



THE REBBE RETURNS TO HIS ROOM AFTER  
SHACHARIS ON THE MORNING OF PURIM 5750.

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"נ צ"ב ה'

~

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



A YEAR OF MIRACLES

# The Joyous Month of Adar With the Rebbe

5750—SHNAS NISSIM

The month of Adar is always joyous—*marbim b'simcha*. In the holiness of the Rebbe's presence, this joy is felt more even potently—especially around the Yom Tov of Purim.

Let us continue our journey through the *Shnas Nissim*—5750—with the Rebbe.

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# The First Shabbos

On the first Shabbos of the month, Shabbos Parshas Teruma, the Rebbe addressed the *yahrtzeit* of his brother-in-law, Rashag, who served as the dedicated administrator of Yeshivas Tomchei Temimim for many decades.

On the preceding Thursday night, at the Rebbe's behest, a farbrengen took place, led by the *hanhala* of the yeshiva. On Friday, the Rebbe went to the Ohel and also stopped at Rashag's gravesite for a few minutes before returning to 770. Right before Shabbos, the Rebbe requested that a *yahrtzeit* candle be brought to his room.

At the Shabbos farbrengen, the Rebbe spoke about his brother-in-law's life's work and the fruit of his labor easily evident around the globe: the alumni of Tomchei Temimim who illuminate the world. The Rebbe mentioned Thursday night's farbrengen, adding that the students of Tomchei Temimim should print something in his memory—a *maamar* that discusses the ideas of Moshiach, the Beis Hamikdash, and *techiyas hameisim*.

Towards the end of the farbrengen the Rebbe distributed bottles of *mashke*, as usual. A group of five students from Tomchei Temimim in Moscow approached. They had been visiting at 770 since Yud Shevat and were scheduled to return to Russia on Monday, where they would hold a farbrengen in honor of Tes Adar (marking fifty years since the day that the Friediker Rebbe settled in the United States). The Rebbe poured a *lchaim* for each of the students, asking each one if he too was traveling this week. When one of them made an announcement about the planned farbrengen, the Rebbe smiled and said (in Russian), "Announce it in Russian!"

Members of Agudas Chassidei Chabad approached the Rebbe to receive a bottle for a farbrengen to take place in the coming week in honor of Tes Adar. In the midst of Reb Zalman Gurary's announcing the event, the Rebbe interrupted him, saying with a smile: "Am I not invited?" Reb Zalman added, "The Rebbe, *Nessi Doreinu*—the leader of our generation who is equivalent to the whole generation—is invited to be at our lead!"

The next morning after Shacharis, the Rebbe was about to leave the shul when he turned to Rabbi Leibel Groner, saying, "There must be an announcement that buses will be going to the holy site [i.e. to the Ohel, in honor of the *yahrtzeit*]."

The announcement was made, and soon after the Rebbe concluded the Sunday-dollars distribution, two buses went out to the Ohel. About an hour later, the Rebbe himself went to the Ohel as well.

The following day, on Monday 8 Adar, a *maamar* from the Rebbe was released, titled "*Kol Yisroel Yesh Lahem*

*Chelek L'Olam Haba—5733*" (based on the Rebbe's instruction at the preceding Shabbos farbrengen). The Rebbe dated the *maamar* "*Zayin Adar, Sunday [Parshas V'Ata Tetzaveh]*."

# 50 Year Celebration

This month marked a special occasion in Lubavitch history: 50 years since the Friediker Rebbe's arrival in the United States on Tes Adar 5700.

On the eve of Tes Adar following Maariv, the Rebbe approached the *shtender* at the edge of his platform and spoke about the great milestone; how the Friediker Rebbe's arrival in the "lower hemisphere" brings the holiness of Torah, especially *primiyus haTorah*, to the lowest of realms.

In honor of the a momentous occasion, the Rebbe called for special farbrengens to be arranged all over the world, but most importantly in Brooklyn, where the Friediker Rebbe established his headquarters and operated for the last ten years of his life.

# Farbrengens

As usual, the entire month was filled with many *sichos*, both at Shabbos farbrengens as well as during the week, when the Rebbe offered deep insights into the parsha of



SOME OF THE EXTENSIVE EDITS OF THE REBBE ON THE SICHA OF SHABBOS 6 ADAR 5750.

the week and the time of year.

Interestingly, on one of the first nights of the month, Motzei Rosh Chodesh, the Rebbe concluded Maariv and turned around, glancing at the place where he would usually deliver a *sicha*. Immediately, the organizers started setting up a *shtender* for the Rebbe, but the Rebbe made a gesture with his hand as if to say, “What’s going on?” Turning to Rabbi Leibel Groner, the Rebbe clarified, saying, “Dollars!” The Rebbe then distributed two dollars to each of the assembled.

Shabbos Parshas Tetzaveh was the day before Purim, and the Shabbos farbrengen was exceptionally joyous. The Rebbe encouraged the singing with both of his hands, turning to all sides of the shul throughout.

In one of the *sichos*, the Rebbe spoke about the importance of making more farbrengens in the coming week, even in the days after Purim. On Purim itself, in addition to having a *seuda*, the celebration is expressed by reading the Megillah and other mitzvos. But once

Purim concludes, the joy can and must continue through Chassidishe farbrengens.

“I received a letter from some people,” the Rebbe divulged, “complaining about the fact that we are constantly telling people to make more farbrengens, even on birthdays and the like. With so many farbrengens, they ask, when will there be time left for Torah study? They conclude in their letter that this is not only a question they’re asking of their own volition. They actually checked with senior Chassidim, and were told that their concerns were valid...”

The Rebbe responded that the farbrengens are extremely important. They symbolize *Ahavas Yisroel* and are able to accomplish great things—even more than what Malach Michael can do, as the Alter Rebbe famously said. However, the Rebbe reiterated that all farbrengens must be conducted with the proper limits according to Shulchan Aruch and according to Chassidus, especially when the participants are *yeshiva bochurim* (i.e.

THE REBBE ENTERS THE SHUL FOR MINCHA ON PURIM AFTERNOON.



THE REBBE ENCOURAGES THE LIVELY SINGING AFTER DISTRIBUTING DOLLARS ON MOTZEI PURIM.

the Rebbe's *takana* about limiting the amount of *l'chaims* must be heeded).

It should be noted that after Shabbos, in response to a letter from parents of students at Oholei Torah who complained to the Rebbe about the many *farbrenge*s taking place, the Rebbe replied with a reference to the last *Siman* of *Orach Chaim*, which discusses the celebrations of Purim Katan:

”לאחרי ריבוי הלימודים (כל חלק אוה"ח) הסיום הוא וטוב לב משתה תמיד. ימצא ההנהלה וישאלה מה ה' ע"ד כ"ז בליובאוויטש מאז.”

“After much study ([learning through] the entire section of *Orach Chaim* [the first section of the *Shulchan Aruch*]), it concludes [with the *possuk*]: “*Tov lev mishteh tamid*, the cheerful of heart feasts constantly.” Seek out the administration [of *Tomchei Tmimim*] and ask them what the practice was in this regard [i.e. having many *farbrenge*s] in Lubavitch of old.”

## Purim

Of course, a highlight this month is celebrating the Yom Tov of Purim with the Rebbe.

Purim night was Motzei Shabbos, and the Rebbe

entered the shul for Maariv holding his Siddur and his Megillah in its beautiful silver case.

When it came time for the Megillah to be read, the Rebbe opened his siddur to the page of the *brachos* and read them at the same time as the *baal koreh* (this occurred with the *brachos* both before and after the reading).

Later in the evening, after the Rebbe left the shul, he sent word through the *Mazkirus* that the distribution of Sunday dollars would take place the next day as usual, even though it was Purim morning.

Shortly after Shacharis the next morning, a few members of *anash* went into the Rebbe's room to receive checks to be distributed to poor people for *matanos l'evyonim*. The Rebbe wished each of them a “*Chag HaPesach Kosher V'Sameach*.” Then the Rebbe sent out three sets of *mishloach manos*, which included a bottle of *mashke* and a fruit, to a Kohen (Reb Mottel Rivkin), a Levi (Reb Shmuel Dovid Raichik), and a Yisroel (Rabbi Hodakov).

At 12:20, the Rebbe began distributing dollars for about an hour.

One of the people who passed was Reb Shimshon Stock, holding his famous “collection box” raising funds for “*Chevra Simchas Shabbos V'Yom Tov*,” assisting needy



families in the community. The Rebbe placed a dollar into the box, then picked up two dollars with both his hands and dropped them inside with a smile.

One of the children passed by the Rebbe in costume, holding a fake gun, and the Rebbe smiled, saying, “Don’t shoot me.”

At 3:15, the Rebbe davened Mincha in the big shul, and afterward he received Reb Leibel Bistritzky in his room. Reb Leibel always brings a special cake to the Rebbe for *mishloach manos*. The Rebbe greeted him with a big smile and instructed him to put down the mishloach manos. Then Reb Leibel told the Rebbe that exactly 50 years earlier, on Purim 5700, he merited to see the Friediker Rebbe for the first time. The Rebbe responded, “Till 120. May you have much *nachas* from your children and grandchildren.”

When the Rebbe came into the shul for Maariv, the crowd sang Napoleon’s March, and the Rebbe strongly encouraged the singing. Upon reaching his *shtender*, the Rebbe set down his Siddur and, with incredible enthusiasm, encouraged the *niggun* with sweeping gestures. The Rebbe’s holy hands soared through the air again and again, igniting the Chassidim with the true joy of Purim.

After Maariv, the Rebbe delivered a *sicha* for about 45 minutes, discussing how Purim reveals the inner core of the Jewish people, and their quintessential connection with Hashem.

Later that evening, Chassidim farbrenged together in 770 into the wee hours of the morning. Reb Yoel Kahn admonished the crowd for sitting around apathetically when the Rebbe is not farbrenging in honor of Purim and not delivering a *maamar*.<sup>1</sup>

## Yechidus With Lubavitch Supporters

Towards the end of the month, on Tuesday, 23 Adar, the Rebbe greeted the members of the Machne Israel Development Fund in the big shul, first addressing them as a group, then meeting with each of them one-on-one for a few private moments.

The Rebbe entered the shul at 4:35 with a big smile on his face, waving to many of the members present, and shook hands with the fund’s chairman, Mr. David Chase, before taking his seat.

The Rebbe spoke to the group for about 25 minutes, while those who didn’t understand Yiddish listened to simultaneous translation through small transmitters. The Rebbe spoke about the meaning of the word “development”—how it indicates utilizing one’s every opportunity



to grow and do good with all the blessings given to him by Hashem. This is especially true about the people gathered here, the Rebbe said, who have demonstrated through their success in business how to always work hard and bring things to the next level. The Rebbe encouraged the members to use their extraordinary influence to spread Yiddishkeit, justice, and peace in their surroundings, thereby bringing peace into their own lives and homes—and to the entire world—with the coming of Moshiach.

The Rebbe then began meeting with each member individually, giving *brachos* and advice. One member asked the Rebbe what to do about frequent headaches, and the Rebbe told him to take care to eat three meals a day at their proper times, even though Chassidim aren't necessarily so careful about this. Another individual told the Rebbe that he puts on tefillin and davens every day, but he still doesn't feel close enough to Hashem. The Rebbe advised him to recite the *kapitel* in Tehillim corresponding to his age every day. One member brought his family with ten children along, and the Rebbe gave each child a nickel for *tzedakah*. When one of the children told the Rebbe about his upcoming bar mitzvah, the Rebbe asked when it would be, and he responded that it was on the upcoming Thursday. "You still have enough time to learn a *perek* of Tanya by heart," the Rebbe said.

The individual meetings lasted four hours, until about 9:00 PM.

The Rebbe then addressed the group of shluchim who had brought the supporters, speaking about the fact that every Yid is a shliach in this world, although there are

those who were officially appointed as "shluchim," in whom this is more evident. Even a newborn baby is able to do a shlichus—by causing his parents to bring holy objects into the hospital (a *Shir Hamaalos* card and the like).

## Dollars

Each Sunday, the Rebbe greeted thousands of people from all walks of life, giving each a *bracha* and a dollar for *tzedakah*.

On Sunday, 7 Adar, an individual came to the Rebbe and said that he is a supporter of a certain yeshiva, and that his father-in-law was a student of Reb Issur Zalman Meltzer, the famous rosh yeshiva of Slutzk. The Rebbe told him to be sure to teach his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren about the special pedigree they have.

An individual from Australia told the Rebbe that the shluchim in his city are doing amazing things and that all the credit is due to the Rebbe. The Rebbe corrected him: "All the credit is due to the activists in the city, including you! Hashem should bless you and your wife to do even more than until now."

An individual told the Rebbe that he had a choice of two properties to buy, one in New York and one in Toronto, and asked the Rebbe's advice about how to move forward. The Rebbe told him to seek the counsel of wise friends, but added that perhaps he should buy both.

An individual told the Rebbe that his daughter was married to a non-Jew, and they had a baby girl together,



THE REBBE IN CONVERSATION WITH MR. BENJAMIN GILLMAN, A MEMBER OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM NEW YORK.



NEW YORK SENATOR, MR. DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN, PRESENTS THE REBBE WITH A RARE SEFER AS A GIFT FOR HIS LIBRARY.

but now they were divorced. The Rebbe said, “Because her mother is a Jew, that means she is a Jew. Now we need to ensure that she gets a Jewish education.”

A woman told the Rebbe that she fell at the train station and was now in middle of a lawsuit, but her opponents want to settle the case with a smaller sum of money; she asked whether or not she should accept it. The Rebbe replied, “This you should ask a lawyer who is a friend.” The woman told the Rebbe that she had asked Rabbi Marlow, and the Rebbe said, “May it be in an auspicious time.”

A *kallah* came to the Rebbe and asked for a *bracha* for her friend; the Rebbe told her, “Think about your friend when you’re under the *chuppah*. It’s an auspicious time for the *chassan* and *kallah* to have all their heart’s desires fulfilled.”

An individual complained to the Rebbe that—while many members study at his *kollel*—the *kollel*’s financial situation was very difficult. The Rebbe said, “On the contrary, that means that you’re running a healthy institution. Some institutions have a lot of money but no people attending; that’s the opposite of how it’s supposed to be.”

On Sunday, 21 Adar, a group of *rabbanim* from Flatbush approached the Rebbe, thanking the Rebbe for sending shlichim to speak at their shuls. One of them mentioned that Lubavitch is active in “*kiruv rechokim*” (bringing close those who are far), and the Rebbe remarked, “People use the expression ‘*kiruv rechokim*’ without realizing that every day before davening, we say ‘*Ve’ahavta l’reiacha kamocho*’ (love your fellow as yourself). Instead, the view should be that those who are already close can be brought even closer...”

A doctor approached the Rebbe, saying that many of his patients have been helped by the Rebbe’s *brachos*, and the Rebbe replied, “It would be a good idea to make an innovation for every doctor to have a *tzedakah pushka* in his office. It is a good remedy for the patients and also for the doctor.”

An individual came to the Rebbe and said that his wife had a baby a few days earlier and was not feeling well. The Rebbe said she would be alright; it could take time till she heals.

Senator Patrick Moynihan came to the Rebbe, and the Rebbe told him, “Thank you very much for honoring me [with the visit]. May you have good news in the protection of the population of New York and the United States. You are a member of the Congress also.” The senator said that he is actually a member of the Senate, and the Rebbe said, “Congress is also the name for the Senate,” and the senator agreed.

Senator Moynihan presented the Rebbe with an old

copy of Tikkun Chatzos that he had found in an ancient synagogue in Morocco, and the Rebbe accepted it graciously, saying, “You certainly know that all those coming from your country [Ireland] are famous for their resistance. [The senator’s parents were Irish immigrants.] May G-d Al-mighty help you to be successful for the benefit of the whole population of the U.S. in good health and good energy.”

On Sunday, 28 Adar, Rabbi Kasriel Kastel brought an individual to the Rebbe who was born to Jewish parents but later converted out of the faith and became a priest. Now he wished to come back to Judaism. The Rebbe asked him what his mother’s name was, and he said “Gittel.” The Rebbe gave him a dollar for *tzedakah* and remarked, “From now on, you should have only *good* news, like your mother’s name [‘Gittel’ means good in Yiddish]. You should have good news and, most importantly, ‘Jewish’ news, and forget about everything in your past. May you have long years, Jewish years, and Torah years.”

Rabbi Kastel asked for a *bracha* for *parnassa* for this individual, since he will lose his livelihood by giving up his current post. The Rebbe waved both of his hands in disappointment, saying, “Why do you have to mention... He already forgot about that a long time ago. May you have good news.”

## “And You Emerged Safely”

The Rebbe wrote many interesting responses to the letters he received throughout the month. The following episode took place the previous month, on 16 Shevat:

A shliach in the United States was in Crown Heights for Yud Shevat. Before leaving for home, on Sunday, 16 Shevat, he brought his family to get dollars from the Rebbe. As he was pulling away from 770 in his car, the Rebbe’s car passed by en route to the mikvah, and the Rebbe gazed very intently at him and his family.

Later, on the road, his car was hit by a truck and severely damaged, but miraculously, every member of the family was unharmed. The shliach immediately called the Rebbe’s *Mazkirus* to notify the Rebbe of the incident, adding that the car had a *Chitas* and *tzedakah pushka* in it. On the note written by the *mazkir*, the Rebbe underlined the words *Chitas and tzedakah pushka* and wrote:

”ויצא שלם, אזכיר עה”צ.”

“And you emerged safely. I will mention this at the Ohel.” **T**

1. After the Rebbetzin’s *histalkus* two years earlier, the Rebbe no longer held weekday *farbrengens*.