

נדפס ע"י הוריו הרה"ת ר' **יחיאל מיכל** הלוי וזוגתו מרת **חנה ומשפחתם** שיחיו **בייטעלמאן**

Presidential Preparations

Itzros



The second time Mr. Zalman Shazar visited the Rebbe as President of Israel was on Purim 5731. Presented here is a schedule of events proposed by the vaad hamesader of 770 and submitted to the Rebbe for approval. The Rebbe made a number of interesting changes in his holy handwriting, which we will now explore.

We hereby present a proposed schedule (along with a few questions for the Rebbe) for the upcoming Erev Purim and Purim night:

1. Do we need to send a delegation to greet him at his lodgings (like we did last time¹). If yes, the Rebbe's mazkirus will certainly notify who should be included in this delegation.

The Rebbe crossed a line through "certainly" and half-circled around "*mazkirus* will notify..."

2. A choir will be arranged to greet him when he reaches 770 (similar to the way it was last time). The Rebbe added a question mark after the parentheses and asked:
אומנם הי'ק
Was there indeed [a choir]?

3. On the path leading up to the entrance of 770, arrangements should be made for two rows

consisting of representatives of various mosdos. The Rebbe added: (או של בעלי כח שיהי' סדר (ולא ע"ד שהי' אז) Or [the rows should consist of] stronger people who can maintain order (not like it was last time).

4. Electric lights will be added to illuminate the entrance of 770 and the surrounding area.

5. The (upstairs) shul will be empty (in accordance with the request of his security detail).

6. Will anyone enter that shul before going into the Rebbe's room (like what happened last time)²?
The Rebbe responded: קרוב שלא
Most likely not.

7. Going downstairs [to the big shul] will be done with the elevator (as per the request of his security detail).



A SILVER CASE

THE REBBE'S EDITS ON THE SUGGESTIONS FOR MR. SHAZAR'S VISIT.

Attendants should be pre-arranged 8. who will maintain order in the shul.

The Rebbe added: בעלי כח (ונימוס ג"כ) ושיהיו ניכרים. Strong people (but with proper manners), and they should be easily recognizable.

An announcement should be made before 9. Maariv detailing the schedule, etc.

The Rebbe added:

ומעת שיכנסו לשם (הנ"ל) ועד היציאה – ניט שטופען זיך (כל אחד על מקומו כל הזמן)

And from the time they (the abovementioned) come in [i.e. the Rebbe and the President] up until they leave, no one should be pushing (everyone should stay at their places for duration).

10. Near the Rebbe's shtender there will be a table (for the Rebbe to use during the Megillah reading). Next to this table, there will be another table for the guest (along with a nice bench), and next to that table will be an additional table (for Rashag).

11. Do we need to prepare a Megillah for the guest? The Rebbe responded:

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12. The area of the beginning from the southern wall until the aron kodesh, and from the western wall until the pillars, will be empty.

The Rebbe responded:

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רושם מוזר ביותר וביותר והיפך דין מגילה שצ"ל ברוב עם. This would leave a very very strange impression, and contradicts the halacha that the Megillah should be read with a large crowd.

13. About the benches directly behind the Rebbe: The first row will seat the elderly rabbanim; behind them will be members of the entourage of the guest, and elderly members of anash. The rest of the tables and the benches will be removed from the shul.

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The Rebbe circled portions of the last sentence and commented:

ואיפוא ישבו?! כן הרי אז לא יהי' בכלל כל סדר, כ"א שטופען און חאַפען!! Where will people sit?! Also, this guarantees that there will not be any order, only pushing and grabbing!!

14. After Maariv, [the Chazzan] Reb Moshe Yaakov Teleshevsky suggests that he should sing Shoshanas Yaakov. Is this appropriate?



The Rebbe responded: ה"ז יום תענית It's a fast day [and we shouldn't keep people waiting in shul longer than necessary].

15. After this, return upstairs with the elevator, and enter the Rebbe's room with the [President's] entourage and some members of anash.

The Rebbe responded:

צ"ע Debatable.

16. When the Rebbe and the guest are left alone in the room, tea and mezonos will be brought in.

17. Food and drink will be prepared for members of the entourage, the journalists, etc., in the shul upstairs.

To the word "food," the Rebbe added: ע"י קייטערער (יפה–גם בחיצוניות וכפשוטו) [Provided] by a caterer (fancy—also externally in the most literal sense).

18. There was an idea to suggest to Chabad representatives out of town (especially those in the New York area), and some of them have actually asked us about this, that they should come to Maariv and Megillah reading with one or two of their biggest supporters, and after the guest leaves the Rebbe's room, before he departs on his way, they should be introduced to him and allowed to be photographed with him, etc. Is this appropriate?

The Rebbe responded: בטח תהי' קנאה ורעש וכו' This will certainly cause jealousy and [unnecessary] uproar, etc.

19. After he [the President] leaves the Rebbe's room, there will be a press conference in the

Merkos office (like there was last time).

The Rebbe underlined the words "like there was last time" and added: באם אפשר נכון ביותר If this is possible, it is very appropriate.

20. Some members of anash will accompany him [the President] back to his hotel. The Rebbe responded:

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As was mentioned in section 1. [I.e. the *mazkirus* will notify who should go.]

21. All of the above was suggested by the advice of the members of the committee during a meeting that was held last night, on Motzei Shabbos Kodesh. If there are no comments or changes [from the Rebbe] on this, we will try to implement all of these ideas.

We request the Rebbe's holy brachos for success in all of the above.

The Rebbe responded: אזכיר עה"צ I will mention it at the Ohel. The committee: Moshe Pinchas Katz Yerachmiel Binyomin Halevi Klein Shlomo Aharon Kazarnovsky Dovid Raskin Yehuda Leib Groner Chaim Yehuda Krinsky

1. See Presidential Visit, Derher Av 5781.

2. When President Shazar visited in 5726, the Rebbe took him on a "tour" of the first floor of 770 before bringing him into the Rebbe's room.

3. The Rebbe gifted the President with a new Megillah in a silver case.