



NINE DAYS

- When we find ourselves in a time that marks the start of our *galus*, we should do what we can to bring the *geulah*, as it says in *Yeshaya*, “ציון בצדקה במשפט תפדה ושב” – we must increase tzedakah, and we must learn more Torah, specifically the *halachos* relevant to these days.¹
- The Rebbe encouraged the *minhag* to make a *siyum* during the Nine Days, to initiate *siyumim* where they don't yet happen, and strengthen the ones that already occur. The reason for this is to increase in joy, thereby revealing the hidden purpose of the *galus* we find ourselves in now.²

Best is to make a *siyum* that is acceptable according to all halachic opinions – on a complete *masechta* of Gemara.³

- Because all the days up to the 15th of Av are one continuation, *siyumim* should take place each day until the 15th of Av. The *siyumim* should also include the giving of tzedakah and, when appropriate, to have a *farbrengen*.⁴

- When Chazal say that on the 7th of Av the Romans entered the *heichal*, it is not to cause pain to Yidden *chas veshalom*, rather it is to awaken the yearning and demand for the *geulah*, and to add another action taken with the hope to hasten the coming of the *geulah*.⁵
- Reb Levi Yitzchok of Berditchev says that on Shabbos Chazon, every person is shown the third *Beis Hamikdash*. We must increase our efforts in all the above to bring the third *Beis Hamikdash* closer.⁶

9 AV

- The Rebbe instructed Chassidim to arrange a *siyum*, not only after Tisha B'Av when we can eat and drink, but also on Tisha B'Av itself, not to differentiate from the order of the days prior.⁷
One should utilize the day of Tisha B'Av to increase in the learning of Torah (the sections that are permitted, and after *chatzos*), and giving tzedakah. The Rebbe advised Chassidim that when going to meet another Yid on this day, to bring along a *pushkah*, and to have words of Torah about this day prepared to share.⁸
- Although one is permitted to learn only specific topics in Torah on Tisha B'Av, we can suggest that one must

still increase Torah study today, as we learn from the *possuk* in Eicha⁹ – קומי רוני בלילה – that one should learn Mishnah at night, which will hasten the *geulah*.¹⁰

15 AV

- Chazal say that “there were no greater Yomim Tovim for Yidden like the 15th of Av (and Yom Kippur).” Because it comes after the low of Tisha B’Av, a significant elevation of holiness is generated in the Yom Tov that follows. One should utilize this day to increase Torah and the giving of Tzedakah, and to take upon himself *hachlatos* for the future.¹¹

To ensure the success of these *hachlatos*, the Rebbe advised that every group of people that take upon themselves *hachlatos* should appoint a committee of three people, and everyone should tell them what their *hachlata* will be. The committee will be tasked with following up on the commitments, in order to encourage and increase its performance.¹²

- The Rebbe asked that Chassidim should arrange *farbrengens* on this day. There should also be an increase in learning in public, especially with the children that are currently in camps, boys and girls.¹³
- Preparations for the *avodah* of the month of Elul should already begin now; since, as we know, beginning from the 15th of Av many have the custom to start wishing one another a *ksiva v’chasima tova*.¹⁴

20 AV – THE PASSING OF HARAV LEVI YITZCHOK

- Harav Levi Yitzchok performed his *avodah* with absolute *mesiras nefesh*. He wrote his *chiddushim* in Torah in the most challenging circumstances. He was a leader for his congregation and still affects many with his *chiddushim* that are now printed.
- We must live up to his namesake; Levi – ילדה אישי – אלי – we must strengthen our connection with Hashem (who is called “אישי”) and we must also intensify our positive influence on others, which is signified by the name Yitzchok – כל השומע יצחק – לי – to affect anyone that can hear our call.¹⁵

- The Rebbe asked that Chassidim learn a part of his father’s Torah at a Chof Av *farbrengen* and give *tzedakah* in his honor.¹⁶
- At almost every Shabbos *farbrengen*, beginning Chof Av 5730*, the Rebbe would elaborate on a part of his father’s Torah.
- When children from nearby camps would join the Chof Av *farbrengen*, the Rebbe would encourage them to sing his father’s *hakafos niggun*.¹⁷
- When a member of *anash* named his child Levi Yitzchok after the Rebbe’s father, the Rebbe responded, “*Yehi ratzon*, that just as you brought me much pleasure by naming your son after my father, so may Hashem grant you pleasure and *nachas* from your entire household, and from yourself too...”¹⁸
- In 5724*, the Rebbe established a fund called “Keren Levi Yitzchok” in memory of his father, to support Torah-study causes.¹⁹ Every year, the Rebbe would encourage giving generously to this fund. This fund also supported the “Kolel Tiferes Zekeinim” – *kolel* for the elderly.²⁰ **T**

1. Toras Menachem 5748 vol. 4 pg. 108.
2. Toras Menachem 5751 vol. 4 pg. 64.
3. Toras Menachem 5749 vol. 4 pg. 86.
4. Toras Menachem 5751 vol. 4 pg. 96.
5. Toras Menachem 5749 vol. 4 pg. 122.
6. Ibid. pg. 132.
7. Ibid. pg. 94.
8. Toras menachem 5748 vol. 4 pg. 121.
9. 2:19.
10. Toras Menachem 5750 vol. 4 pg. 128.
11. Toras Menachem 5748 vol. 4 pg. 146.
12. Ibid. pg. 180.
13. Toras Menachem 5750 vol. 4 pg. 157.
14. Ibid. pg. 153 and fn. 89.
15. Toras Menachem 5749 vol.4 pg. 170.
16. Likkutei Sichos vol. 39 pg. 231.
17. Toras Menachem 5750 vol. 4 pg. 157 fn. 140.
18. Igros Kodesh vol. 6 pg. 108, letter 1,630.
19. Toras Menachem 5724 vol. 4 pg. 324.
20. Sichos Kodesh 5740 vol. 3 pg. 917.