

# AMONTH

**TEVES 5737 WITH THE REBBE** 

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ע"י בנם ר' יקותיאל יהודה

וזוגתו מרת פעסל לאה ומשפחתם שיחיו רוהר טור 'לעבן מיטן רבי'ן' הוקדש לזכרון ולעילוי נשמת ר' שמואל ב"ר יהושע אליהו ז"ל ואשתו מרת **שרה** ע"ה בת ר' **יקותיאל** ומרת **לאה** הי"ד

## Friday, 3 Teves

Today, Rabbi Hodakov spoke to Rabbi Mordechai Mentlik, Rabbi Yoel Kahan, and Rabbi Zalman Shimon Dvorkin on the Rebbe's behalf. He entrusted them with the task of leading a group of *bochurim* and *yungerleit* in creating an encyclopedic compilation of the Tzemach Tzedek's Torah, and a *mafteiach* (index) of *Hemshech Ayin-Beis*. Additionally, he directed that one chapter be ready to print every two weeks.

#### Shabbos, 4 Teves

In the afternoon, when the Rebbe returned from his house for Mincha, a group of children from "Mesibos Shabbos" were singing near the entrance of 770, and the Rebbe clapped along.

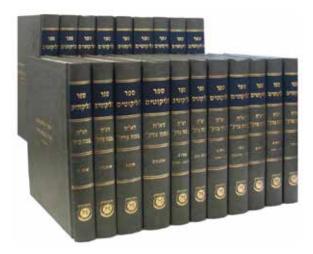
After Maariv, as the Rebbe left for home, he wished several children a "*Guteh Voch*".

# Sunday, 5 Teves

Tonight there was Yechidus.

Rabbi Yehuda Paldi, Director of the "*Vaad* for *Shleimus Ha'am*", was in the Rebbe's room for about thirty minutes.

When he emerged, he related with intense emotion that the Rebbe wished him "success in his holy work." The Rebbe also told him that tomorrow, during Krias Hatorah, a special *Mi Shebeirach* would be made for past



THE ENCYCLOPEDIC COMPILATION OF THE TZEMACH TZEDEK'S TORAH "SEFER HALIKKUTIM". THE PROJECT WAS FINISHED AFTER 7 YEARS.

and future donors to the "Mihu Yehudi" campaign.

The Rebbe encouraged him to publicize that those who haven't yet donated to the campaign could still do so, and those who had already contributed should give more.

## Monday, 6 Teves

The Rebbe entered *Gan Eden Hatachton* for Krias Hatorah at 11:40 AM.

After Kriah, Reb Dovid Raskin recited a *Mi Shebeirach* for the donors to the "*Mihu Yehudi*" campaign.

After the Torah was returned to the Aron, Rabbi Itche Spritzer announced that everyone should take inspiration from those who have already contributed and give on behalf of themselves and their families. This way, they too would be included in the *Mi Shebeirach*.

(It is worth noting that the Rebbe donated \$100 on behalf of himself and \$100 on behalf of the Rebbetzin.)

When he concluded his announcement, the Rebbe smiled and said: "Amein, Kein yehi ratzon."

# Wednesday, 8 Teves

On his way to Mincha, the Rebbe distributed coins for tzedakah to the children who were present.

After Mincha, the Rebbe returned to his room, and Rabbi Leibel Groner called Rabbi Paldi over.

The Rebbe came out of his room and engaged in a conversation with him in *Gan Eden Hatachton* for about 10 minutes.

When he came out, Rabbi Paldi mentioned that the Rebbe blessed him and inquired with a smile about his meetings with various Rabbonim in America.

The Rebbe gave him a Tanya, and a Siddur for his wife. Rabbi Paldi also told the Rebbe that he had appointed a few bochurim to work for Vaad Shleimus Ha'aretz on the ground in America. He specified that Hatamim Y. Y. A. would be responsible for posting signs, to which the Rebbe remarked, "He's a Kohen, and 'Kohanim are zerizim (speedy and diligent)." He also mentioned that Hatamim Y. A. K. would be in charge of financial matters, and the Rebbe replied: "He's a ער מרץ בעל מרץ."

#### Friday, Fast of Asara B'Teves

During Selichos, at *Rachamana D'anei* and *Avinu Malkeinu*, the Rebbe gestured for the crowd to sing.



At around 2:00 pm, the Rebbe entered the upstairs *zal* for Mincha. Since most of the bochurim were out on *mivtzoim*, the crowd was quite small, and the Rebbe's Haftorah could be heard very clearly. (It is an exceedingly rare occurrence for Mincha to be held upstairs on a fast day.)

In the afternoon, the Rebbe did not return home and stayed in 770 until Shabbos.

At 5:00 pm, the Rebbe came downstairs for Kabbolas Shabbos. During davening, the Rebbe looked at the Kovetz Ha'aros from Morristown.

Right after davening, the Rebbe walked home, accompanied by a large group of Chassidim. (Much more than the usual two bochurim.) While they were walking, the Rebbe turned to a boy without a coat and motioned with his hand for him to wear one.

### Sunday, 12 Teves

At around 1:00 pm, the Rebbe went out to the entrance of 770 as the *levaya* of Mr. Shmuel Shrage<sup>1</sup> passed by.

Before Mincha, Rabbi [Avrohom] Sofer, who was involved in printing the Meiri, entered the Rebbe's room. When the Rebbe came out for Mincha a bit later, he continued talking to Rabbi Sofer.

The Rebbe distributed coins for charity to the children who were present. One of the kids said "Thank you," and the Rebbe replied, "You're welcome."

After Mincha, the Rebbe again conversed with Rabbi Sofer, and they entered the Rebbe's room together.

Teams of *bochurim* and *yungerleit* have begun working on the project of the Tzemach Tzedek's Torah and *Hemshech Ayin-Beis* (previously requested by the Rebbe) with great diligence. Everyone is eager to complete their portion of the work, particularly because a note with the names of those who contributed will be sent to the Rebbe.

Parts of *Hemshech Ayin-Beis* are already printed, and the rest is being worked on expeditiously, with hopes of the first full volume being published soon.

In line with Tzach's *hachlata* that Chassidim would study all ten of the Rebbe's edited Maamarim,<sup>2</sup> there is an effort to compile and print them all into one volume.

Over 600 college students from 71 universities across the U.S. and Canada participated in the "Pegisha with Chabad" Shabbaton organized by Tzach. The event was split into two parts, with the girls coming for Shabbos Parshas Mikeitz and the boys for Parshas Vayechi.

The goal of the Pegisha is to provide a taste of Chabad and Chassidic Philosophy, and to give them a chance to spend Shabbos with the Rebbe in Crown Heights.

## Thursday, 16 Teves

In the morning, Reb S. Z. Levitin entered the Rebbe's room, and a few minutes later, the Rebbe emerged for Kriah. The Rebbe held his Siddur on the way to the *zal* and distributed coins for tzedakah to the children standing nearby. One of the coins fell to the floor, and the Rebbe bent down to pick it up.

The Rebbe was called up for the third *aliyah* and brought his siddur to the bimah with him.

After the aliya, the Rebbe recited *chatzi kaddish* and then instructed Reb Dovid Raskin to recite '*Kel Malei Rachamim*' for Bentzion ben Reb Avraham (Reb Bentzion Schneerson, the Rebbetzin's maternal uncle who had just passed away in Tel Aviv). While Reb Dovid was looking for the right page, the Rebbe opened the page in his own siddur. When Reb Dovid found it in his siddur, he recited the tefilah. When he reached the name, he paused, and the Rebbe said, "Bentzion ben Reb Avraham."

At the end, when he reached the part where it says "Hashem Hu Nachalaso," he asked the Rebbe whether he should say Hashem's name. The Rebbe replied that this is a question for a Rav.

After Kriah, the Rebbe remained in the zal for the duration of davening, and recited all of the kaddeishim. In a break from usual practice, before the final kaddish d'rabbanan, the Rebbe said Pirkei Avos instead of the customary Mishnayos. Following this, the chazzan began to say kaddish d'rabbanan, but the Rebbe quickly indicated that the regular Mishnayos should still be recited. After the Mishnayos were said, the Rebbe said kaddish.

Unexpectedly, at 2:50 pm, the Rebbe went to the Ohel, stopping at the Mikvah on his way.

During Mincha, the Rebbe didn't recite kaddish.

Tonight, the Rebbe held *yechidus*, a rare occurrence for a day when the Rebbe goes to the Ohel.

Amongst those who came to see the Rebbe was Rabbi Pinchas Taitz, who was in the Rebbe's room for three hours!

Yechidus concluded at 1:40 am.

## Shabbos Parshas Vayechi, 18 Teves

After Shacharis, the Rebbe waved to one of the children standing nearby.

After Mincha, a family whose son had just had his Bar

Mitzvah *aliyah* waited near the Rebbe's room. The Rebbe wished them Mazal Tov.

On Motzei Shabbos, as the Rebbe was leaving 770, a man held the door open for him, and the Rebbe said "Yashar koach."

# Sunday, 19 Teves

Mincha was postponed today, because the Rebbe went out for the *levaya* of Reb A. Yudin which passed 770 at 3:15 pm.

Tonight the Rebbe held *yechidus*, concluding at around 12:30 am.

Among those who came were a visitor from Russia and a delegation from the city of New York.

## Monday, 20 Teves

Today, Krias Hatorah was held in *Gan Eden Hatachton*. Before Mincha, the Rebbe handed out coins for tzedakah to children and waved "hello" to them.

# Friday, Chof-Daled Teves

Today the weather was very cold. At 9:00 pm, on his way home from 770, the Rebbe walked slowly due to the snow.

#### Shabbos Parshas Shemos, 25 Teves

At 1:30 pm, the Rebbe entered the Shul for the Shabbos Mevarchim farbrengen.

The Rebbe began by expounding on the connection between Shabbos Mevarchim and Rosh Chodesh, specifically Rosh Chodesh Shevat.

In the next Sicha, the Rebbe mentioned that when Moshe Rabbeinu rebuked the Yidden in Sefer Devarim (which began on Rosh Chodesh Shevat), he first spoke about the kindness that he did for them. This teaches us that we must first and foremost be kind to others. Only then can we rebuke.

In the third Sicha, the Rebbe spoke about *hafatzas hama'ayanos*, a theme that connects Chof-Daled Teves and Yud Shevat.

The Rebbe mentioned that the Frierdiker Rebbe pioneered the initiative to translate Chassidus into "70 languages". As a continuation to this, the Rebbe praised the

recent translation of the Tanya into Arabic.

Afterwards, the Rebbe said the Maamer "Veileh Shemos", in the tune of a sicha. (Maamar kein sicha.)

Throughout the farbrengen, the Rebbe strongly encouraged the singing by nodding his head in all directions. At one point, the Rebbe instructed someone to say l'chaim and smiled at him. A number of people approached the Rebbe and said l'chaim, including Rabbi Y. Krinsky.

Towards the end of the farbrengen, the Rebbe distributed bottles of *mashke* to several individuals.

Reb A. Pliskin received *mashke* for a planned gathering of Russian Jews in honor of 135 *Brisei Milah* of Russian children. The Rebbe also gave *mashke* to Reb Dovid Raskin for the upcoming Melave Malka organized by Tzach for the "Tankistim." The Rebbe distributed *mashke* to a few other people, including some Bar Mitzvah boys.

Following this, the farbengen concluded with a joyous niggun, and the Rebbe encouraged the singing by waving his hand.

After Mincha, "*Nyet*, *Nyet*" was sung. The Rebbe remained in 770 until after Shabbos.

# Wednesday, 29 Teves

Today, the Rebbe went to the Ohel at 3:20 pm.

The Rebbe returned to 770 at 6:05 pm, an hour and ten minutes after Shkiah. Before Mincha, the Rebbe distributed coins for tzedakah to the children present.

After Mincha, the Rebbe asked Rabbi Hodakov to accompany him to his room. A few minutes later Rabbi Hodakov emerged, and announced that a (surprise) farbrengen would be held at 8:00 pm. Maariv was scheduled for 6:45 as usual.

At 8:00 pm, the Rebbe entered the farbrengen, and indicated to begin singing the niggun which customarily precedes a Maamar. After the Niggun, the Rebbe said the Maamar "*Arba'a Rashei Shanim Heim*."

During the niggunim, the Rebbe motioned to encourage the singing.

The Rebbe distributed dollars to everyone present via the "Tankistim", handing each one a bundle of bills to give out. As the Tankistim came by to receive the dollars, the Rebbe indicated to many of them that they take the dollars with their right hand. A few children passed as well, and the Rebbe smiled at them and inquired if they



REB BENTZION SCHNEERSOHN, MATERNAL UNCLE OF THE REBBETZIN, SITTING BETWEEN THE REBBE AND RABBI HODAKOV AT THE FARBRENGEN OF 12 TAMMUZ 5730, HIS SECOND AND FINAL VISIT TO 770.

were also Tankistim. At one point, the Rebbe signaled with his hand to encourage the singing.

Towards the end of the farbrengen, the Rebbe instructed the crowd to sing "Lchatchila Ariber," motioning to repeat the high stanza ten times. Afterwards "Hoshea Es Amecha" was sung, as well as "Prazos Teishev," "Ufaratzta," and "Nyet Nyet." The Rebbe clapped along with the singing for several minutes.

This was followed by "Ki Visimcha." After that, the Rebbe said a Bracha Acharona, and started "Ki Visimcha" again. Then the Rebbe exited the room holding the remaining dollars and his siddur. ①

<sup>1.</sup> See his story in "Crown Heights," Derher Cheshvan 5777.

<sup>2.</sup> At this point in 5737, there were only ten *maamorim* published that the Rebbe had edited. In the later years, tens more would be subsequently published.