

Quiet After the Storm

YOMAN - THE MONTH OF CHESHVAN 5743 (תשמ"ג)

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MONDAY, SECOND DAY OF ROSH CHODESH CHESHVAN

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At 3:15 the Rebbe came out for *mincha*, after which he gave a *bracha* in the hallway to some of the Tishrei guests who would be returning home shortly. This was followed by a *bracha* in *Gan Eden Hatachton* for the *talmidim hashluchim* heading to Milan and Brunoy. At the end of the *bracha*, the Rebbe gave each of them a booklet of the *michtovim klolyim* from Tishrei of this year, along with a dollar. As they were leaving, the *bochurim* sang "*Sheyiboneh*" and the *yechidus niggun* (known as - a joyous niggun traditionally sung after emerging from *yechidus*¹). When the Rebbe heard the singing, he encouraged it with a wave of his arm, and then entered his room.

Later in the afternoon, the Rebbe came down to the main shul and spoke a *sicha* to the ladies² for around an hour, followed by a distribution of dollars.

TUESDAY, 2 CHESHVAN

A rally was held for children of Tzivos Hashem and the Rebbe participated. Relative to the previous rallies, the Rebbe was more serious this time. At the conclusion of the rally, the Rebbe distributed three dimes (through the *madrichim*) to all the children.

As on the day before, when the Rebbe returned to his room there was a group waiting in the hallway, on their way home from Tishrei. The Rebbe gave them a short *bracha*, and continued inside.

FRIDAY, EREV SHABBOS NOACH, 5 CHESHVAN

As the Rebbe returned to his room from the library (where he would stay for Shabbos), Rabbi Shlomo Cunin was standing there, and told the Rebbe of the meeting he and another six shluchim (Rabbi Avrohom Shemtov, among others) had with the President of the United States, Ronald Reagan. Rabbi Cunin said that it was well organized, the President greeted them warmly, and that at the end they sang "*Lechatchila Ariber*." The Rebbe inquired what this means [at an official meeting, to start singing?!] Rabbi Cunin answered, "We sang quietly." The Rebbe smiled broadly, and blessed him with success.



THE REBBE ADDRESSES THE CHILDREN'S RALLY, 2 CHESHVAN 5743.



CHILDREN TRANSCRIBE THE SICHA, 2 CHESHVAN 5743.

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THE REBBE ARRIVES AT 770 IN THE MORNING, CIRCA EARLY CHESHVAN 5743.

SHABBOS NOACH, 6 CHESHVAN

When the Rebbe came to 770 in the morning, he informed Rabbi Leibel Groner that there would be a farbrengen. The farbrengen started at 1:30, and finished at 5:30, with four *sichos* and a *maamar kein sicha*.

The Rebbe spoke about the lesson from parshas Noach: When it comes time to do *mivtzoim*, the "קלוגינקער" clever one—(the *yetzer hara*) decides that first he must take care of himself and do *teshuva*. He even quotes Tanya—the "קלוגינקער" even learns Tanya!—that until one does *teshuva*, all his torah and mitzvos go to "other places."³ The Rebbe explained at length the lesson from the building of the *teivah*, not to take these claims into account, rather to do what Hashem **really** wants.

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SUNDAY, 7 CHESHVAN

As the Rebbe got out of the car when arriving at 770 in the morning, the photographer Levi Freidin asked for a *bracha* before departing for Eretz Yisroel, and the Rebbe spoke to him for a bit.

At 11:15 the Rebbe went to the *mikveh* and later to the Ohel. On the way to the car, there was a woman standing in the path who wanted to speak to the Rebbe. While obstructing the pathway she said something to the Rebbe, and the Rebbe responded. At the end we could hear the Rebbe say to her, "We should hear good news." The Rebbe then entered the car. At that point, she remembered that she had a letter for the Rebbe, and knocked on the car window; the Rebbe opened the window and took the letter. When the Rebbe returned in the evening, the same woman was standing in the hallway. The Rebbe nodded his head in greeting.

Reb Shlomo Aharon Kazarnovsky, a senior and respected Chossid and one of the main activists

who worked on the Rebbe's acceptance of the *nesius* in 5710, passed away today.

MONDAY, 8 CHESHVAN

The *levaya* for Rabbi Kazarnovsky passed 770 at 2:00 p.m. Until the last minute, no one knew whether the Rebbe would attend. As the car was about to pass 770, Rabbi Groner entered the Rebbe's room, returning a minute later, leaving the door to *Gan Eden Hatachton* open. The Rebbe came out, and slowly followed the car carrying the *aron* until the beginning of the next block, where he stood and watched until the car disappeared from view.

The Rebbe told Rabbi Binyomin Klein to tell the family—and signalled to them himself—that they shouldn't walk back to their cars on the same path. The Rebbe looked around for a few seconds, searching for something, then, with his eyes, followed the cars on their way to the beis hachayim in Queens. [Rabbi Kazarnovsky was interred near the Ohel.] The Rebbe then asked Rabbi Groner where the bus for *bochurim* was, and was informed that it was on the way to 770. When the bus arrived, it stopped close to the Rebbe, and immediately filled with bochurim. Again, the Rebbe accompanied them with his look and watched as the bus drove away, even leaning over to see as it crossed the horizon. Then the Rebbe returned to 770, clearly in a subdued mood.

At the entrance of 770, there was a *kvort* waiting. The Rebbe washed his hands eight times alternately, and went to the small *zal*. There he recited *Yoshev Beseser* seven times, changing seats each round. As today is a Monday of *Behab*,⁴ the Rebbe did not go home in the afternoon (and return for *maariv* later on, as usual), rather, he waited until 6:35 to daven *maariv* and then went home.

WEDNESDAY, 10 CHESHVAN

When the Rebbe arrived in the morning, a French family—a mother, her sons and a grandson—were waiting. The mother asked for a *bracha*, and the Rebbe responded—in French—that she should have *nachas* from them. He gave the grandson a coin, telling him to put it in the *pushka*.

At 8:00 p.m., Rabbi Moshe Rosen, chief rabbi of Romania, went into the Rebbe's room for almost two hours. Afterwards, he went into *mazkirus* for a minute, and then left without revealing anything from the *yechidus*. A few minutes later, at 10:00 p.m., the Slonimer Rebbe—Rabbi Avrohom Weinberg, previously a *maggid shiur* in Tomchei Temimim, Lod—came for *yechidus* along with several of his Chassidim. The Chassidim shook the Rebbe's hand and then the Slonimer Rebbe signalled for them to leave the room. They waited in *Gan Eden Hatachton*, together with Rabbi Groner.

At around 11:00 he left. The Rebbe accompanied him to the door of *Gan Eden Hatachton*, and watched as he continued making his way out of 770. On his way out, the Slonimer Rebbe saw some of his former *talmidim* from Lod, and greeted them warmly. The Rebbe watched closely, and seemed pleased at the friendly exchanges. The *bochurim* and the Slonimer Rebbe didn't notice the Rebbe's gaze, with the place being so packed.

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THURSDAY, 11 CHESHVAN

At night, during seder chassidus, the Rosh Yeshivah, Rabbi Mordechai Mentlik taught the Rebbe's letter from Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan, expounding on the first reference in the letter.

FRIDAY, EREV SHABBOS LECH LECHA, 12 CHESHVAN

Today the Rebbe released a note regarding the women's *mikveh*, which has already been under construction for several years. The Rebbe urged that its construction be completed quickly and strongly decried the lengthy delays.

SHABBOS LECH LECHA, 13 CHESHVAN

On the way to 770 in the morning, an African American woman asked the Rebbe where she can find 749 Eastern Parkway (one of the yeshivah dormitory buildings where construction is currently underway). The Rebbe pointed it out, and before going inside 770, he turned around, making sure she had found it.

After *maariv* on Motzei Shabbos, the Rebbe went outside for *Kiddush Levana*. Although the moon was

clearly visible from the steps, the Rebbe continued on to the corner of the yard in front of his room. Around fifteen minutes later, the Rebbe went home.

TUESDAY, 16 CHESHVAN

During *chazaras hashatz* of *mincha*, as the Rebbe began to sit down, he saw that someone was still saying *shemoneh esreh* on the opposite side of the table. The Rebbe remained standing (between the bench and the table) for the rest of *chazaras hashatz*. By *tachanun* the Rebbe stood at the side of the table, and for *nefilas apayim* he sat at his place. (The man was still standing, *shockeling* vigorously, until after *mincha* was over.)

The Rebbe stayed in 770 until quite late. At 12:35 a.m., Rabbi Groner brought in the last bundle of mail for the day. Shortly afterwards, the Rebbe went home.

THURSDAY, 18 CHESHVAN

On his way to the *zal* for *krias haTorah* in the morning, the Rebbe distributed coins for tzedakah to a few children, and put some into the *pushka* himself too. During *krias haTorah*, the Rebbe looked closely at Rashi and some of the other *meforshim* in the Chumash in front of him (it was a Chumash "Beis Yehuda"). It looked like the Rebbe was focusing on the second *possuk* of Vayera (the *parsha* of the week).

Shortly after, the Rebbe went to the *mikveh*. On the way out of 770, there was a woman standing on the pathway with her baby boy. The Rebbe gave the baby a coin for tzedakah, and while sitting in the car, he continued looking at him the whole time, and waved twice.

At around 2:00 p.m. the Rebbe left for the Ohel, returning several hours later. After a few minutes, the Rebbe came out of his room and headed to the *zal* for *mincha. Maariv* was at the usual time, 6:45 p.m. At both *tefillos*, Rabbi Levi Goldstein's young son stood near the Rebbe, and said "*amen*" each time loudly. The Rebbe looked at him, and said "*amen*" with him each time, nodding in encouragement.

FRIDAY, EREV SHABBOS VAYERA, 19 CHESHVAN

Preparations are already underway for the Rosh Chodesh Kislev farbrengen, celebrating five years since the Rebbe's miraculous recovery. A sign was hung up in 770, inviting all *anash* to attend.

About 15 minutes before *licht bentchen*, the Rebbe went to the library—where he will be for Shabbos—for a few minutes.

SHABBOS VAYERA, 20 CHESHVAN

In the morning, it was announced that the Rebbe would hold a farbrengen in honor of Chof Cheshvan, the Rebbe Rashab's birthday. At the farbrengen, the Rebbe spoke about the fact that this year marks 100 years of the Rebbe Rashab's *nesius* in 5643. It also has another special aspect, in that Chof Cheshvan falls out on a Shabbos—similar to the extra significance of Rosh Hashanah that is on Shabbos. The Rebbe noted the fact that Chof Cheshvan will always be on the same day of the week as Rosh Hashanah.

The next part of the farbrengen was dedicated to the significance of birthdays. The Rebbe explained that by the birth of a *nossi*, there is additional significance, in that already from his birth, he is a "shepherd of Yidden," as *Chazal* explain regarding Moshe Rabbeinu.

SUNDAY, 21 CHESHVAN

Before leaving to the Ohel, the Rebbe gave a *bracha* to the *talmidim hashluchim* travelling to Seattle. After the Rebbe left, they were all given by *mazkirus* a booklet of the *michtovim klolim* from the passed Tishrei, and a dollar from the Rebbe.

MONDAY, 22 CHESHVAN

As the Rebbe was walking back to his room after *maariv*, the Rebbe gave a *bracha* to Reb Moshe Yeruslavski, who headed the *hachnosas orchim* operation during Tishrei. "אלט פענען אנפירן מיט פארט געזונטערהייט, און איר זאלט קענען אנפירן מיט מ'זאל הערן בשורות טובות, און איר זאלט קענען אנפירן מיט Safe travels, we should hear good news. You should be able to direct *hachnosas orchim* until Moshiach comes."

TUESDAY, 23 CHESHVAN

The Rebbe edited the Yiddish version of the third *sicha* from the past Shabbos.⁵

A letter from the Rebbe was published, dated "Motzei Shabbos Chof Cheshvan," in honor of the "Annual Celebration of Tomchei Temimim."



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MONDAY PARSHAS TOLDOS, **EREV ROSH CHODESH KISLEV**

After maariv, Chassidim began singing and dancing in the zal, then spilling out to the foyer. When the Rebbe exited his room on the way home, he swung his arm vigorously several times. The group then followed the Rebbe out of 770, and the energetic dancing continued outside. As the car pulled away, the Rebbe continued encouraging the singing.

Those gathered wished each other "Gut Yom Tov," celebrating the Rebbe's recovery in 5738.

At night there was a *seudah*, arranged by Reb Mayer Harlig and several other yungeleit. A large crowd attended, and the farbrengen went on until the wee hours of the morning, with Reb Mendel Futerfas and Reb Yoel Kahn. They were later joined by Reb Sholom Marozov, Reb Michoel Teitelbaum

and others. Rumor has it that someone had told the Rebbetzin in advance about this celebration, and she asked why the Rebbe had not been informed. So, she was sent an invitation to the *seudah*, and was very pleased about it.6 🕕

2. See farbrengen Shabbos Bereishis 5743; the Rebbe instructed that special gatherings should take place, one for the men, one for the women, and one for the children. Hisvaaduyos 5743 vol. 1 p. 361.

3. Perek 39.

4. Twice a year after Tishrei and Nissan, some people have a minhag to fast three times: Monday, Thursday and the following Monday.

5. This was unusual in those years.

6. Many of the events in this article were recorded in a yoman written by Hatomim Uri Holtzman, a bochur in 770 at the time.



^{1.} See Frierdiker Rebbe's "Reshimas Shimon Hakofer" for more about this.