



THE TRUE SHLICHUS



**RABBI YITZCHOK
DOVID GRONER**

Tammuz 5733

The answers given by the Rebbe in yechidus emanate from his yechidah sheb'nefesh—the innermost part of his neshamah. Being in yechidus forms the deepest connection possible with the Rebbe.¹

The Rebbe's every word is important and holds layers of meaning. In addition to the Rebbe's Torah communicated at farbrengens, the Rebbe taught countless lessons and gave much insight, guidance, and hora'os while conversing with individuals in yechidus. Transcriptions of these conversations are unique, taking a much more personal nature than the way the Rebbe spoke to a crowd and in a public venue.

This new column features excerpts of conversations with the Rebbe in yechidus.

Rabbi Yitzchok Dovid Groner a"h (5686 - 5768) was sent as the Rebbe's shliach to Melbourne in 5718. Rabbi Groner served as the rov of the Chabad community, and founder of the Chabad mosdos.

It should be noted that generally, when going into the Rebbe's room for yechidus, one would write a tzetl—a note containing one's questions, which was given to the Rebbe upon entering the room. The Rebbe would read it and answer the questions.

REB YITZCHOK DOVID'S TZETL:

5 Tammuz, 5733

כ"ק אדמו"ר שליט"א

I tried very hard to persuade several young couples [to move on shlichus to Australia]. As I'm told, what's holding them back is the physical distance.

Since the new building will, *iy"H*, be built as a Lubavitch center for girls, should we look into purchasing a [separate] house for the activities of Tzeirei Agudas Chabad?

There was a choir made up of the yeshiva students this year. We have not yet begun, but there was a question whether we should make a tape.

My planned travel arrangements are that I depart from New York to Belgium Sunday night, 15 Tammuz, firstly, because the ticket is cheaper, and secondly, I have to visit Rabbi Kreiswirth² with regards to a couple: the husband left his wife and is in Melbourne; I have to speak with the wife's parents. From there, I will go to Paris for a day, from there to London, where I'll stay until after Shabbos Parshas Pinchas. On Monday, I will travel to Eretz Yisroel, and depart from there on Wednesday morning, 10 Menachem Av, passing through Athens and Manila, arriving in Melbourne, G-d willing, on Erev Shabbos Nachamu. We ask the Rebbe's *brachos* for the success of the *mosdos* in Australia; great success and a good trip.

התלמיד יצחק דוד בן מנוחה רחל

לזכות
החיילת בצבאות ה'
חנה תחי'
לרגל הולדתה בשעתומ"צ
טו"ב תמוז ה'תשע"ז

נדפס ע"י הורי' שלוחי כ"ק אדמו"ר זי"ע
למאנטעווידיעא, אורוגוויי,
הרה"ת ר' מנחם מענדל
וזוגתו מרת ח' מושקא שיחי
שם טוב

THE YECHIDUS

In his diary, Rabbi Y.D. Groner records the *yechidus*:
I went into yechidus on the eve of 6 Tammuz. The Rebbe read the tzetel and then proceeded to take the duch and read a bit of that too.

The Rebbe then began to speak:

A recording is a good thing to make, but make sure that it's written when it [may] be listened to, as well as [writing] *baruch Hashem* [in Hebrew] or in English.

The other things that you wrote about, I will mention at the *Tziyun*. Regarding the young couples, as I understand, you write that the shortcoming is the distance. I don't see it [that way]. It used to be that people traveled once in their lives. Today, people travel for every *simchah*; a bar mitzvah, *chasumah*; from here to Eretz Yisroel, from Eretz Yisroel to Australia. The only place where people don't travel to is Russia, because they don't allow people in. Distance—one takes a plane and is there in a day. Perhaps the standard of living is lower, or the furniture, or the homes [are different], but distance is no reason. And *shlichus*—Australia is the right [and true³] *shlichus*.

The Rebbe continued in this vein and said that we should find out the real reason why they don't want to go, and then we can try to fix this.

The Rebbe continued: **Regarding *shlichus*, people here are fighting over (רײסט מען זיך) going to S. Diego, S. Francisco.**

Regarding buying buildings, since I'm in a mode of expansion, if it's with the *baalei battim* [i.e. with their support], you should purchase a building. Regarding the recording I answered you [already].

Regarding the journey, the Rebbe asked whether what I had to see Rabbi Kreiswirth about was something rabbinic; I answered. The Rebbe asked whether I know him, I said only by phone.

The Rebbe: **It's worthwhile to meet him. Visit him and give him regards from me, and it's truly like that. Thank him for what he did for [the campaign of] "Who is a Jew" [מיהו יהודי]. It is still a binding law. I am of the approach that, "One who has 100 wants 200," and therefore he must do more influence and *rabbanus*...**

And in these two places—Athens and Manila. Manila is a ruin. There was once a chaplain [there]. He arranged

***kashrus*. Now they want to expel the American military, and it's frightening there. You learned with the one who came from Shanghai, Bukiet knows him, he lives in Far Rockaway, he has a brother-in-law there. You should meet with the community [in Manila] and be active [with them].**

In Athens, too—you should speak to Rabbi Hodakov; they have been working towards building a *mikveh* for three years, but nothing came of it. [Your brother] Leibel [Groner] and Yudel Krinsky know the Jewish committee, who's who in the community, and a book is published there about the activities, so it will be advantageous for Australia and for them—meaning to say that they will certainly print something about the visit, and send telegrams liberally: a person well-acquainted with Australian Jewry is visiting.

...Also in Eretz Yisroel, ask if you can be of use—a "new and unfamiliar face" (פנים חדשות) from Australian Jewry. Australia has a large role there, because Australia sends an inordinately large amount of money to Eretz Yisroel. And regarding what you wrote that you're raising money for them [Eretz Yisroel⁴]—if they don't know this, you should publicize it.****

And visit Shazar, if he will be back [from his travels⁵], and encourage him, bring him my regards.

The Rebbe spoke about Zalman Shazar's loneliness after completing his term as President.

*The Rebbe ended off with a brocha: You and your wife should attain the innermost point [נקודה הפנימית], *nachas*; *chassidische nachas* from your children, etc. Great success in community work. ①*

1. See *Yechidus—The Ultimate Bond* Derher 33 (110), Tammuz 5775.

2. Rabbi Chaim Kreiswirth served as the longtime Chief Rabbi of Congregation Machzikei Hadass Antwerp, Belgium.

3. R. Yitzchok Dovid wrote "אמת" - "True" in parentheses because he didn't recall with certainty whether the Rebbe said that.

4. Rabbi Groner would speak each year at the dinner of the UIA - "United Israel Appeal." A fund that mobilizes support for Eretz Yisroel from Yidden in the diaspora.

5. He visited the Rebbe the following week on 12 Tammuz, on the way back to Eretz Yisroel. See *The Desert Blooms—Interview with Rabbi Shimon Lazaroff* Derher 56 (133), Iyar 5777.