

The Maggid of Mezritch

ה'ת"ס

The Maggid was born to his parents, Reb Avrohom and Chava, around the year 5460. The exact date of his birth is unknown. He was born to an illustrious family whose lineage was traced to Reb Yochanan Hasandlar—a direct descendant of Dovid Hamelech.¹

תק"ב

The Baal Shem Tov sends a letter to the Maggid encouraging him to travel to Mezhibuzh despite his previous opposition. The Maggid meets the Baal Shem Tov shortly thereafter.²

תק"כ

The Baal Shem Tov signs a document bequeathing all of his *seforim* and manuscripts to the Maggid. On the first day of Shavuot the Baal Shem Tov is *nistalek* and his son, Reb Tzvi, is appointed *nosi* of the *chevraya kadisha*.

תק"ט

The Baal Shem Tov writes a letter to Reb Yaakov Yosef of Polnaah about the Maggid, expressing confidence that the Maggid will ultimately become his *talmid*.²

תק"ח

The Maggid co-signs a letter with the Baal Shem Tov in defense of *Toras haChassidus* and *darkei haChassidim*.⁴

תקכ"א

On the second day of Shavuot, one day after the first *yahrzeit* of the Baal Shem Tov, Reb Tzvi passes on the *nesius* of the *chevraya kadisha* to the Maggid. The Maggid delivers a Torah on the *possuk* "ומה איהם" ⁵ ומעשירם כאשר יהי האופן בתוך האופן

לע"נ

ר' מנחם מענדל ע"ה בן ר' אברהם ע"ה

גליק

נלב"ע כ"ח תמוז ה'תשע"ז

נדפס ע"י

משפחתו שיחיו

The Alter Rebbe travels to Mezritch for the first time.⁶

תקנ"ה

Under the Maggid's leadership, the teachings of Chassidus are disseminated to many provinces that had not yet been reached. Centers of Chassidus are established in Lubavitch, led by Reb Yissachar Ber; Karlin, led by Reb Aharon, and Horodok, led by Reb Menachem Mendel.⁷

תקנ"ו

The Maggid instructs the Alter Rebbe to undertake the monumental task of authoring a new Shulchan Aruch.⁸ The *talmidim* of Reb Avraham of Kalisk behaved in a frenzied and brazen manner causing the *misnagdim* to organize a strong opposition to the Chassidim. The Maggid is very disturbed with the developments and Reb Avraham changes his path of instruction.⁹

תקנ"ז

On 19 Kislev the Maggid is *mistalek*. His holy Ohel is in the city of Anipoli.¹¹

תקנ"ח

A public debate is arranged in Shklov. The Alter Rebbe and Reb Avraham of Kalisk represent Chassidus.

תקנ"ט

The *misnagdim* announce a *cherem* on the *talmidei ha'Maggid*. The *chevruya kaisha* convenes in Rovno and announces a counter *cherem*. The Maggid is dismayed by this, saying: "Know that by the action taken you have forfeited your head. However, at the same time you have gained that from now on, whenever there will be a conflict between the Chassidim and the *misnagdim*, the Chassidim will prevail."¹⁰ Shortly thereafter, the Maggid relocates to Anipoli.

More details of the information provided in this timeline have been published in English in "The Great Maggid" by Kehot publications.

1. Sippurei Chassidim. The *megillas hayuchsiv* (lineage document) was lost in a fire.
2. Hatomim vol. 1, p. 344. Note on dates: the Rebbe writes that it's possible that the dates found in the *Geniza Chersonis*, where much of this information originates, are not necessarily accurate. See Igros Kodesh vol. 9, p. 31.

3. Hatomim vol. 1, p. 120-121.
4. Hatomim vol. 2, p. 452.
5. Hatomim vol. 1, p. 140.
6. Shulchan Aruch ADH"Z, Hakdomas Bnei Hamechaber.
7. Hatomim vol. 1, p. 141-2.

8. Shulchan Aruch ADH"Z, Hakdomas Bnei Hamechaber.
9. Hatomim vol. 1, p. 156.
10. Sefer Hatoldos, Harav Hamaggid, p. 84.
11. Hayom Yom, 19 Kislev.