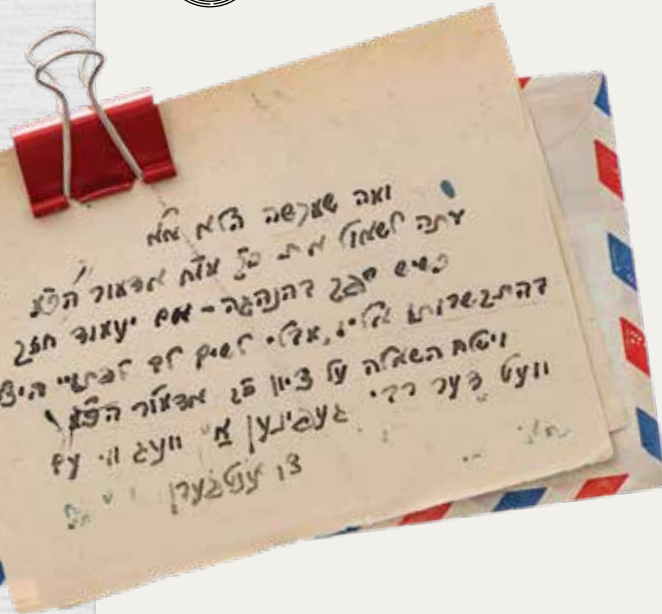




Story

לעילוי נשמת
 הרה"ח הרה"ת ר' מאיר בן הרה"ח
 הרה"ת ר' חיים שניאור זלמן ע"ה
 איטקין
 מנעול
 נלב"ע י"ז אלול ה'תשס"ז

נדפס ע"י נכדו
 הרה"ת ר' דוד וזוגתו מרת פערל
 גאלדא ומשפחתם שיחיו
 טייכטל



דער רבי וועט געפינען א וועג...

WRITTEN BY: RABBI LEVI GREENBERG (TX)

Treasures from Above (part 2)



AS TOLD BY
**RABBI LEVI YITZCHOK
 CEITLIN**
 (Haifa, Eretz Yisroel)

Every year, I have the great merit of organizing a trip for Lubavitcher girls to visit the Rebbe for Chof Beis Shevat. This project was very dear to my father, Rabbi Aharon Eliezer Ceitlin *a"h*, who would arrange this “*kvutza*” every year. Since it coincided with the International Kinus Hashluchos, he felt that the girls’ participation in the legendary banquet was crucial to inspiring them to go on Shlichus themselves in the future. Understandably, there was a price for their participation in the banquet, and each year, he happily raised the funds.

After his passing, I assumed responsibility for the “*kvutza*”; their participation in the banquet is my highlight of the program, and a focus of my fundraising for the trip. In the past, I shared how I experienced the Rebbe’s *brachos* to cover this unique budget through many miracles during the Kinus of 5784. (Published in *Derher Cheshvan*

5785. –ed) I’d like to share similar miracles I experienced for the “*kvutza*” of 5785.

Since airline tickets to New York became more expensive because of the war in Eretz Yisroel, registration for the trip opened before Tishrei, and we encouraged potential participants to purchase tickets early, when they were still more affordable. As usual, there was a special “*hachana*” program to learn the *Basi Ugani maamarim* for this year, and over 150 girls participated. Despite the financial challenges, the “*kvutza*” exceeded those of previous years, and there was a special addition to the group.

My friend Rabbi Motti Kenig is a Shliach in the Chareidi neighborhood of Kiryat Sefer in Modiin Ilit. This is a Litvishe stronghold, and he and his wife have successfully brought Chassidus to the community in powerful ways. Recently, they opened a high school named “Beit

Chaya” catering to all the neighborhood girls who were not accepted into the other high schools in town. The students are not from Chabad families, and in addition to providing top-notch *chinuch*, the Kenigs introduce them to Chabad and the Chassidische way of life.

For the first time, the Kenigs arranged a special learning program for their students, and those who excelled won a free trip to the Rebbe for Chof Beis Shevat. It was a huge success, and 25 girls qualified for the trip. While the Kenigs shouldered the financial responsibility of the flights and accommodations in New York, I welcomed them to join our program free of charge. Although Rabbi Kenig was skeptical of the need, I insisted on their participation in the Kinus banquet along with the others, even though it would significantly raise my cost.

Rabbi Kenig fundraised large sums of money for his program, and one of his significant donors was Rabbi Eliyahu Schlossberg from Yerushalayim. I also sent Rabbi Schlossberg an email requesting his support for our program, but did not receive a response.

Before the program started, I had already paid the Kinus office approximately half the funds needed for the girls’ participation, and based on previous experience, I was confident the Rebbe would find a way for me to cover the considerable expense before we returned to Eretz Yisroel, but I did not know how.

When I arrived at 770 on Friday morning, 23 Shevat, to daven Shacharis, the main shul was closed for a rally for the Kinus Tzeirei Hashluchos, so I davened in the upstairs *zal*. Toward the end of Shacharis, I vaguely recognized someone sitting at the table on the south end of the room, and was told this was Rabbi Schlossberg from Yerushalayim.

I had never met him before, but I sat down next to him and introduced myself. He recognized my name from the email and explained he had already donated a large sum to Rabbi Kenig for the 25 girls from Kiryat Sefer. When I clarified they were participating in our program free of charge, he said he would need to rethink my request.

On Sunday evening, I was so happy that all the girls, including the Kiryat Sefer group, participated in the Kinus banquet. However, I had still not managed to secure more than half of the deficit for the cost of their participation. After the banquet, there was a special *farbrenge* for the girls, and I went to sleep close to three o’clock in the morning. For some reason, I awoke barely two hours later and could not sleep. Since I was scheduled to fly

back to Eretz Yisroel later that evening and had much to accomplish that day, I decided to go to the Ohel, and by 5:30 a.m., I caught a ride at the corner of Kingston and Eastern Parkway.

During the ride, I sent a WhatsApp message to Rabbi Dovid Fisher with a photo of the “*kvutza*” in front of 770. He had donated a significant sum of money to our program in 5784, and I had tried to contact him this year without success. In the short message I wrote to him during the ride to the Ohel, I thanked him for his previous participation and asked him to help cover my deficit with the Kinus office for the banquet.

To my pleasant surprise, he responded by asking how much it cost, and committed to a very significant amount that covered almost the entire deficit. At the Ohel, I wrote a letter to the Rebbe reporting on the trip’s success, thanked Hashem for all the miracles I had experienced in fundraising that year, and asked for a *bracha* that I secure the remaining amount very soon.

Throughout the day, I was busy with errands in Crown Heights, and as I was about to pack everything up and head to the airport, I encountered Rabbi Schlossberg on Kingston Avenue. I thanked him for supporting Rabbi Kenig’s efforts on behalf of the Kiryat Sefer girls. I played him a WhatsApp voice note I had received that morning from Rabbi Kenig, describing how inspired the Kiryat Sefer girls were from participating in the banquet. When he heard Rabbi Kenig’s emotional reaction to this part of the trip, he asked me what the cost was for each girl and immediately pledged to cover the cost for the 25 girls from Kiryat Sefer!

Once I arrived in Eretz Yisroel, I received a message from Rabbi Yosef Gopin, the shliach in Hartford, CT, who had participated in the Seudas Shabbos with our group and pledged to sponsor five girls’ participation in the banquet. His donation was the final amount I needed to pay the Kinus office.

Once again, through tremendous *hashgacha pratis* and the Rebbe’s *brachos*, the girls of the “*kvutza*” were inspired by their participation in the Kinus Hashluchos, which will surely have a meaningful long-term impact. **T**

YOUR STORY

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