

לזכות
החיילת בצבאות ה'
חי' מושקא תחי'

נדפס ע"י הוריה
הרה"ת ר' מנחם מענדל וזוגתו מרת דבורה
לאה שיחי'
טרייטעל

PRACTICAL HORA'OS

A CLOSER
LOOK AT
SOME OF
THE REBBE'S
HORA'OS

HAGGADAH FOR CHILDREN

ENGAGING THE YOUTH WITH A
CHILD-FRIENDLY HAGGADAH

WRITTEN BY: MENDEL ZAKLIKOVSKY

ANOTHER STEP IN EDUCATION

“We will conclude the farbrengen with a new *gezeirah*,” the Rebbe said with a smile at the end of the farbrengen of Purim 5747*.¹

“In addition to what we spoke about how every child should purchase his own Chumash, siddur and a *tzedakah pushka*—since we are standing 30 days before Pesach, it is an appropriate time to give notice that it is extremely worthwhile to publish a children’s *Haggadah*, obviously with illustrations, in a beautiful way, to engage the hearts [of the children].”

This new *horaah* was given at the height of the Rebbe’s campaign that every child turn their room into a *mikdash me’at*, a miniature *Beis Hamikdash*, by having a siddur and a *tzedakah pushka* in their room.²

Three days after giving the *horaah* to publish a children’s *Haggadah*, the Rebbe spoke at a *yechidus klolis* about the tremendous effect early education has on children throughout their future lives.³ It is because of this tremendous effect, the Rebbe said, “that we have recently emphasized the importance of having *sifrei kodesh* in children’s rooms; because the very presence of *sefarim* in the room has a big effect on the children.”

Having *sifrei kodesh* doesn’t mean sufficing with just one *sefer*, the Rebbe continued. The entire room should become a “*cheder malei sefarim*,” a room with the central purpose of housing *sefarim*, and the other functions of the room being only secondary.

“It is therefore necessary to ‘fill up’ the child’s room with at least three *sefarim*; a Chumash, a siddur and a *Haggadah Shel Pesach*.”⁴

The Rebbe continued to speak about the importance of the children’s *Haggadah* during the coming weeks.⁵

GETTING IT DONE

Just before Purim, Tzach in Eretz Yisroel distributed a flyer detailing the Rebbe’s call to every child to transform his room into a *mikdash me’at* by purchasing *sifrei kodesh*.

On the day after Purim, Rabbi Yosef Yitzchok Aharonov, director of Tzach in Eretz Yisroel, wrote to the Rebbe that he intends to distribute an updated version of the flyer with an announcement about the soon-to-be-published special children’s *Haggadah*.

Rabbi Aharonov added that after doing some research, it seems that Tzach will have to publish their own *Haggadah* from scratch (instead of building off of a pre-existing *Haggadah*), and distribute the *Haggadah* through the many Chabad houses throughout Eretz Yisroel. (In a future letter, the publishers detailed an additional advantage of Tzach publishing their own *Haggadah*: the cost of the *Haggadah* would come out to be a lot



HAGGADAH ILLUSTRATED BY REB ZALMAN KLEINMAN WITH AN ENGLISH TRANSLATION (SUBSEQUENTLY PRINTED WITH TRANSLATION IN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGES) PUBLISHED AS A RESULT OF THE REBBE'S REQUEST.



THE CHILDREN'S HAGGADAH PUBLISHED BY TZACH IN ERETZ YISROEL.

cheaper than if they would use an *Haggadah* from another publishing house.)

In reply, the Rebbe highlighted the last paragraph of Rabbi Aharonov's letter and wrote: "בנוסף חב"ד ונוסף לזה." "קובץ ציורים בפני עצמו השווה לכל נוסח The *Haggadah* should be published in the Chabad *nusach*, and a supplementary booklet featuring illustrations and child-friendly content should be published, catering to any *nusach*."

As the project continued to develop, the publishers wrote to the Rebbe their questions and ideas, and the Rebbe answered them with several insightful comments.

In a letter, the publishers wrote to the Rebbe about their idea to make the *Haggadah* in a small format which would be more user-friendly. In response to their question: "Is the general approach correct?" the Rebbe wrote: "כעצת ידידים" (מבין בזה—Follow the advice of acquaintances who are knowledgeable in this field (experts))."

In response to their suggestion to enlarge the text of the *Haggadah* and to add punctuation (question marks and quotation marks for the *pesukim*), and to split the text into paragraphs, the Rebbe responded: "רק אלה שכבר ישנם בסי" 'רק אלה שכבר ישנם בסי" 'תו"א תהלה ה'—Only [the paragraphs and punctuation] that are already in the siddur Torah Ohr and Tehillas Hashem [should be included]."

In response to their idea to add *nekudos* to the *piskei dinim* of the Alter Rebbe, the Rebbe wrote: "לא—No."

In response to their suggestion to include in the supplement (with the illustrations) parts of the *Haggadah*

that are not included in the Chabad *Haggadah* ("Chad *Gadya*," "Echad Mi Yodea" etc.) the Rebbe wrote: "ה"ז ככתבם" As they [i.e. the editors] wrote, [the *Haggadah*] is *nusach Chabad*."

In response to a letter asking for a *bracha* for *hatzlacha* in the project the Rebbe responded: "וה' יצליחם בכל" Hashem will give them success in all the attached."

נתקבל ות"ח'

Just about three weeks after the Rebbe first spoke about the children's *Haggadah*, on 7 Nissan, Tzach presented the final, clearly formatted and beautifully published *Haggadah*, together with the supplementary booklet of illustrations, to the Rebbe.

The publishers attached a letter to the *Haggadah*, informing the Rebbe that the *Haggadah* with its supplement will be distributed as a gift to the children who participated in the campaign to transform their rooms into a *mikdash me'at*. In response, the Rebbe wrote: "נתקבל ות"ח" —Received; thank you. I will mention this at the Ohel for much success etc." ①

1. Hisvaaduyos 5747, vol. 2 pg. 637.

2. See *The Beis Chabad*, Derher Kislev 5778.

3. Hisvaaduyos ibid. pg. 648.

4. The Rebbe explained that a *Haggadah* is actually very much connected to children's education; much of the Pesach *sefer* is designed to engage the children. See further in the *sicha* regarding a Tehillim as well.

5. See Hisvaaduyos ibid. pg. 692 and pg. 766.