

The Alter Rebbe

On Chai Elul, the Alter Rebbe is born to Reb Boruch and Rebbetzin Rivkah in the outskirts of Liozna. The Baal Shem Tov provides detailed instructions with regard to his upbringing and education.¹

תק"ה

The Alter Rebbe's upshernish is celebrated in the presence of the Baal Shem Tov.²

תק"ה

The Alter Rebbe learns in the town of Lubavitch under the tutelage of Reb Yissachar Dov of Lubavitch.³

תקט"ו -
תקט"ז

The Alter Rebbe marries Rebbetzin Sterna (daughter of Reb Yehuda Leib Segal), settles in the city of Vitebsk, and dedicates his dowry money to the establishment of Jewish farming towns in the region.

תק"כ

At his bar mitzvah, the Alter Rebbe is inducted into the *chevra kadisha* of Liozna and receives the honorary title of "*Rav Tamna Hu Upalitig*" (a statement in the Gemara giving Rav the status of a *Tanna*, even though he lived in a later generation⁴) by the *geonim* of the generation.

תק"ח

The Alter Rebbe is appointed as the Maggid of Liozna.

תקכ"ו

The Alter Rebbe travels to the Mezritscher Maggid for the first time.

תקכ"ז

The Alter Rebbe introduces the new path of Chassidus Chabad.

תקל"ב

The Mezritscher Maggid instructs the Alter Rebbe to author a Shulchan Aruch.⁵

תקל"ג

The Alter Rebbe joins Reb Menachem Mendel Horodoker, Reb Avrohom Kalisker, and several hundred families of Chassidim emigrating to Eretz Yisrael. He is persuaded to remain as the *nosif* of Chassidus and establishes Liozna as the center of Chassidus Chabad.⁶ The famous *Liyoza* are introduced in תקל"ח (a list of regulations instructing Chassidim on the proper way to travel and visit the Alter Rebbe. The Alter Rebbe himself strictly enforced these rules).

תקל"ח -
תקל"ח

The Alter Rebbe establishes a yeshiva in Liozna of select *talmidim*, divided into three "*chadarim*."

ליכות
הרה"ת ר' אליהו
זווגתו מרת רבקה
ומשפחתם ש"חיו
שיפדיו

A debate about Chassidus and the ways of the Baal Shem Tov is held in the city of Minsk and the Alter Rebbe is victorious.⁷

Hilchos Talmud Torah of the Alter Rebbe's Shulchan Aruch is published anonymously in Shklov and receives enthusiastic praise from the Vilna Gaon and others.

On **ח' סיון**, the Alter Rebbe is arrested on false charges of treason. After 53 days in captivity, he is released from the Petropavlovski fortress, on 19 Kislev.¹⁰ Thus began a new era in the revelation of Chassidus.¹¹

During the French invasion of Russia the Alter Rebbe supports the Czar, declaring that Napoleon Bonaparte must be defeated. Certain Chassidim are instructed to actively assist the Russian Army.¹⁴ As Napoleon's army approaches Liadi, the Alter Rebbe flees together with a large caravan of *beis harav* and many Chassidim, on 29 Menachem Av.¹⁵

The Alter Rebbe's daughter, Rebbetzin Devorah Leah (mother of the Tzemach Tzedek), passes away on Tzom Gedalya in connection with a heavenly decree threatening the continuity of Chassidus.⁸

On 20 Kislev the Tanya is published in the city of Slavita.⁹

Due to the continued efforts of the *misnagdim* to discredit Chassidus, the Alter Rebbe is summoned by the authorities to S. Petersburg on **ח' סיון**. After providing satisfactory answers to all questions,¹² he is released from Tainy Soviet (a prison fortress) on the third night of Chanukah.¹³ The Alter Rebbe remains in S. Petersburg until 11 Menachem Av and resettles in the city of Liadi.

The Alter Rebbe is *nistalek* on Motzaei Shabbos Parshas Shmos, 24 Teves, in the village of Piena, and his holy Ohel is in the town of Haditch.

1. Sefer Hasichos 5705, pp. 127-130. 143.
2. Sefer Hasichos 5705, p. 131.
3. Sefer Hasichos, Kayitz 5700, p. 174.
4. See Eiruvim 50b.
5. See introduction to the Shulchan Aruch ADH"Z. Hatomim vol. 1, p. 146.
6. Hatomim vol. 1, pp. 146-149.
7. Otzar Sippurei Chabad, vol. 3, p. 91.
8. Likkutei Dibburim vol. 4, p. 666; Sefer Hasichos 5700, pp. 41-39; Sefer Hatomim vol. 1, p. 43.
9. Igros Kodesh Admur HaRayatz vol. 4, p. 262.
10. Likkutei Dibburim vol. 1, p. 32.
11. Sefer Hasichos Toras Sholom, p. 112; Likkutei Dibburim vol. 1, p. 43.
12. The Alter Rebbe authored a lengthy response to all the charges against Chassidus and Chassidim. Published in Kerem Chabad #4, pp. 82-100, and in the new edition of the Alter Rebbe's Igros Kodesh (5772).
13. Kuntres Limmud Hachassidus, pp. 9-13. See Likkutei Sichos vol. 25, pp. 413 fn 74.
14. Igros Kodesh Admur HaRayatz vol. 3, p. 313.
15. Likkutei Dibburim vol. 1, p. 26.