

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
תנ"צ'בה'

ע"י בנם
ר' יקותיאל יהודה
וזוגתו מרת פעסל לאה ומשפחתם
שיחיו
רוהר



A YEAR OF MIRACLES

Summertime with the Rebbe

TAMMUZ—5750

Tammuz is a special month of *geulah*, celebrating the Frieddiker Rebbe's release from prison on Yud-Beis and Yud-Gimmel Tammuz, and the Rebbe's words throughout the month reflected that.

Continuing our story of **Shnas Nissim—
Year of Miracles** with the Rebbe.

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THE REBBE RECITES THE HAFTORAH
ON SHIVA ASAR B'TAMMUZ, 5750.

Farbrengens

At the farbrengens of Shabbos Parshas Chukas, 7 Tammuz, the Rebbe encouraged everyone to organize large farbrengens on the upcoming auspicious days; the more the better.

After this *sicha*, the crowd sang “*Ufaratzta*,” and the Rebbe encouraged the singing vigorously by waving his holy hands in all directions.

The following week, on Shabbos Parshas Balak, 14 Tammuz, the Rebbe held a most exceptional farbrengens.

It was two days after the Frierdiker Rebbe’s 110th birthday on Yud-Beis Tammuz, and the Rebbe addressed this milestone in great detail. The Rebbe pointed out that the Frierdiker Rebbe’s namesake, Yosef Hatzaddik, lived to 110 years old and drew lessons for all of us from Yosef’s life.

As this day is “*isru-chag*” of the Yom Tov of Yud-Gimmel Tammuz, the Rebbe called for more farbrengens to be arranged in the upcoming week, especially on the 15th and 16th of the month, and even on the night of the 17th before the fast of Shiva Asar B’Tammuz.

A memorable part of the farbrengens was when the Rebbe dedicated an extended portion of a *sicha* to wishing

blessings upon all of the Jewish people, especially those in Eretz Yisroel. It seemed like the Middle East was at the cusp of a period of instability (which ultimately culminated in the Gulf War), and the Rebbe blessed the Jewish people with peace and prosperity, especially peace of mind, to last through the imminent coming of Moshiach.

The parsha of the week includes the prophecy of Bilam, which the Rambam quotes in context of the laws of Moshiach. Speaking of Halacha, the Rebbe went into a discussion about the importance of an actionable *psak din*, and how, in addition to ordinary *semicha*, one must also acquire *shimush chachamim* in order to render an authentic ruling. With that, the Rebbe mentioned that many *rabbanim* worldwide have already ruled that the time for Moshiach has arrived. May their ruling be fulfilled immediately!

At the conclusion of this *sicha* the Rebbe stood up in his place and began singing “*Ufaratzta*” with immense joy, clapping and dancing along with the exuberant crowd.

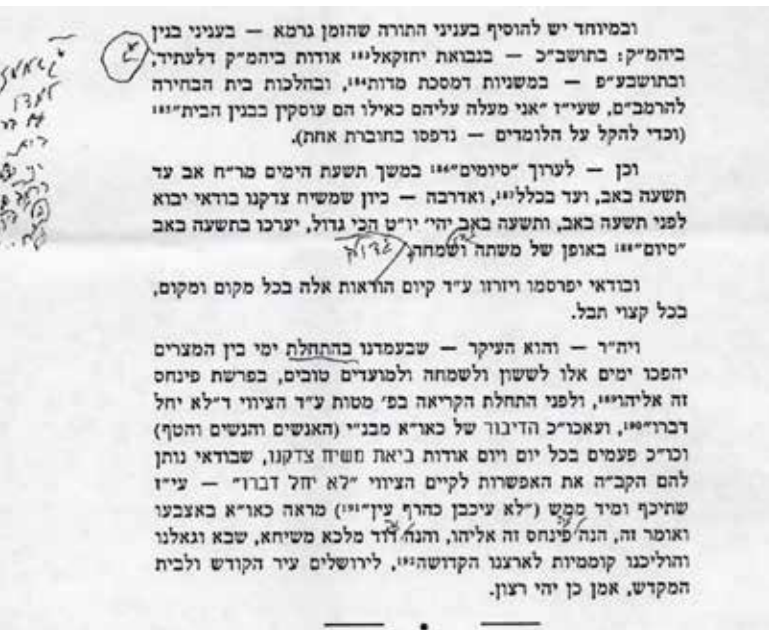
On Shabbos Parshas Pinchas, the first Shabbos of the Three Weeks, the Rebbe quoted his father’s ruling that one must avoid all signs of mourning on Shabbos, and therefore must increase in joy during these Shabbasos.

As is the custom every year, the Rebbe reiterated his call to study the *halachos* of Beis Habechira during this time, familiarizing ourselves with the laws of the Beis Hamikdash. Additionally, the Rebbe spoke about making *siyumim* on *masechtos* of Gemara, as well as sections and *seforim* of the Rambam.

An interesting moment occurred when the Rebbe quoted the Parsha about the Yidden inheriting the land, applying it to the imminent coming of Moshiach. “We will be able to point with our fingers,” the Rebbe said, “and say *‘Leileh teichalek ha’aretz’*—to these individuals the land will be bequeathed; including everyone here in this room, amongst all the Jewish people.” With a smile, the Rebbe pointed at the women’s section upstairs and said, “And the women too; although we can’t see them behind the *mehitza*, but they can see us. They, too, are certainly pointing and saying, *‘Leileh teichalek ha’aretz.’*”

Towards the end of the farbrengens, the Rebbe announced that anyone who had prepared a bottle of *mashke* for an upcoming event should come up and retrieve it. Then the Rebbe wished for every single Jew, “*Lchaim! Lchaim v’livrachta! Lchaim tovim ul’shalom!*”

Then he repeated: “*Lchaim! Lchaim v’livrachta! Lchaim tovim ul’shalom!*”



A PORTION OF THE REBBE’S EDITS ON THE SICHOS OF PARSHAS PINCHAS ABOUT ARRANGING JOYOUS SIYUMIM DURING THE NINE DAYS AND ESPECIALLY ON TISHA B’AV ITSELF.



THE REBBE DISTRIBUTES THE KUNTRES ON THE NIGHT OF 9 TAMMUZ.

On the final Shabbos of the month, Shabbos “Chazak,” Parshas Matos-Masei, the Rebbe spoke about the fact that when reaching the end of the *Sefer*, we proclaim “Chazak” three times. This alludes to the descent we experience during the three weeks of mourning and how, ultimately, we emerge even higher and stronger than before.

When speaking about making *siyumim* throughout the coming Nine Days, the Rebbe mentioned that an increase in Torah study is so crucial at this time: We know that Moshiach should have been here already, and yet he still hasn’t come for some reason. There’s obviously just one thing missing from our *avoda* that is holding back the *geulah*. Since we don’t know exactly what it is, we must seize every possible opportunity to increase in Torah and mitzvos.

A Pleasant Surprise

In addition to the farbrengens, the Rebbe addressed the Chassidim several other times throughout the month. On the afternoon of the fast of Shiva Asar B’Tammuz, the Rebbe delivered “*divrei kivushin*” after Mincha, as is his custom on fast days.

On the evening of 25 Tammuz, after Maariv, something special happened:

The Rebbe descended from his platform to distribute dollars, when suddenly he began speaking a *sicha*! The last time there was a *sicha* at such a setting was several

months earlier on 25 Adar, and no one was expecting this welcome surprise. Immediately, crowds of people pushed forward to where the Rebbe was standing, and some chaos ensued, causing the Rebbe to begin his words again three times! In the meantime, the Shabbos siren blared through the Crown Heights neighborhood, and throngs of people hurried to 770. The Rebbe spoke about the two *parshios* of the week—Matos and Masei—and their connection to the 25th of the month.

Chag Hageulah

Yud-Beis Tammuz in the Rebbe’s presence is always celebrated as a special *yom tov*, but this year the Rebbe marked the day in an unprecedented way:

On Motzei Shabbos, Parshas Chukas, the Rebbe instructed that 15,000 copies of the “*Kuntres Yud-Beis Yud-Gimmel Tammuz 5688*” be printed for the Rebbe to distribute. The booklet contained a *maamar* by the Frierdiker Rebbe which he published in honor of the first anniversary of his release from prison, along with the famous letter where he describes his release as a momentous occasion for all the Jewish people (as well as some appendices). The Rebbe also instructed that in the foreword to the *kuntres*, a paragraph should be added from the Rebbe’s *maamar* of Yud-Aleph Nissan, including a reference to Tehillim 89—the Rebbe’s *kapitel*.

The next day, on Sunday afternoon, after the usual



THE REBBE EXITS THE SHUL ON 12 TAMMUZ WITH THE NEW KUNTRES TUCKED INTO HIS SIDDIR.

dollars distribution, the Rebbe left for the *mikvah* holding the newly printed *kuntres* in hand.

That evening, after returning from the Ohel and davening Mincha and Maariv, the Rebbe distributed the *kuntres* to thousands of men, women, and children, along with a dollar for tzedakah. It is interesting to note that since distributing a *kuntres* on Yud-Aleph Nissan, the Rebbe kept a copy of the *kuntres* he had distributed inside his siddur at all times. However, when the Rebbe came into the shul for Mincha and Maariv on this evening, that *kuntres* was no longer there.

The distribution lasted about an hour and a half, throughout which the Rebbe was in excellent spirits, smiling at many who passed—especially women and children. At the end, the Rebbe placed three copies into his siddur and began exiting the shul. At the exit, a few



THE REBBE'S MESSAGE TO CHILDREN ATTENDING GAN YISROEL CAMPS, 3 TAMMUZ 5750.

more people who hadn't yet received their copies were present, and the Rebbe took the copies out of his siddur and distributed them. Rabbi Leibel Groner brought additional copies, and the Rebbe distributed them as well. Outside the elevator, both downstairs and upstairs, the Rebbe gave out a few more copies.

At 11:47 p.m., the Rebbe came out to the service lane on Eastern Parkway for Kiddush Levana. Then, on his way back into 770, Rabbi Groner told the Rebbe that several individuals hadn't yet received *kuntreisim*. The Rebbe placed his siddur on the car parked nearby and proceeded to hand out additional copies for another few minutes. After the Rebbe went back into his room (at midnight!), some more individuals showed up, and this time the Rebbe asked Rabbi Groner to give them *kuntreisim* on his behalf.

Several days later, on Wednesday, Erev Yud-Beis Tammuz, the Rebbe issued a written message with blessings for all the participants in farbrengens of Yud-Beis and Yud-Gimmel Tammuz around the world. A special request was added by the *Mazkirus* that the message should be disseminated especially among campers at



THE REBBE WISHES HATZLACHA TO CAMPERS AND STAFF MEMBERS ON THEIR WAY TO CAMP FOR THE SUMMER.



CHAIM BARUCH HALBERSTAM VIA JEM 49819



REB BENTZION SHAFRAN VISITS THE REBBE ON SUNDAY, 1 TAMMUZ.



RABBI YOSEF GUTNICK WITH HIS SON AT DOLLARS ON 8 TAMMUZ.

summer camps.

A few days later, on Monday, 16 Tammuz, the Rebbe held *yechidus klolis* for the guests who had come for Yud-Beis and Yud-Gimmel Tammuz. When the Rebbe entered the shul, he asked why there were no chairs for those who wished to sit, as usual. The Rebbe then began with his address, then received *panim* from each guest while distributing dollars for tzedakah.

Summer

As the summer was underway, many children in the neighborhood were leaving to spend time in various camps.

On Tuesday, Gimmel Tammuz, the Rebbe sent out a written message to Gan Yisroel attendees, wishing them much success throughout the summer.

On Sunday, 1 Tammuz, during the usual Sunday dollars, a group of campers and staff who were heading out to Camp Gan Yisroel in Michigan passed by the Rebbe. The Rebbe wished each one of them “*Hatzlacha rabba* in Detroit!”

To a group of staff members heading up to Camp Gan Yisroel in Parksville, NY, the Rebbe gave additional dollars, instructing them to “Give this to tzedakah in camp.”

Dollars

In addition to the campers and staff, many thousands of people came to seek the Rebbe’s *brachos* and guidance each Sunday during “dollars,” as usual.

On Sunday, 1 Tammuz, the Rebbe was visited by Reb Bentzion Shafran, who was marrying off his daughter later in the week. The Rebbe told him, “Thank you for the gift; the *ksav yad*.” (On the preceding Friday, he had gifted the Rebbe with a *ksav yad kodesh* of the Tzemach Tzedek.) Reb Bentzion told the Rebbe that his mother had come to New York for the wedding, but she couldn’t come to dollars because she was unwell. The Rebbe said that she would dance at the wedding and gave an additional dollar for her to have a *refuah sheleima*.

On Sunday, 8 Tammuz, Rabbi Yosef Gutnick came by the Rebbe with his family. The Rebbe pointed at his young son, Isser, and said, “He’s also a Kohen; he can bless with



THE REBBE CONCLUDES THE DISTRIBUTION OF DOLLARS ON SUNDAY AFTERNOON, 15 TAMMUZ.

RABBI YOSEF GUTNICK WITH HIS SON AT DOLLARS ON 8 TAMMUZ.

birkas kohanim.

Rabbi Gutnick told the Rebbe that his son's birthday was on 16 Tammuz.

"Shiva Asar B'Tammuz?" the Rebbe asked. Rabbi Gutnick repeated that the birthday was one day earlier, on 16 Tammuz. The Rebbe smiled and said, "He caught (*arein-gechapt*) the last moments of the first Luchos!"

The Rebbe then gave Rabbi Gutnick a dollar, saying, "*Bracha v'hatzlacha*," then another dollar saying, "*Kiflayim l'tushiya*," then a third dollar, "for all the good news until now," a fourth dollar, "for all the good news to come," and a fifth dollar, "for all your activities."

A woman came to the Rebbe and said that she had a dream in which Moshe Rabbeinu appeared to her. The Rebbe said, "This is a good sign for you that you'll have only good things, even in your dreams!"

Rabbi Zalman Lipsker from Philadelphia brought a group of 80 Israelis to see the Rebbe, and the Rebbe told them that the word "Philadelphia" means love of wisdom. May they all learn to love true wisdom: the Torah.

To one individual, the Rebbe said: "You look downcast (*mara-sh'choradik*). Get rid of your *mara-sh'chora*. You want to accomplish things, but this [dejection] doesn't allow you to accomplish anything."

On Sunday, 15 Tammuz, Rabbi Hirshel Fogelman from Worcester, Massachusetts, came to the Rebbe, and the Rebbe gave him an additional dollar "for the wedding."



LATER THAT EVENING, FOLLOWING MINCHA AND MAARIV UPON RETURNING FROM THE OHEL, THE REBBE BEGINS DISTRIBUTING DOLLARS AFTER MIDNIGHT.

MORDECHAI BARON VIA JEM 1/7881

Rabbi Fogelman was confused, and the Rebbe explained, “For your wedding anniversary!” Rabbi Fogelman then remembered that his wedding anniversary was indeed later in the week, and he smiled. The Rebbe responded with a smile, “I have to remember? I have to remind you?” The Rebbe then gave him another dollar for his wife.

An individual approached the Rebbe holding a pair of tefillin that the Rebbe had advised him to check, saying that he sent it to two expert *sofrim* and they both said it was completely kosher. The Rebbe replied, “If that’s the case, you don’t have to worry. The Torah relies on the testimony of two witnesses, so you can rely on them.”

The dollars distribution concluded at 3:30 p.m., and shortly thereafter the Rebbe left for the Ohel, returning at 11:45 at night! No one at 770 could recall another instance throughout the years in which the Rebbe returned from the Ohel so late at night.

At 11:50 p.m., the Rebbe entered the shul and davened Mincha and Maariv, followed by another distribution of dollars!

Mayoral Delegation

In addition to the regular Sunday dollars encounters, the Rebbe was visited by several interesting individuals on other occasions throughout the month.

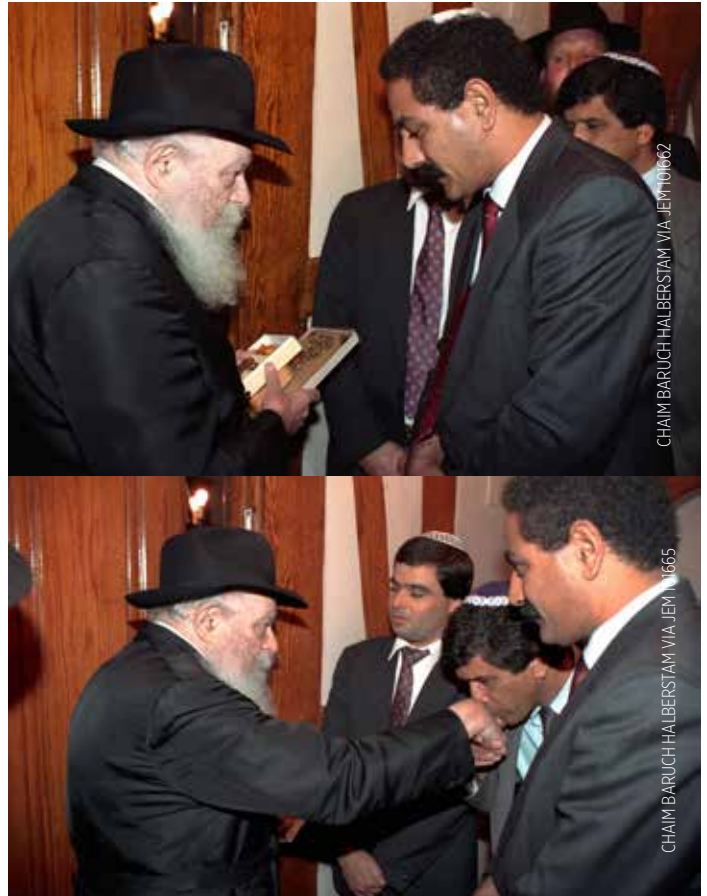
On Friday night of Shabbos Parshas Chukas, 7 Tammuz, as the Rebbe was on his way out of shul following davening and approaching the door to his room, a small child was crying and running towards the Rebbe. The Rebbe waited until one of the *bochurim* picked up the boy, and then waved his hand several times in encouragement towards him.

On Sunday evening, 1 Tammuz, the Rebbe distributed dollars after Maariv, and one of the people who came by was Harav Yisroel Hager, son of the Vizhnitzer Rebbe of Bnei Brak, who later became the Vizhnitzer Rebbe.

The Rebbe conversed with him and another individual who accompanied him for a few minutes, wishing them “*Besuros tovos*” and other blessings.

On Monday evening, 9 Tammuz, the Rebbe was visited by three mayors from cities in Eretz Yisroel: Sderot, Chatzor Haglilit, and Ofakim, accompanied by Reb Nochum Markowitz.

Two of them presented honorary medals from their city to the Rebbe, and the Rebbe blessed them, saying that their cities should grow and be successful.



ON MONDAY EVENING, 9 TAMMUZ, THE REBBE IS VISITED BY THREE ISRAELI MAYORS AND PRESENTED WITH HONORARY MEDALS FROM THE CITIES.

The mayor of Sderot gave the Rebbe the key to his city, and the Rebbe said:

“Thank you very much. According to halacha, when you give someone the key to a location, you’re essentially giving them ownership of that place. I usually like to leave the decisions regarding most details up to the general public, and I do not wish to get involved in how the city runs. However, I wish to emphasize that you must stand strong in all matters of the integrity of the Torah, which is dependent upon the integrity of the Land of Israel and the integrity of the Jewish people.”

The Rebbe blessed all three mayors with a safe trip home and went into his room. Then the Rebbe emerged once more and told the group: “I often quote what is stated in the Talmud, that when a citizen of Eretz Yisroel leaves and goes out to *Chutz Laretz*, his return to Eretz Yisroel is double as strong as before!”

An Amazing Impression

Rabbi Dr. Naftali Lowenthal of London, England, has been publishing a weekly pamphlet called “Friday Night” with insights from Chassidus on the Parsha.

On Erev Shabbos Balak, the Rebbe wrote to him:

“Our Rabbeim publicized that disseminating (explanations on ideas of) Chassidus—the wellsprings of the Torah—**hastens** the coming of Moshiach Tzidkeinu, about whom it speaks in the Parsha of [this] Friday Night [Parshas Balak].

“It might be worthwhile to print (and in the issues already published—to add a sticker stating), in English obviously, ‘be careful to respect the sanctity of this publication.’”



At the end of the month of Sivan, there were several regional Kinus Hashluchim gatherings around the world, and many of them received encouraging responses from the Rebbe.

On Erev Shabbos Parshas Shelach, Rabbi Moshe Kotlarsky wrote a report about the ongoing regional Kinus in Nice, France. He asked the Rebbe if there were any specific instructions to be implemented at the Kinus. The Rebbe replied: “As shall be discussed tomorrow at the farbrengen of Shabbos Parshas Shelach.” Indeed, the next day, the Rebbe discussed the importance and meaning of *shlichus* at the Shabbos farbrengen.

A report to the Rebbe from the regional Kinus in New York and New England was dated “Sunday, Parsha of ‘אני וחלקך ונחלתך’ [I.e. Parshas Korach where Hashem tells Aharon Hakohen and his sons that they would not inherit a portion of the land, since Hashem is their portion.] The Rebbe circled these words and wrote:

“[Hashem is the portion] of all those who dedicate themselves [to do his holy work], as the Rambam rules. And he concludes: ‘[You, Hashem] are my guide...’”



A *bochur* wrote to the Rebbe asking for a *bracha* for success in learning and keeping the *sedarim*, and the Rebbe replied: “You are guaranteed by our holy Torah that if you work hard, you will find success. I will mention this at the Ohel.”



Members of the administration of Oholei Torah Elementary School wrote to the Rebbe about a new



THE REBBE IS CALLED TO THE TORAH FOR MAFTIR ON SHIVA ASAR B'TAMMUZ.

program for children who need extra attention to keep up with their learning, and the Rebbe replied:

“This is a great thing, and it comes at an appropriate time: Chag Hashavuos, [which marks] the beginning of a renewed education for all the Jewish people, *shlita*. I will mention this at the Ohel.”



The Shluchim Office sent a questionnaire to all Shluchim worldwide, gathering information and statistics about their activities. When they sent a report to the Rebbe of their findings, the Rebbe wrote:

“[The report] was received. Thank you very much. May this be an ongoing endeavor, and with an **increase**. [The report] makes an amazing impression, **etc.** I will mention this at the Ohel.”

They wrote that when more information comes in from the Shluchim, they will share it with the Rebbe. The Rebbe put an arrow from his words “with an increase” pointing towards this sentence of the report.



A shliach wrote to the Rebbe that he was traveling to Detroit to participate in a *siyum* of Gemara Maseches Shabbos, which the students there, including his son, had learned by heart. The Rebbe replied:

“Chazal say that [when the Torah says] ‘the days of your joy’ this refers to Shabbasos. I will mention this at the Ohel.” **1**