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## THE YEARS THAT FOLLOWED

In the years that followed, the Rebbe always made mention of the Rebbetzin on Chof-Beis Shevat. In 5749, Chof-Beis Shevat occurred on Shabbos. The Rebbe dedicated almost the entire *farbrengen* to speaking about the *yahrtzeit*. (See Derher Shevat 5776 for a detailed description of that Shabbos.)

The next year, 5750, Chof-Beis Shevat occurred on Shabbos as well. The Rebbe connected every point spoken about throughout the *farbrengen* to the *yahrtzeit*.

In 5751, the first annual Kinus Hashluchos took place in Crown Heights on Shabbos *Parshas Mishpatim*, following Chof-Beis Shevat. On Sunday, 26 Shevat, the Rebbe addressed the women who attended the Kinus.

### KOVETZ CHOF BEIS SHEVAT

In 5752, on the night of Chof-Beis Shevat, the Rebbe davened *Maariv* at the *amud* in 770 as he would every year. Following davening, the Rebbe ascended upon his *bima* and began to say a short *sicha*. Due to the enormous crowd that had come to be with the Rebbe for this day, the Rebbe's *bima* was filled mostly with elder Chassidim and only a small enclosed area remained for the Rebbe to stand near his *stender* (see picture above).

Speaking about the Rebbetzin, the Rebbe made special mention of the fact that she has the merit of having so many children named after her.

After the *sicha*, the Rebbe distributed a pamphlet to all of the Chassidim; men, women, and children.

The pink-colored booklet (the color was chosen by the Rebbe's special request), titled "Kovetz Chof Beis Shevat," contained *sichos* and letters of the Rebbe regarding the unique role and special qualities of the Jewish woman,



THE REBBE SAYS A SICHA ON CHOF-BEIS SHEVAT 5752.

and was handed to each and every individual, along with a five dollar bill and a piece of *lekach*. The Rebbe stood for many long hours until the entire crowd managed to pass by, eventually distributing by hand a total of over ten-thousand booklets!



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During the distribution itself, the Rebbe seemed to be high spirited, and he encouraged the singing in a manner that looked similar to the way he would at *kos shel brocha*. When a young girl went by and told the Rebbe that her name is Chaya Mushka, the Rebbe responded:

"חי', זאלסטו לאנג לעבן מיט געזונטע יארן!"  
("Chaya; you should live long and healthy years!") ①

1. *Bereishis* 12:3.
2. *Shabbos* 10b.