



Impacting the world

Bottom-Up

*Presented in honor of **Chof-Ches Sivan**, the day the Rebbe and Rebbetzin arrived in the United States from war-torn Europe. This day marks the turn of a new page in hafatzas hamaayonos chutza and the preparation of the world for the coming of Moshiach.*

A trip from Europe to the United States of America may seem very routine in this day and age. Thousands upon thousands of people make this trip daily for business, vacation, or as a permanent change; it is so commonplace that we don't pay that much attention to it. True as this may be for your regular traveler, this is certainly not the case for a Rebbe.

When the Frieddiker Rebbe made the drastic move from Europe, the "upper" part of the globe, to America, the "lower" hemisphere, some

seventy odd years ago, it was not simply a technical decision. Guided by *hashgacha pratis*, it was a move that stands at the pinnacle of Chabad Chassidus in this generation and era.

What is the meaning of this relocation of Chabad? And why is it so significant to us as we prepare the entire world for the times of Moshiach?

The Rebbe addresses this issue in many *sichos*, and in this article we have attempted to bring the underlying messages and pointers.

The move of Chabad Lubavitch to America is in essence a *golus* for the movement, as are all the times that the Rabbeim had to leave their locations and settle elsewhere, such as from Lubavitch to Rostov. However, the trip that the Frierdiker Rebbe made across the Atlantic to establish his headquarters in America was the most severe of them all.

The reason for this is because the “lower” half of the universe is not only lower in its physical geographic location, but more so because spiritually it is lower. Therefore it does raise the question as to why the Frierdiker Rebbe would specifically choose such a place to serve as a beacon of light and warmth in spreading Yiddishkeit and Chassidus.

Throughout the many generations since *matan Torah*, the objective has been to bring *Elokus* into the world. However, as we approach the days of Moshiach, our goal needs to expand to include every element of creation, no matter how far or distant it seems.

The analogy given for this is a fork lift. Have you ever seen one in action?

The operator will skillfully navigate to the bottom of the pile, insert in the prongs and then raise the entire pallet from the bottom up.

The same then holds true for our *avodah* of elevating the world; we start from the bottom, thereby bringing everything else up with it.

It is for this reason that the Frierdiker Rebbe chose to specifically relocate to the lower hemisphere, because by spreading Yiddishkeit, Torah and Mitzvos here, it would go on to influence the world at large. And that is indeed what has happened.

This is especially relevant to us as we complete the final preparations for Moshiach’s arrival. It is no longer good enough to remain in holy surroundings, rather we must reach out to lowliest of low. At *matan*



THE FRIERDIKER REBBE ON THE SHIP EN ROUTE TO THE USA, 9 ADAR II 5700.

Torah the Yidden were under a divine influence, which diminished as the experience came to an end. So although it was the starting point for permeating the physical with spirituality, it was not in its ultimate form.

Specifically now, when we work and deal with the coarseness of the world, we can achieve its ultimate purpose, which will be seen in its entirety with the coming of Moshiach. This is represented by the settlement of Chabad Lubavitch in America. True, it is a *golus* for the movement but at the same time it puts into motion the purpose of creation like never before. **T**

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