



JEM194239

RESHET OHOLEI YOSEF YITZCHOK

Tishrei 5718

Reshet Oholei Yosef Yitzchok is a network of Chabad-Lubavitch educational institutions in Eretz Yisroel. It includes tens of schools and preschools, educating thousands of Jewish children. In Tishrei 5718, Rabbi Yitzchak Gansburg, who served as a director of the school in Zarnoga at the time, was privileged to go into yechidus. Rabbi Gansburg transcribed the details of the yechidus:

I entered into *yechidus* at 8:50 p.m. The Rebbe usually davened *maariv* at 9:30, but that time came and went, and the *yechidus* continued. The bell rang, over and over, but the Rebbe continued speaking until 10:15.

In my *pan*, I asked numerous questions, in matters both private and communal:

1. I asked [for advice] regarding my mother's health.
2. I discussed our summer camp; it had resulted in a small deficit, which Rabbi Aharon Mordechai Zilberstrom committed to collecting for in Yerushalayim. I told the Rebbe about the camp and included several photos. The Ministry of Education was pleased with our camp, which we had held in shuls, and agreed to help us by providing courses for counselors, which would enable us to expand the camp in coming years. I asked the Rebbe whether it was worth the effort and investment to create permanent campgrounds.
3. Before my trip to New York, I met with Mendel Drizin, Yeshavam Segal, Berel Karasik, and Mr. Moshe Cohen, who is the officer in command of *Gdudei Noar*—a military preparatory program—for religious youth. He explained the purpose of the school, and how he intends to have religious staff. They asked me to ask the Rebbe whether the Rebbe wishes for *anash* to join as staff; being that their role would be primarily military, they would be able to draw a large following, and influence many people in *Yiddishkeit* as well.

The Rebbe read my *pan* and began speaking:

Regarding my mother, the Rebbe mentioned and wrote down (in Latin) the name of a medicine. The Rebbe then told me to go to Dr. Seligson, who would be able to tell me whether this medicine could be obtained in Eretz Yisroel, as well as its name in English and French.

Regarding the military preparatory program, the Rebbe said that since it is mixed-gender, it is not okay, and even if the boys and girls are separated, if they meet even once or twice a day it is not acceptable. Totally separating the boys and girls would require an additional budget, which the government would not give.

לזכות
הבחור הנעלה התמים מנחם מענדל שיחי'
לרגל יום הולדתו העשרים
כ"ט סיון ה'תשע"ח
לחיזוק התקשרותו לכ"ק אדמו"ר,
ושיצליח בלימודו, לימוד הנגלה
ולימוד החסידות

נדפס ע"י הוריו
הרה"ת ר' שניאור זלמן
זוגתו מרת דבורה שיחי'
קפלן



When I mentioned that we were considering leaving Zarnoga, the Rebbe asked why. I answered that I had done as much as I could, and there was nothing more that I could accomplish there. The Rebbe asked why that was so. I answered that there wasn't much that could be accomplished with the type of people who were there. The Rebbe said, "If so, then on the contrary, you must expand the network to make at least 10 or 15 schools; the *Reshet* is Tomchei Temimim—though you don't necessarily need to announce that. True, they learn *limudei chol*, as mandated by the government, but when they're learning *limudei kodesh*, it is truly Tomchei Temimim.

Yes, Tomchei Temimim did not historically include girls, but today it does. You must ensure that the network grows and thrives, and bring in students to the yeshivos.

You don't need to focus only on Zarnoga; rather, new enthusiasm and encouragement should affect other directors to open new schools as well.

It is clear to me that a [*Reshet*] school prepares a place for Chassidus to be introduced. The school makes [Chassidim] a familiar face in town, that they are not a novelty.

Don't pay attention to the detractors, just act. With *mesiras nefesh*, more places can be opened...

You can even begin with just 30-40 students; you don't have to start with 200. Establish one location and then move on to the next, and the remainder of your time you will spend working for Tzeirei Agudas Chabad. Many initiatives started in Eretz Yisroel, and even took their first steps, but were not seen through. All of Eretz Yisroel could be transformed; that's clear to me, without question."

I said that I wasn't part of the administration of the *Reshet*, and the Rebbe said, "You are one of the directors [of the schools], so you should care about the entire organization, to which you are connected."²

I took the opportunity to ask whether the teachers had to be specifically Chabad Chassidim. The Rebbe said they didn't specifically have to be, that we "could bring in someone from outside, and after a few months, the person will be a Chassid. We have seen that it's already like that

in the *Reshet*. This is especially true since you're not taking people who are old [and inflexible] or opposed to you."

I voiced my concern that my words would not result in concrete action. The Rebbe asked if I went to the Ohel. I replied that my physical body had been there. The Rebbe said, "Your *neshama* was there even before your body was, so you have the power. Why wouldn't you be able to actualize these things?"

I then said that I believed I could accomplish more in Tzeirei Agudas Chabad than in the *Reshet*. The Rebbe said, "In any case, don't stop educating; work for Tzach after school hours. You probably finish school at 1:00, 2:00, or 2:30. In your work for Tzach, make sure not to step on anyone's toes. For example, there are people whose job is to edit the journal; leave them to their work."

I mentioned the difficulties we had with transportation for Tzach, and asked whether it would be worthwhile to try and bring a car from the U.S. The Rebbe said, "You should certainly try; perhaps even two cars. Arrange with the Consul and the American government that the taxes [on the cars] not be too expensive."

I then asked if I should stay in the U.S. and raise money to cover the costs of my trip. The Rebbe said that I should travel back after Shabbos Bereishis.

Regarding the summer camp, the Rebbe said, "In general, you should work on it, and you will surely have an estimate of the projected expenses several months or half a year beforehand. If you need thousands, that's not available, but several hundred is available."

The Rebbe concluded the *yechidus* by saying, "You don't need to be so glum; if you have a question, write, and if necessary, phone. *Chasima u'gmar chasima tova.*" **T**

1. Zarnoga was a Jewish settlement. Today, Kiryat Moshe, near Rechovot, stands on the site. Several *ma'abarot*—immigrant camps—were established there.

2. The Rebbe's words were: "אבער איר זייט א מנהל וואס דארף אייך הארן אלעס" - "א פרט ששייך אל הכלל" - "But you are a director, so it should matter to you as a detail that affects to the entire matter."