



כ"ה אַדָר, תרס"א

יוֹם הוֹלֶדֶת שֶׁל הָרַבְּנִית חי' מושׁקא Rebbetzin Chaya Mushka's Birthday

Lots of Letters

A collection of letters from the Frierdiker Rebbe to the Rebbetzin reveals a small window into the deep and loving connection father and daughter maintained. Source: Igros Kodesh Admur Maharayatz, vol. 15

This is the earliest letter we have on record. The Rebbetzin was twelve years old at the time, and the Frierdiker writes from Switzerland.

Tuesday, Beis Menachem-Av, 5673

My dear daughter, Chaya Mussia, יתחיי,

Hearty regards.

I received your letter with much pleasure.

Please write about your studies, and about everything else that is going on.

Zei gezunt (be well), and brachos for a happy, long life. Best wishes,

Your father

The Frierdiker Rebbe was out of town on the Rebbetzin's fifteenth birthday, so he sent her a telegram, which he wrote in Russian.

Petrograd, Chof Hey Adar, 5676

My dear and beloved daughter Mussia, יתחיי,

On your fifteenth birthday (and you should have many more long, good years), I'm happy to wish you a loving brocha and a message from your parents. Hashem should give you a long and fulfilling life, success in your learning, and constant happiness.

Be well, my loved one,

Your father

Written in Russian and sent from Petrograd (now Petersburg).

Ches Shvat, 5677

Dear Mussia 'תחי',

I'm wondering why all this time I haven't received even one letter from you. My beloved one, why do you act so not nice? Children must know that they are the comfort and riches of their parents. The same is true for children; their happiness and riches are their parents. One needs to think about this constantly. When there is a close connection between children and parents, then the members of the family are the happiest people in the world.

My beloved, write about your health and how your learning is going.

Be well and happy.

When the Rebbetzin was eighteen years old, she went to a health resort in a town called Yesentuki, in Tarnopol. Her parents were in Rostov at the time.

Chof Gimmel Tammuz, 5679

My dear daughter, Chaya Mussia, תח",

Sholom U'verocha!

This is how a father starts the day after his child travels—by writing letters!

Questions I have without limits... all the letters of the Alef-Beis would be insufficient to articulate them, but you are surely tired from the journey and worried about settling down.

You are searching for the fresh air there? Are you wondering where it is? My dear daughter, first you must sleep and rest, then you will feel the fresh air! When we are rested and satisfied, the air is good and smooth.

Write in detail about everything. We are all, boruch Hashem, gezunt.

Your father, who is yearning for you a little.





Four days later:

Friday, Erev Shabbos Chof Zayin Tammuz, 5679 My dear daughter, Chaya Mussia, מחי,

Sholom U'verocha!

Mussia'le, my daughter!

...Listen my child! Do you know that it is a big problem that there are no letters from you? The telegram we received only on Wednesday evening, and there are no letters until now. Mussia'le... it is not good like this! You are either too lazy to write, or you have already written but are missing the address, or you have the address but the letter has no feet and must be taken to the mailbox, and that you pushed off until tomorrow, and then when it was tomorrow you forgot.

But my daughter, this is not how it should be. When the letter is thrown about, likewise the beloved father and mothers' [hearts] get thrown around-worrying why, when, what does the doctor say, and what is Mussia'le doing,...

On the way to America for his first visit, the Frierdiker Rebbe writes to the Rebbe from a stopover in Paris:

Tuesday, Hey Elul, 5689

Dear Harav Menachem Mendel, my son-in-law, יתחי,

...Think well about the beautiful pearl that Hashem has given you for long life and all good, b'gashmius and b'ruchnius. Hashem should give you chochmah, bina, and da'as to understand what I mean, clearly and truthfully.

Four months later, still during the trip to America, the Frierdiker Rebbe writes to the Rebbe from Baltimore.

Sunday, Chof Vov Teves 5690

...Concerning the beautiful present, the dear pearl, you still don't know my intention, or did you figure out my riddle[?]

Be bentched with all good, b'gashmius and b'ruchnius, forever, and we should see each other with a happy heart b'gashmius and b'ruchnius.

Your father-in-law

The Rebbe answered:

Yud Ches Shevat, 5690

...The worth and essence of the beautiful pearl, I have yet to understand what it is referring to.

On the Rebbetzin's birthday, the Frierdiker Rebbe replied:

Tuesday, Chof Hey Adar, 5690

Dear and beloved son-in-law , HARM"M, תח"י,

...And the beautiful pearl that Hashem has given you is my daughter, your honorable wife, 'חת'. This was my intention in the letter. It should be fulfilled in her "חכמת נשים בנתה ביתה"—The wisdom of the woman builds the house," on the foundations of Kodshei Kodoshim (holy of holies). Your house should be open wide for all the good that our holy Rabbeim bentched us with b'gashmius and b'ruchnius, because their words are eternal to all those who guard their requests....





On the Rebbetzin's thirty-fourth birthday in 5695, the Frierdiker Rebbe writes:

Tomorrow, Chof Hey Adar Sheini, is our beloved one's birthday. I'm sending you, dear daughter, my hearty mazal tov, along with the best brachos that you and [the Rebbe], our dear and honorable son-in-law, be content and happy, and have everything good, b'gashmius and b'ruchnius.

I remain,

Your father who loves you with unlimited love and bentches you

Known as "der lange briv," the long letter, this father-daughter message is more than 120 pages long!

Dated Tes Zayin Shvat, 5695, the Frierdiker Rebbe wrote it while in a health resort near Vienna, where he resided from Chanuka to Pesach of that year.

In a uniquely rich prose, the Frierdiker Rebbe writes a graphic portrait of the spiritual rhythms of life in the shtetl, what inspired the Jews of the era, and the focal points around which day-to-day existence revolved. We are shown a glimpse into the characters of several early Chassidim, people who were instrumental in spreading Chassidus and the Chassidic way of life. (Foremost among these early pioneers were the three famous companions: Reb Mordechai Bayever, Reb Chayim Mazierer, and Reb Yissachar Dov Kabilniker, talmidim of the Baal Shem Tov.)

A month later, on Shushan Purim Koton, 5695, the Frierdiker Rebbe writes:

[You want to know what made me write this lange briv (long letter)?] I received a letter from you, my beloved daughter... I started to respond with a Chassidishe story, but the story is deeply connected with the period when the name of the Baal Shem Tov was just beginning to be known in White Russia (formally Poland), where the Alter Rebbe was born and learned as a child.

[Therefore] The story became very lengthy. In such stories, every detail is important. I rushed with the writing; I wanted to build the main part of the story first. But as happens with initial writings—there are always many flaws: missing words, parts omitted, not everything in its right place. Only when reviewing and rewriting several times, after these flaws are corrected where possible, then a complete picture emerges.

I'm sending you a part of the reshima (letter). I want to ask you that after you've read it (and surely your mother will also be interested to read it), please pass it on to Chaim (the secretary) so he can type it up on the typewriter. (Translated by Sichos in English under the title The Making of Chassidim.)

A month later, on Chof Zayin Adar, 5695, the Frierdiker Rebbe continued:

...I have a request to you: the lange briv (long letter) with the story, please show it to your Bobbe (Rebbetzin Shterna Sora). Within a few days she will read it and return it to you. She will have pleasure from it, and giving pleasure to others is a nice thing...





A week later, dated Sunday, Zayin Menachem-Av, 5679

My dear daughter, תח",

The letter relates a long story about the Alter Rebbe, and finishes off with the following:

... Being in Yesentiki, you can understand the greatness of Hashem Yisborach, as the Alter Rebbe said, and therefore I'm writing you this story.

From me, your father

Yosef Yitzchok Schneersohn

Two days later, on Tisha B'av, the Frierdiker Rebbe writes an amazing long letter describing the story of Tisha B'av and the galus throughout the years. Here is the beginning and end of this letter:

5679, Yehofech L'Soson UL'Simcha

My dear daughter, יתחיי,

"Tisha B'Av," two small words, with a big, deep, bitter meaning. "Tisha B'Av" is the curse of Tzoros (woes), blood, crying, death, and fear, until it is difficult to differentiate between what is greater: the Atlantic Ocean, with water and depth, or Tisha B'av, with pain and death . . .

The letter concludes:

...The gevuras Yisroel (strength of Yidden) is complete and has not been touched, it has only become darkened and compressed. Our children are also full of yiddishe blood and strong in belief, the pintele yid is complete. Then we can hope that we will not allow ourselves to be convinced by our fake "good friends," and that we will stand strong in our belief in

our holy father, Hashem Yisbareich, who has already sworn that if we should only fulfill Torah and mitzvos properly, he will reverse the mourning day of "Tisha B'Av" to an eternal Yom Tov when Moshiach will come.

From me, your father, one of the millions of yidden who are crying and waiting.

The Rebbetzin was involved in the Frierdiker Rebbe's communal work. Here are a few letters that portray this. The Frierdiker Rebbe was in the town of Luga, near Leningrad, and was writing to the Rebbetzin who was in Leningrad:

Baruch Hashem, Wednesday, Chof Hey Tammuz, 5686

My daughter Chaya Mushka, תח",

Sholom U'beracha

We are all baruch Hashem gezunt.

You will receive regards from Mr. Chaim (ed: the secretary). If Reb Zavil sheyichye Ziedinfeld will ask you for three hundred rubles, take it from Noson Gurary.

Baruch Hashem, Sunday, Erev Rosh Chodesh Menachem-Av, 5686

My daughter Chaya Mushka, תח",

Sholom U'beracha

I'm sending you a package, please give it to Noson Gurary tomorrow morning (if today will already be too late), no later than 10:00 a.m.

If the bochur from Slutsk called Mayazess will come, give him through my son-in-law fifteen Rubles. (Ed: the Frierdiker Rebbe was giving a group of Bochurim from the Litvishe Yeshiva of Slutsk a monthly stipend).





Baruch Hashem, Thursday, Dalet Menachem-Av, 5686 My dear daughter Chaya Mushka, מחלי,

Sholom U'beracha

...All the money that you took on my account, please mark down all the debits and credits with the dates, and this should be complete by you. When you will come here gezunterheit, you will give it to me.

When you receive the deposit, take it in Ruble bills (it should be about 780 Rubles). Take on the account of mother, tichye, 610 Rubles. Take 300 Rubles from Noson, sheyichye, i.e. from Reb Chaim Yosef, sheyichye. 120 Rubles on the account of the Bobbe, and 180 Rubles send me tomorrow, if someone is coming. If not, on Sunday, since I have no money. If there is money from the mail, surely you will send it...

After leaving Russia with her parents on Isru Chag Sukkos, 5688, Rebbetzin Chaya Mushka married the Rebbe on Yud Dalet Kislev. In 5689, the Rebbe and Rebbetzin moved to Berlin, and later to Paris before arriving in New York on Chof Ches Sivan, 5701.

Chassidim relate that it was the Rebbetzin that ultimately convinced the Rebbe to accept the Nesius. She told him, "It is not possible that all the mesiras nefesh of my father, the (Frierdiker) Rebbe for thirty years, should go to waste."

In 5714, the Rebbetzin traveled to Paris. She visited the refugees still living in Paris (after leaving Russia, following World War Two). She also visited Switzerland and Italy. Once, the discussion turned to the relaxing time she had while in Paris. The Rebbetzin declared, "If my husband (the rebbe) would have free time, he would prepare a siyum on masechtas Bava Basra!" She added that Pesach is

coming, and even though the Rebbe's workload is tremendous, nevertheless he manages to find time to prepare a siyum for Erev Pesach (the Rebbe is the bechor of his family).

Mivtza Yom Huledes

On Chof Hey Adar, 5748, the Rebbe founded Mivtza Yom Huledes, l'zecher nishmasa Rebbetzin Chaya Mushka.

At the time, the Rebbe was davening at home. After Shacharis on Chof Hey Adar, the Rebbe went up to his room. Suddenly, the Rebbe came back down and started to say a short sicha launching this new mivtza. No one was expecting this to happen, as sichos were generally said after Mincha or Maariv. When the siren blared in Crown Heights, people began rushing towards 770 to catch the sicha. After the sicha, one lucky bochur had the honor to make a big farbrengen l'kovod his birthday.

In the period that followed, when the Rebbe was giving out dollars, people notified the Rebbe that their birthdays were coming up. The Rebbe reminded them to make farbrengens, and to some the Rebbe told, "make a party."

On Acharon Shel Pesach, 5748, the Rebbe explained at great length the inyan of celebrating a birthday. The Rebbe was magia (edited) the sicha, and a list of the birthday minhogim. (**Sefer Hasichos** 5748, vol. 2, pg. 406)

- It is customary to be called to the Torah on the Shabbos preceding your birthday. When the birthday occurs on a day that the Torah is read you should also be called to the Torah on that day.
- 2. On your birthday increase your contribution to





tzedaka before morning service and afternoon services. When the birthday is on Shabbos or Yom Tov, give the extra tzedaka before Shabbos (preferably after as well).

- Put more time and effort into your prayer. Pray
 with greater concentration, meditate on the
 greatness of the Creator and put more intensity
 in your recitation of psalms as well. (If possible,
 read at least one complete book of Tehillim.)
- Study the psalm which corresponds to your new age, and which you will be saying daily through the coming year. (E.g. when one reaches the age of 20 he begins reciting Psalm 21.)
- In addition to your regular, daily study periods, on your birthday study an extra lesson in revealed Torah, Nigleh, and esoteric teachings—Chassidus. This is in addition to the daily quota of Chumash, Tehillim, Tanya and Rambam.
- 6. Study a Chassidic discourse by heart (or at least a part thereof) and review it in the presence of a group of people on the birthday. This may also

- be done at another auspicious time in connection with your birthday; especially at the Shalosh seudah meal of the following Shabbos.
- 7. Reach out to your fellow Jews and teach them Torah and Chassidus, with true Ahavas Yisroel.
- 8. Isolate yourself in seclusion for a while on the day of your birthday and retrospectively review your conduct for the past year-see what needs repentance and improvement-and make good resolutions for the future years.
- Accept upon yourself some new act of piety or more zealous observance in some area of action all within your grasp.
- 10. Celebrate a happy party with your family and friends in honor of your birthday. Give praise and thanks to the Holy One, Blessed Be He, if possible say the blessing of Shehechiyanu on a new fruit with happiness and the joy of a mitzva.

(Hayom Yom, 11th of Nissan; Sefer HaMinhagim Chabad pg. 81; Letters of Lubavitcher Rebbe Shlita, vol. 6 Letters #1,548, #1,858; vol. 7 #1,898, #1,929, #2,022, #2,066, #2,097, #2,116, #2,146, #2,210, #2,226.)





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THURSDAY

Rebbetzin Chaya Mushka's Birthday יום הולדת של הרבנית חי' מושקא

W CROSS R D

Test Your Knowledge

rest rour knowledge

Down:

1. The Rebbetzin's father is the

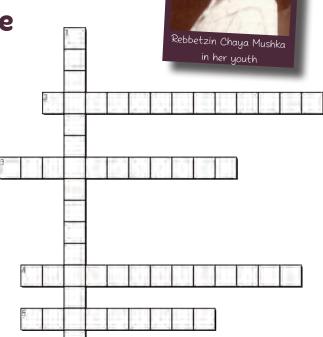
Across:

2. The Rebbetzin was brought up with stories that would permeate her heart with _____

3. The Rebbetzin was born in the town of

4. The Rebbetzin was named after the wife of the

5. The Rebbetzin's birthplace is near





Mysterious Message

When the GPU came to arrest her father, Rebbetzin Chaya Mushka looked out the window and spotted

her chosson, the Rebbe, standing below. How could she tell him what was happening without tipping off the GPU? The Rebbetzin, in her cleverness, leaned out the window and called out "Schneerson! We have guests!" The Rebbe understood her hint and quickly left to do whatever he could to help.



Partners in "Crime"

In communist Russia, where Torah and Mitzvos were strictly forbidden, the Frierdiker Rebbe knew he could count on his daughter, Rebbetzin

Chaya Mushka, to help him with his top-secret operations.

When the Frierdiker Rebbe was sentenced to golus in Kostroma, she was the one chosen to go with him and the first to share the news when he was released.

Answers: Test Your Knowledge: 1. Frierdiker Rebbe 2. mesiras nefesh 3. Babinovitch 4. Tzemach Tzedek 5. Lubavitch; Surprise Shadchan: Her grandfather

Strong and Proud

When faced with the fearsome GPU (Russian secret police) officers who had come to arrest their father, Rebbetzin Chaya Mushka and her sister Shaina were not afraid. They proudly told the officers, "We are members of our father's party... who hold dear Jewish traditions and despise these new trends."



Surprise Shadchan

When the Rebbetzin was just a little girl, her future shidduch with the Rebbe was already being discussed. Use the decoder to work out who her "first" shadchan was.

FCP EPYLBDYRFCP

Key: P=>R L=>N T=>V

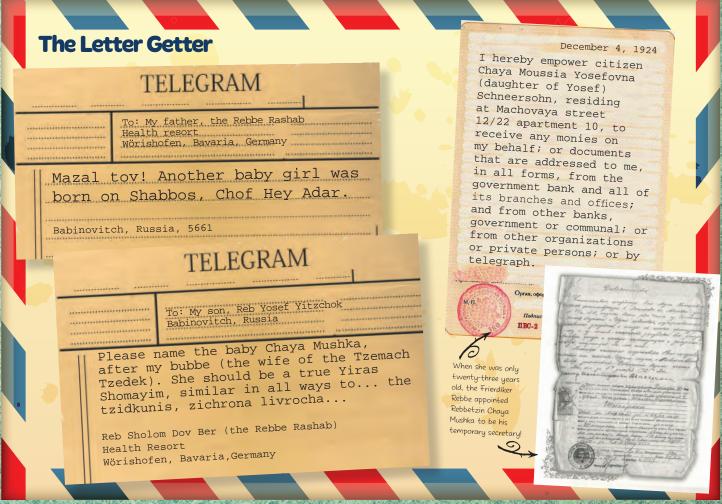
Have No Fear



Once, when the Rebbetzin's melamed (teacher) did not want to tell her wondrous miracle stories because they might make her afraid, the Frierdiker

Rebbe told him that he must, "in order to permeate her heart with mesiras nefesh." He continued, "from a young age it is important to tell her... and davka stories like these are accepted in the mind of the child."

Such was the chinuch that the Rebbetzin received. The Rebbe, at the farbrengen in honor of her first yartzeit, told this story, stressing that, "when it comes to chinuch, we must permeate children with stories of mesiras nefesh which are also miraculous, that they become embedded in the childrens' minds, even if it doesn't fit in with common sense."







כ"ה אדר תרס"א

א ב ג ד ה ו ז ח ט י יא יב יג יד טו טז יז יח יט כ כא כב כג כד כה כו כז כח כט

THURSDAY

יוֹם הוֹלֶדֶת שֶׁל הְרַבַּנִית חי' מושׁקא Rebbetzin Chaya Mushka's Birthday

Lots of Letters

The Frierdiker Rebbe's writing to the Rebbetzin reveals a small window into the loving connection between the two. As you read, notice the caring closeness they shared, and how much the Frierdiker Rebbe cared about the chinuch and well-being of his daughter. What lesson can you learn from these letters?

The Rebbetzin was born in 5761. Can you figure out her age when each letter was written?



AGE:

Tuesday, Beis Menachem-Av 5673, Switzerland

My dear daughter, Chaya Mussia, 'nn,

Hearty regards. Your letter I received with
much pleasure. Please write about your studies, and
about everything else going on.

Zei gezunt, and brachos for a happily, long life,

Best wishes, Your father

AGE:

The earliest letter we have on record

Do you tell your parents what's really going on in your life?

AGE:

Chof Hey Adar 5676 Petrograd, Russia

My dear and beloved daughter Mussia, 'תחי',

The Frierdiker Rebbe writes to his daughter from out of town.

On your fifteenth birthday (and you should have many more long good years), I'm happy to wish you a loving brocha and a

message from your parents. Hashem should give you a long and fulfilling life, success in your learning, and constant happiness.

Be well, my loved one, Your father

Ches Shvat 5677 - Petrograd, Russia

Dear Mussia 'תחי,

The Frierdiker Rebbe writes to his daughter from out of town.

I'm wondering why all this time I haven't received even one letter from you. My beloved one, why do you act so not nice? A child must know that they are the comfort of their parents and their riches. And also for children, their happiness and riches are their parents. One needs to think about this constantly. When there is a close connection between children and parents, then the members of the family are the happiest people in the world. My beloved, write about your health and how your learning is going.

Be well and happy, Your father

How can your family become happier?

Chof Gimmel Tammuz 5679, Rostov, Russia

My dear daughter, Chaya Mussia, 'תחי,

Sholom U'verocha!

AGE:

This is how a father starts the day after his child travels—with writing letters!

Questions I have without limits.... All the letters of the Alef-Beis will be insufficient to articulate them, but you are surely tired from the journey and worried about settling down.

You are searching for the fresh air there? Are you wondering where it is? My dear daughter, first you must sleep and rest, then you will feel the fresh air! When we are rested and satisfied, the air is good and smooth.

Please write in detail about everything. We are all, boruch Hashem, gezunt.

Your father (who is yearning for you a little)

Do you feel like you can talk to your parents about anything?

AGE: Erev Shabbos,
Chof Zayin Tammuz
5679, Rostov, Russia

My dear daughter, Chaya Four days later Mussia, 'ハカ, Sholom U'verocha!

Mussia'le, my daughter!

...Listen my child! Do you know that it is a big problem that there are no letters from you? The telegram we received only on Wednesday evening, and there are no letters until now. Mussia'le... it is not good like this! You are lazy to write or you have already written but are missing the address, or you have the address but the letter has no feet and must be taken to the mailbox, and that you pushed off till tomorrow, and then when it was tomorrow you forgot.

But my daughter, this is not how it should be. When the letter is thrown about, likewise the beloved father and mothers' [hearts] get thrown around—worrying why, when, what does the doctor say, and how is Mussia'le doing,...

Do you take the time to think about how your parents feel?



Chof Hey Adar 5695, Purkersdorf, Austria

Tomorrow, Chof Hey Adar Sheini, is our beloved one's birthday. I'm sending you, dear daughter, my hearty mazel tov along with the best brachos, that you and our dear and honorable son-in-law (the Rebbe), be content and happy, and have everything good, b'gashmius and b'ruchnius.

I remain,

Your father,

who loves you with unlimited love and bentches you

Do you realize how much your parents care for you?

After learning from the Rebbetzin's connection with her father, what is one thing you want to change about the way you interact with your parents?

Source: Igros Kodesh Admur Maharayatz, vol. 15

The Rebbetzin had gone to

a health resort in a town

called Yesentuki, Tarnopol.



I read or heard a story of the Rebbetzin in honor of Chof Hey Adar

Feeling Right at Home

The Rebbetzin's הַּכְנֶסַת אוֹרְחִים

THURSDAY

SHMUEL LEW AND HINDY JAFFE ARE GETTING MARRIED IN ONE WEEK! THEY ARE ON THEIR WAY TO A VERY SPECIAL DESTINATION.

TATTY, WHY WERE
WE INVITED TO THE
REBBETZIN'S HOUSE? DO
YOU THINK THE REBBETZIN
KNOWS WHO WE ARE?

YES! WE
ALWAYS SEND
FLOWERS BEFORE
YOM TOV.



I ASKED THE REBBE
IF WE COULD INVITE THE
REBBETZIN TO YOUR CHASUNA AND HE
RESPONDED QUITE WARMLY, SAYING
SHE'D BE DELIGHTED IF WE DID, BUT
THAT SHE WOULDN'T ATTEND
PHYSICALLY.

כ"ה אַדֶּר א ב ג ד ה ו ז ח ט י יא יב יג יד טו טז יז יח יט כ כא כב כג כד כה כו כז כח כט

























Add in:

COMING UP THIS WEEK IN...



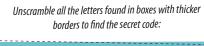
Α"ΟΊΠ ΤΙΧ Π"Ο
REBBETZIN CHAYA MUSHKA'S BIRTHDAY

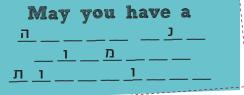


It's Your Birthday!

In honor of the Rebbetzin's birthday, about a month after her histalkus on תכ"ב שבט תשמ"ח, the Rebbe introduced a brand-new campaign: Mivtza Yom Huledes! Do you know all ten birthday minhogim?









medillah in shul with a group than at home with our families? **Answer: مناتب الباء بنا بالعاليوس وطل searthe megillah** in shul with a group than at home with our families?

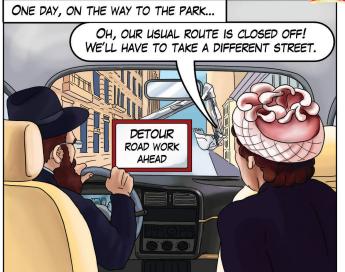
Birthday Minhogim: ביברגגן החלטה אהיבון הנפש, פערברנגן החלטה אהדתל, השבון הנפש, פערברנגן החלטה תהלים (Messtion of the week (last week): From which possuk do we know that it is a bigger

Got it right? Answers

THE REBBETZIN

THE REBBE ASKED REB CHESED HALBERSTAM, A HELPER IN THE REBBE'S HOUSE, TO ARRANGE FOR THE REBBETZIN TO LEAVE THE HOUSE EVERY DAY FOR FRESH AIR ...







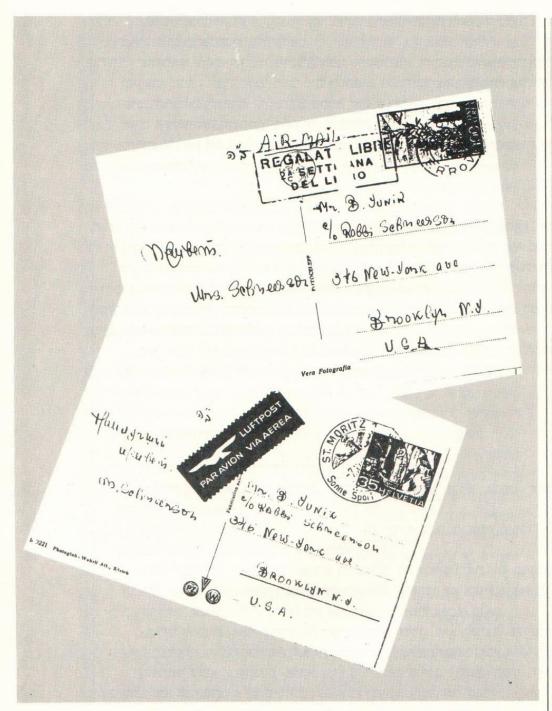












האגרות ששיגרה הרבנית הצדקנית ע״ה להרה״ח ר׳ בערל יוניק מאיטליה ומשוויץ