



LEVI FREIDIN VIA JEM 257235 (18 TISHREI 5749)

CAMPERS RETURN TO THE REBBE

MENACHEM AV 5749

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ע"י בנם
ר' יקותיאל יהודה
הזוגתו מרת פעסל 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 הי"ד
ת"נצ"ב'ה

Shabbos, 4 Av

At today's farbrengen, during one of the *niggunim*, the Rebbe waved his hand in encouragement towards a recent Baal Teshuva who had stood up and was enthusiastically clapping along with the *niggun*.

Sunday, 5 Av

Today at dollars, Hatamim B. K. passed by and requested a *bracha* for someone injured in a robbery-related shooting. The Rebbe asked for the individual's name. When B. K. mentioned that he didn't know the person's Hebrew name, the Rebbe instructed him to provide it to *Mazkirus* once he found out.

Later, a group of Persian Jews approached and requested a *bracha* for wealth. The Rebbe responded by emphasizing the importance of observing Shabbos not only in the workplace but also at home.

Later in the day, the Rebbe went to the Ohel, returning at 9:15 pm. Following Mincha and Maariv, the Rebbe said a *sicha* for fifteen minutes about the *Hilula* of the

Arizal. Afterward, the Rebbe briefly distributed dollars for Tzedakah.

Monday, 6 Av

The Rebbe entered the shul for Maariv with a bitter expression on his face. After Maariv, the Rebbe said a fifteen-minute *sicha* on the severity of Zayin Av – the day when the Babylonians broke into the Beis Hamikdash, highlighting the cry for Moshiach to come, “*Ad Mosai*.” The Rebbe spoke in a tone befitting the subject matter: slow, quiet, and with a sense of *merirus* (bitterness).

Tonight (contrary to the recent practice on Mondays), the Rebbe did not return home and instead remained at 770.

Tuesday, 7 Av

Today, when the Rebbe came down for the *tefillos*, he again appeared downcast, though not as much as yesterday.

After Maariv, the Rebbe said a *sicha*, emphasizing the



PERSIAN JEWS WITH THE REBBE AT DOLLARS ON 5 AV.

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need to “decree” the immediate coming of Moshiach and that he should arrive even before the recitation of *Krias Shema She’al Hamita* tonight!

Wednesday night, Tisha B’av

The Rebbe came down for Maariv holding his Siddur, a large bound Kinos, and a copy of Eicha. Throughout Tisha B’av, the Rebbe walked at a noticeably subdued pace, with a serious and sad look on his face. The Rebbe’s gaze was bewildering, as if in a different world.

Rabbi Hodakov was the Chazzan, and he davened quietly due to his advanced age. The Rebbe frequently turned toward him to hear Kaddish.

Reb Yisroel Gordon led the reading of Eicha; he sat in the middle of the shul, reading the words slowly. The Rebbe read at a quicker pace, pausing after each *perek* for the *Baal Koreh* to catch up.

When the Rebbe finished reading Eicha, he put on his brown glasses, a rare sight, and began reciting Kinos, starting before the Chazzan.

Thursday, Tisha B’av

The Rebbe came down for Shacharis holding his Siddur and Kinos. Although the Rebbe didn’t daven with the minyan¹, he had his Siddur open throughout, occasionally turning a few pages to keep up with the Chazzan.



THE REBBE RECITES KINOS ON THE NIGHT OF TISHA B’AV.

The Rebbe’s Kinos was open on top of his Siddur, and he studied from it while wearing his glasses.

After a while, the Rebbe took off his glasses and read from a copy of Eicha.

When the Minyan reached Shemoneh Esrei, the Rebbe took three steps back as if he was also davening, and continued reading Eicha. When the Chazzan (Rabbi Hodakov) concluded Shemoneh Esrei and took three steps back, the Rebbe again took three steps, but didn’t bow for “*Oseh Shalom*.”

During Mincha, the Rebbe was called up for the third Aliya and Haftorah. The Rebbe read the Haftorah in a low voice. The room was very quiet, and everyone could hear.

To summarize, the atmosphere of Tisha B’av in 770 wasn’t depressing like in some other communities. However, when we witnessed the Rebbe’s eyes and the bitterness on his face, the *Churban* was felt vividly. May this day very soon be transformed into a Yom Tov.

Friday, 10 Av

For the first time since Rosh Chodesh Av, a joyous *niggun* was sung as the Rebbe walked in for Mincha. The Rebbe encouraged the singing and smiled at the children present. There was a noticeable shift in the atmosphere of 770 as joy began to prevail. The Rebbe continued to energetically encourage the singing when he came down for Maariv and during Lecha Dodi.

Shabbos Parshas Va’eschanan—Shabbos Nachamu, 11 Av

During the reading of the *Aseres Hadibros*, the Rebbe moved to the right of the *shtender* and occasionally glanced out of his Chumash to look at the Baal Koreh.

Lately, the Rebbe has been giving special attention to groups brought by Shluchim to 770. For the third time in a month, in the middle of today’s farbrengen, the Rebbe addressed the guests, instructing them to say L’chaim. Then, the Rebbe announced that everyone else should join in saying L’chaim together with them, “*V’ani Hakatan B’socham*” (“Myself included”). The Rebbe said “L’chaim, L’chaim,” and drank most of his cup. Afterward, Harav Levi Yitzchok’s *niggun* was sung, and the Rebbe vigorously encouraged the singing of the guests in a unique fashion.



During Mincha, the Rebbe was given the third Aliya. At *Chazaras Hashatz*, the Chazzan sang “*Sim Shalom*” to a joyous niggun, and the Rebbe encouraged the singing. In general, today’s farbrengen was brimming with joy throughout.

Sunday, 12 Av

During dollars, Rabbi Baumgarten and the organizers of a concert for Tzivos Hashem – featuring Mordechai Ben David and Avraham Fried – asked the Rebbe for a *bracha* that it wouldn’t rain. The Rebbe simply answered, “Yes, it will not rain.” This was quite remarkable because rain was forecasted for the entire day, but shortly after the Rebbe’s pronouncement, the rain indeed stopped completely.

Rabbi Kupchik, a Shliach in Chadera, presented the Rebbe with a key to the city. The Rebbe said, “I hereby open the city to all that is good (Torah, Mitzvos and Yiras Shamayim), and I’m closing the city to all the negative things...” The Rebbe then gave him a dollar to give for Tzedakah at City Hall.

Later, Reb Kuti Rapp came by with a member of the Israeli Ministry of Education, and the Rebbe addressed him with a smile, saying, “Educate all of Eretz Yisroel, including the government. Not in an authoritative manner, they don’t like that. I’m not joking, I mean this seriously.” Then the Rebbe gave him an extra dollar to “Educate the entire government!”

Dollars concluded at around 2:00 pm, and the Rebbe went to the Ohel at 3:40 pm.

After Maariv, since the Rebbe had said that there wouldn’t be rain, we were able to do Kiddush Levana. The Rebbe said “Sholom Aleichem” to members of *Mazkirus*, and wished a “*Gut Chodesh*” to many people on his way



back inside 770.

A few days ago, Volume Thirteen of the Rebbe’s *Igros Kodesh* was published.

Tuesday, 14 Av

After Mincha the Rebbe waved and smiled broadly at Mr. Mintz, a supporter of Chabad activities. After Maariv, the Rebbe said a long *sicha* in honor of *Chamisha Asar B’Av*, instructing Chassidim to farbreng and make positive resolutions in honor of the day, particularly to establish times to learn Chassidus.

After the *sicha*, the Rebbe distributed dollars amidst an uplifted atmosphere.

When Rosenfeld, whose young son would usually wave to the Rebbe during dollars, passed by, the Rebbe smiled broadly, held up his two hands in wonder, and asked, “Where is the boy?” Then the Rebbe waved his hand in dismissal, all with a broad smile.

Wednesday, Chamisha-Asar B’Av

After Maariv, the Rebbe said a *sicha*, instructing Chassidim to farbreng again tonight in honor of *Chamisha Asar B’Av*. Then, the Rebbe distributed dollars, again in a spirited manner. During the distribution, the Rebbe spoke to several people, including Serebransky from Australia.

Thursday, 16 Av

After Shacharis at the Rebbe’s house, as the Rebbe was heading back upstairs, a group of campers from Gan Yisroel Detroit energetically sang “*Yechi Adoneinu*,” and



1. THE REBBE ENCOURAGES THE SINGING OF THE CAMPERS DURING DAVENING.
2. AFTER MAARIV, THE REBBE WAITS FOR A SECOND MICROPHONE TO BE BROUGHT FOR THE TRANSLATOR.
3. AFTER SEVERAL SICHOS, THE REBBE ENCOURAGES THE NIGGUNIM AT THE END OF THE RALLY.

the Rebbe encouraged them with a wave of his hand.
Today the Rebbe went to the Ohel.

Shabbos Parshas Eikev, Chai Av

Today at the farbrengen, the Rebbe spoke about his father, Harav Levi Yitzchok, whose Yahrzeit is coming up on Monday. The Rebbe mentioned that Harav Levi Yitzchok is connected to Moshiach, as he can trace his lineage back to Dovid Hamelech via the Maharal. After the *sicha*, Shamil's *niggun* was sung, and the Rebbe clapped along slowly.

Later, Reb Dovid Raskin announced the annual Yarchei Kallah gathering in Gan Yisroel, and the Rebbe remarked, "which will probably be held before the *chasuna*." (Reb Dovid's daughter got married the following Tuesday.)

Later, after the Rebbe distributed *mashke*, he paused for a moment, looking to the sides of the room. Then, he began his father's *niggun*, vigorously encouraging the singing. Suddenly, the Rebbe stood up, clapping his hands first slowly, then faster and more animatedly. With his eyes closed and his face glowing, the Rebbe encouraged the singing more and more for almost a minute, the crowd on their feet, singing with all their might. Then the Rebbe sat back down and continued to encourage the singing.

Sunday, 19 Av

Tonight at Maariv, the Rebbe was Chazzan for the first time since Chof Beis Shevat. The front of 770 was set up differently than usual to accommodate the large crowds, as everyone pushed forward to hear and see the Rebbe lead the davening. After Maariv, the Rebbe said a

sicha about the significance of this year, the 45th Yartzeit. (45 - *Ma*"H represents *Bittul*.)

After Maariv, the Rebbe distributed dollars for Tzedakah. When Reb Yosef Nimotin, who had assisted the Rebbe's father during his exile, passed by, he told the Rebbe that he was in Gan Yisroel for Shabbos and it was very orderly and nice there "in the merit of Rabbi (Avrohom) Shemtov who is a *chevraman*." The Rebbe smiled warmly and replied, "I was looking for you yesterday!"

Tonight, *bochurim*, Anash, and Shluchim who came in from all over to spend Chof Av with the Rebbe, farbranged together in honor of Chof Av.

Monday, Chof Av

Today, the Maamar "*V'atah Yisroel*" was published after being looked over and edited by the Rebbe.

During the day the Rebbe went to the Ohel, returning at 9:00 pm.

The campers of Gan Yisroel N.Y. came in for Chof Av, and they sang parts of Mincha and Maariv like in camp. People attempted to quiet them, but the Rebbe instead encouraged the singing. The Rebbe even encouraged the singing during *Krias Shema* of Maariv!

Before *Aleinu*, the Rebbe spoke to Reb Leibel Groner, instructing that the upcoming *sichos* should be translated like at Tzivos Hashem rallies (a big surprise in this setting after a regular Mincha-Maariv!) and that an additional microphone should be brought for this.

While this unexpected development was still being arranged after *davening* finished, the Rebbe instructed the crowd to sing his father's *niggun*, which was then sung. The Rebbe also encouraged the singing of the campers, who were on the south side bleachers, and the *bochurim*.

As soon as a second microphone was brought for the translator, the Rebbe began, stating that since most of those gathered were children, he would now expound on the name of Camp Gan Yisroel, connecting it with his father's name, Levi Yitzchak, which represents connection to Hashem and joy.

The Rebbe continued, that since his father's primary occupation was learning Torah, he would expound on the Yahrzeit Mishna based on his teachings. The Rebbe then explained the Mishna "*Machat Shehi Nesuna*"² in a way that even a child could understand.

The Rebbe then said that he would distribute coins for tzedakah and instructed the children to sing either "*Ach Tzaddikim*" or his father's *Hakafos niggun*. Harav Levi Yitzchok's *niggun* was sung again, followed by the chant of "*Yechi*," and the singing of "*Ach Tzaddikim*" and "*Ki Elokim Yoshia Tzion*."

Following each *sicha*, Reb Avrohom Shemtov translated the Rebbe's words into English for the children. Throughout the *sichos* and translations, the Rebbe faced the campers.

Tuesday, 21 Av

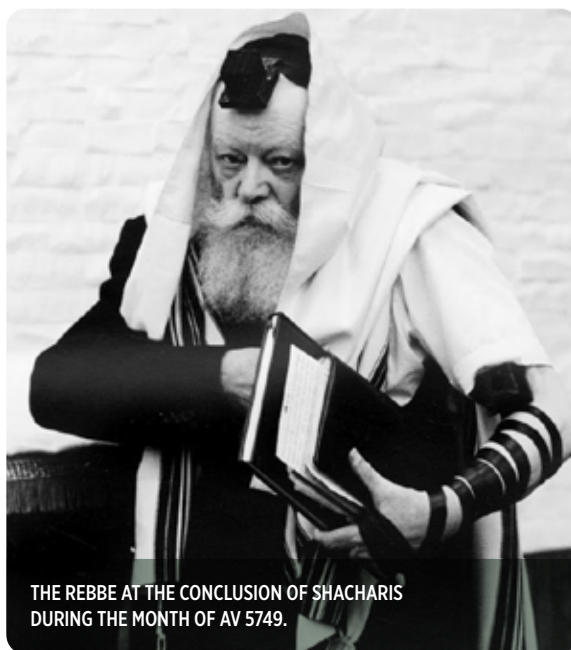
Today, Mincha was scheduled for 3:15 p.m., with the campers returning from Gan Yisroel Montreal participating. However, they arrived 30 minutes late, and the Rebbe waited to emerge for Mincha until he was notified of their arrival.

After Mincha, the Rebbe surprised both the children and the crowd with a *sicha* about the importance of increasing Torah study and doing Mitzvos. Just like how parents have *nachas* when their children grow physically, they also derive much *Nachas* from their spiritual development. This in turn can inspire the parents to grow as well.

Rabbi Y.Y. Hecht was called up to translate the *sicha* for the children and the Rebbe smiled broadly at him. Subsequently, a camper stood up on a stool near the Rebbe and announced loudly "*Der Rebbe Zol Zain Gezunt!*" three times, waving his hands towards the Rebbe. The Rebbe looked at him with a special gaze, and the crowd answered "Amen." After the third proclamation, the Rebbe also answered Amen.

Then the Rebbe said another *sicha* about "*Ach Tzaddikim*."

After this, the children began singing "*Ach Tzaddikim*,"



THE REBBE AT THE CONCLUSION OF SHACHARIS DURING THE MONTH OF AV 5749.

and "*Ki Elokim Yoshia Tzion*," and the Rebbe encouraged the singing with his hand. Suddenly, the Rebbe began turning his hand very fast, greatly increasing the energy in the room. The singing intensified, louder and faster, like on Simchas Torah!

Wednesday, 22 Av

Today, children from Camp Machane Yisroel in Queens (primarily Israelis) came for Mincha. They sat on the benches right behind the Rebbe (as the children from Gan Yisroel Montreal had yesterday).

After Mincha, the Rebbe delivered a *sicha*, saying that the belief in the coming of Moshiach has to permeate every aspect of *Galus*. The Rebbe emphasized the importance of every child making their bedroom into a "House of Torah study, prayer and charity." The Rebbe also encouraged the children, highlighting the positive influence they can have on their parents.

After the *sicha*, the Rebbe gave the counselors a bundle of coins and dollar bills to distribute to the campers for tzedakah. The Rebbe then asked the girls' counselors to come down from the ladies' section to receive Tzedakah for the girls.

Following this, the regular distribution of dollars took

place. A close Chabad supporter passed and stretched out his hand to the Rebbe. The Rebbe smiled warmly and held his hand throughout their interaction.

Tonight, the Rebbe returned home, and Maariv was held there.

Shabbos Mevorchim Elul, Parshas Re'ei, 25 Av

During today's farbrengen, in the second *sicha*, the Rebbe addressed that this coming year is forty years from Yud Shevat. Regarding the milestone of forty years, it is written: "Hashem gave you a heart to know, eyes to see, and ears to listen." We have to apply this power to action. The Rebbe concluded the *sicha* by saying that at this point we are ready for the *Geulah*, even the job of "polishing the buttons" is complete. All that remains is to dance together with Moshiach upon his arrival, in a manner of "*Ad dilo yada*."

After such a *sicha*, the crowd burst into song, singing "Napoleon's March."

Sunday, 26 Av

The Mayor of New York, Ed Koch, who is running for re-election, came by during dollars to receive the Rebbe's blessing. He started listing all sorts of praises about the Rebbe, and the Rebbe smiled and said, "Are you trying to 'bribe' me?!" Mr. Koch replied, "I see the Rebbe is smart."

The Mayor, who was trying to get the Rebbe to say something good electorally on his behalf said, "I'll be back; I'll be back next year as Mayor."

The Rebbe responded: "I'm not a prophet. G-d Al-mighty will choose the best Mayor for the good of the city, including you, be successful in all that they do..."

Mr. Koch replied: "Do you mean that?" And the Rebbe said, "Do you think I would say one thing and mean another?!" ❶

1. The Rebbe davened Shacharis on Tisha B'Av in private, with teffilin.
2. Mikvaos 7:7.



MAYOR OF NEW YORK ED KOCH, WITH THE REBBE AT DOLLARS ON 26 AV 5749.

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