

# the Momentous Gathering

and its  
message today,

Insights into the  
mitzvah of Hakhel  
and its relevance today,  
collected from the Rebbe's  
sichos and letters

מקוץ שבע שנים במעד שנת השמיטה  
בסג הסכות; בבוא כל ישראל...

הקהל את העם  
האנשים והנשים  
והטרף

וגרד אשר בשעריה למען ישמעו  
ילמעו ילמדו ויראו את ה' אלוקיהם  
ושמרו לעשות את כל דברי התורה הזאת  
(ויקרא, י"ב).

## HAKHEL INSIGHT COMPOUND INFLUENCE

If two equally strong people can lift ten pounds individually, together they can carry twenty pounds, right? Actually, the Gemara says that the couple would be able to hoist more than just those twenty pounds. There is power in the collective. Exponential strength.

An event as well, when experienced together with a multitude, is much more inspirational. In terms of influence, if one man, woman or child would be affected to a certain degree were *Hakhel* to be an individual event, the effect grows exponentially with every additional participant!

That's what made *Hakhel* so powerful both during the ceremony and subsequently in fulfilling what the *possuk* writes, "And they will guard to do all the words of this Torah."

(Adapted from the *Sicha of Shabbos parshas Tazria* 5741.  
*Sichos Kodesh* 5741 vol. 3, pgs. 15-16)



## A TIMELY CONNECTION

### PESACH SHEINI: THE POWER OF THE INDIVIDUAL

A single, small group of men or women can be so powerful, that they can even affect all Jewish people. “Why must we miss out?” was a call we find twice in Torah. The first instance led, of course, to the establishment of Pesach Sheini and was championed by the men. The daughters of Tzelafchad also made this statement when demanding representation in inheriting their father’s land. Because of these pleas we, the Jewish nation for all the generations, have new mitzvos; Jewish reality has been altered. Again, the power of the individual.

These stories take on even more meaning when coinciding with *shnas Hakhel*. The lesson of *Hakhel* is that every Yid must endeavor that his deeds affect the entire Jewish nation “the men women, and children,” to add in Torah and mitzvah observance.

*(Adapted from the Sicha of Pesach Sheini 5748. Hisvaaduyos 5748 vol. 3, pg. 300)*



## WHAT CAN I DO? INNER DRIVE

Don’t wait until you are told and reminded about *Hakhel* to accomplish in that regard. Look for opportunities to effect other people through, first and foremost, being a positive influence. Show them what true Jewish life is like and talk to them about its ways. It will be effective if the words come from the heart. After all only “גכנסים אל הלב” succeed in “דברים היוצאים מן הלב.”

You should have an inner drive to gather more Jews, inspire them, and do them a favor. Your involvement in *Hakhel* should not, *chas veshalom*, be the result of coercion. Start with your family and let it spread to your neighborhood and the world. Until the ultimate *Hakhel* when Hashem gathers us all together with the coming of Moshiach.

*(Adapted from the Yechidus of 26 Tishrei 5748.  
Hisvaaduyos 5748 vol. 1, pgs. 378-379)*