later, all of the anash and bochurim sat down to hear a shiur from Rabbi Mentlik on the michtav kloli that the Rebbe had issued this past Erev Rosh Chodesh. When he concluded, Reb Yoel Kahan led a joyous farbrengen during which he expounded upon the different levels of hiskashrus, explaining that while simple anash can be mekushar to the Rebbe though merely learning Chitas and writing a pan once a year, bochurim merit to have a much higher level of hiskashrus, which requires them to do much more.

#### Tuesday, Yud-Alef Nissan

Today's date was declared by the United States Government as "Education Day USA." A resolution was signed by over three hundred senators and congressmen honoring the Rebbe's efforts to promote a proper education for people of all walks of life. Vice President Walter Mondale participated in a special gathering which took place in Washington DC in honor of the monumental occasion.

Rabbi Paldi from Eretz Yisrael (a well-known activist involved in "mihu yehudi") published the following gimatriya'os in honor of Yud Alef Nissan:

996 = י"א ניסן תשל"ח - ע"ז

996 = רבינו יחזור לאיתנו

1996 = ויאיר נרו עד יבא ינון בקרוב

מטה ע"זר ישלח ה'

After mincha, a group of elder chassidim entered Gan Eden Hatachton to bless the Rebbe in honor of the auspicious day.

When the Rebbe arrived, Reb Moshe Pinchas HaKohen Katz benched the Rebbe, in the name of all the Chassidim, with a shnas hatzlocha. He emphasized that the Rebbe should experience a quick and speedy recovery from the heart attack on Shemini Atzeres; and that he should have much success in his holy work in 'turning over the world,' for many long and healthy years, together with the Rebbetzin; and to lead us towards the geulah ha'amitis v'hashleima.

When he concluded, the Rebbe responded with a short sicha, saying that one who blesses another Jew is blessed by the Aibershter, concluding with a wish that we merit partake in the korban Pesach this year in Yerushalayim.

Maariv took place in the small zal at 9:00 with a small minyan, as most of the crowd was occupied with reserving a seat for the grand farbrengen, set to take place at 9:30.

#### Farbrengen

At the set time, the Rebbe entered the overly-crowded shul. The farbrengen began immediately with the first sicha, during which the Rebbe spoke of the personal element felt in this farbrengen, as it is being held in honor of his yom

"When many Yidden gather together, with the intent to bring their wishes to an individual who has merited—in the merit of his ancestors—to take part in the spreading of Yiddishkeit—which is a result of the inspiration coming from

the *daled amos* of the my father-in-law, the Rebbe, the *nossi hador*—there lies an obligation to show *hakoras hatov* towards all those who have assembled. To connect it with a participation in the spreading of Torah and Yiddishkeit as it was started by my father-in-law, the Rebbe, and continues till this day, and will surely continue onward.

"It is therefore a pleasant *z'chus* to thank all those who have gathered here, as well as all those who are listening from other locations, and those that will later find out what had been said at this farbrengen. May they all be blessed with many long and good years, and be able to increase in their efforts of spreading Yiddishkeit, as a continuation of the efforts of the my father-in-law, the Rebbe, going back all the way to the Alter Rebbe, the Maggid, and the Baal Shem Toy."

The farbrengen was markedly freilech, with the Rebbe clapping and encouraging the singing throughout all of the niggunim between the sichos. He also smilingly directed different people to say l'chaim, including Dr. Larry Resnick (who had been at the Rebbe's side for much of the time since Shemini Atzeres). Rabbi Efraim Yolles from Philadelphia and Rabbi Simcha Elberg of Agudas Harabonim were also present, both conversing with the Rebbe between sichos.

During the course of the farbrengen, the Rebbe discussed a wide range of topics, most notably concerning the president's monumental declaration proclaiming "Education Day USA." The Rebbe called for the country to utilize its powerful influence over other nations to promote the ideals of education mentioned in the declaration.

"Along with the thanks owed to the House of Representatives, the government, and the president, for having declared publicly regarding the uniqueness of education, through setting aside a day devoted entirely towards education; we also suggest that they do not suffice with a one-day proclamation; rather it should continue with activities throughout the entire year."

The Rebbe also encouraged the Administration to assist the Israeli Army by providing them with arms and ammunition so that they can adequately protect the Yidden living in Eretz Yisrael. At the same time they should block all such aid to Egypt, so that they will not be able to accomplish their obviously malicious intentions.

Before the *maamar*, the Rebbe spoke about the new shul that had been dedicated in Kfar Chabad. He also encouraged all shuls to remain open during the evening hours, so that *baalei batim* can learn Torah there in their spare time.

As the farbrengen came to a close, the Rebbe instructed the crowd to sing "Hoshia es amecha," "Prazos teshev Yerushalayim," "Ufaratzta," "V'hi she'amda," and "Nyet, nyet nikavo;" clapping and encouraging the singing throughout.

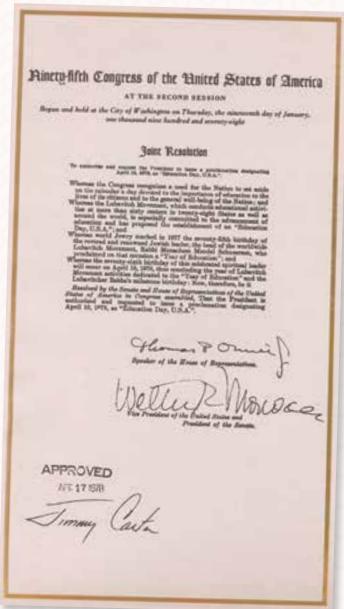
When the *niggunim* were completed, the Rebbe stood up and announced (with a special tune) "L'shana Haba'ah B'yirushalayim," to which the entire 770 responded with a resounding "amen," continuing straight in to "ki vesimcha," accompanying the Rebbe out of the remarkable farbrengen.

As the Rebbe left 770 for home, he distributed dollars to

RESOLUTION OF CONGRESS, SIGNED BY PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER, ANNOUNCING THE FIRST EDUCATION DAY U.S.A. the students of *Beis Sefer L'mlacha*, who were returning to Israel the next day, as well as to many of the *shluchim* and guests who had come from afar, all the while encouraging the joyous singing.



VICE PRESIDENT WALTER F. MONDALE ADDRESSES THE INAUGURATION EVENT OF EDUCATION DAY U.S.A., IN THE WHITE HOUSE, 11 NISSAN 5738





RABBI Y. Y. HECHT HOSTS THE BROADCAST OF THE REBBE'S FARBRENGEN ON LIVE RADIO, AS RABBI CHAIM BORUCH HALBERSTAM SITS AT THE CONTROLS IN THE WLCC OFFICE AT 770

#### Wednesday, 12 Nissan

As the Rebbe walked towards his room after mincha, he passed by a number of guests who were returning home for Pesach, wishing them a safe trip and a kosher and freilechen Pesach.

In response to a report about mivtzoim in the Merkaz Hayahalomim, the Rebbe wrote:

נת' ות"ח [נתקבל ותשואות חן]. ודבר בעתו - בי"א ניסן בחדש הגאולה בגו"ר [בגשמיות וברוחניות] ובסמיכות לחה"פ [חג הפסח] זמו חרותנו.

The members also sent the Rebbe their blessings in honor of Yud-Alef Nissan. In response, the Rebbe wrote:

ת"ח [תשואות חן] על הברכות וכל המברך מתברך בברכתו של הקב"ה שתוספתו מרובה על העיקר. חה"פ כו"ש [חג הפסח כשר ושמח]. אזכיר עה"צ [על הציון].

"Thank you for the blessings. Those who bless others are blessed with the blessing of Hashem, in which the supplement is more than the main portion.

"May you have a kosher and happy Pesach. I will mention them at the Ohel."

At the conclusion of maariv, the Rebbe once again bade farewell to a group of Chassidim traveling back to Eretz Yisrael

for Pesach, and then he motioned to Rabbi Hodakov to enter his room.

A few moments later, Rabbi Hodakov left the Rebbe's room with an exciting announcement. The Rebbe had informed him that at 8:30 he will hold a short farbrengen, a continuation of the Yud-Alef Nissan farbrengen held yesterday.

The downstairs shul was locked and in complete disarray, as the Pesach cleaning had already begun. The bochurim hastily organized the benches and set up the room, and within a few minutes the place was ready for the Rebbe to enter.

The guests scheduled to travel back to Eretz Yisrael were faced with a dilemma. While they didn't want to miss the farbrengen, their flight was scheduled to take off within the next few hours. In the end, they drove to the airport, where they listened in to the farbrengen via live hookup.

At the start of the farbrengen, the Rebbe instructed the crowd to sing the nigun hachona for a maamar, and then said a maamar (B'chol dor v'dor) which lasted for about a half-hour.

Afterwards, the Rebbe continued to expound in length upon the hadran he had begun at the Yud-Alef Nissan farbrengen. He also spoke of the importance of learning Chassidus in our generation, even though in previous times, such learning was reserved for the select few who were on a higher level of avodas Hashem.

Throughout the farbrengen, the Rebbe encouraged the singing, clapping and moving his head to the beat of the niggunim. Before concluding, the Rebbe asked that everyone sing "Yemin Hashem" and "Uforatzta," and then ended by wishing everyone a kosher and freilechen Pesach, expressing hope that we merit to spend this Pesach in Yerushalayim together with Moshiach.

As the Rebbe stood up to leave, he began singing "Ki vesimcha," and with a swing of his arm, encouraged everyone present to join in.

As the Rebbe entered his room, he asked Rabbi Groner to bring in a list of the locations that had participated in the live hookup.

A few minutes later the Rebbe left for home. While exiting 770, he met Dr. Resnick and Dr. Lev and exchanged a few words with them, encouraging the bochurim's singing as well.