



לע"נ
ר' מנחם זאב בן ר' פנחס ע"ה
נלב"ע כ"ה אלול ה'תשנ"ט
ת'נ'צ'ב'ה'

נדפס ע"י בנו
הרה"ת ר' פנחס מרדכי
וזוגתו מרת הלנה אילנה נורית
ומשפחתם שיחיו
הרמן



PANIM

At the “head” of a new year just before Rosh Hashanah, Chassidim reconnect themselves with the “head” of the Jewish people, the Rebbe, recommitting our *hiskashrus* ahead of the forthcoming year. One of the ways of doing so is by writing a *pan*.¹



29 ELUL 5747, YOSSEI MELAMED VIA JEM131312



Every year on Erev Rosh Hashanah, the Rebbe would stand at the door to his room and receive *panim*. This was a tradition through many generations of our Rebbeim, and the Rebbe started this in 5710, even before accepting the *nesius*.

Thousands of people would file by as the Rebbe would personally accept the *panim* and wish each passerby, "כתיבה וחתימה טובה" לשנה טובה ומתוקה."



29 ELUL 5737, YOSSEI MELAMED VIA JEM128880





In the earlier years, the Rebbe would receive *panim* on Erev Rosh Hashanah, but from 5739 and on the Rebbe would start a few days earlier. As the years went on, *panim* in Elul would begin even earlier. Only those who weren't yet in town prior were allowed to go on Erev Rosh Hashanah.

29 ELUL 5739, LEVI FREIDIN VIA JEM 193788

From the Chassidim's perspective, the *pan* of Erev Rosh Hashanah is considered in higher regard than the *panim* throughout the year.



29 ELUL 5749, LEVI FREIDIN VIA JEM 223477



29 ELUL 5749, YOSSEI MELAMED VIA JEM 117756

In the year 5693, the Frieddiker Rebbe resided in Riga (after having left the Soviet Union five years earlier). The Frieddiker Rebbe's *mazkir* Reb Chatche (Yechezkel) Feigin writes of the many piles of letters arriving at the Frieddiker Rebbe's address during the month of Tishrei, noting: "[The letters are] mainly from Russia; throughout the year they are afraid [of the Soviet government and refrain from writing] but this month, they all send a *pan*".

29 ELUL 5737, YOSSIMELAMED VIA JEM 23293



29 ELUL 5742, YOSSIMELAMED VIA JEM 140012





28 ELUL 5741, LEVI FREDIN VIA JEM 199968

At the conclusion of *panim*, elderly Chassidim would gather in *Gan Eden Hatachton* to give the Rebbe a *pan kloli* on behalf of *klal Yisrael*. The Rebbe would read the *pan*, and follow with a *bracha*.

Shortly afterwards, the Rebbe would bring these *panim* to the Ohel. Many of these *panim* were brought back to 770, and the Rebbe would keep them near him under his *tallis* during the *tekios* on Rosh Hashanah.

1. See *Pidyon Nefesh*, Derher Tishrei 5775.