

SIMCHAS  
*Made*  
SIMPLE

Vol. I



Simchas Made Simple  
Copyright © 2006  
by

**The Shluchim Office**

The Shluchos Division

816 Eastern Parkway

Brooklyn, NY 11213

(718) 221-0500

[www.shluchim.org](http://www.shluchim.org)

[shluchim@shluchim.org](mailto:shluchim@shluchim.org)

[shluchos@shluchim.org](mailto:shluchos@shluchim.org)

All rights reserved, including the right to reproduce this book or portions thereof, in any form, without prior permission,  
in writing from the publisher.

ב"ה



A project in conjunction with  
*20<sup>th</sup> year celebration of  
The Shluchim Office*

# *Dedication*

To Rabbi Moshe and Kraindy Klein  
committed sponsors  
enabling the publication of  
'SIMCHAS MADE SIMPLE' vol. I  
an important resource for Shluchim



To Dr. Aryeh and Chaya Sara Steiner  
for their devotion and support of  
The Shluchos Division,  
enabling the expansion of resources and services  
to Shluchos world-wide.

# *Tribute*

This volume of ‘Simchas Made Simple’  
is in tribute to all Shluchim and their  
families, who in their efforts to perfect  
the world, expand their personal joys  
into communal Simchas.

May these Simchas herald the ultimate  
Simcha, the immediate arrival of  
the true and complete Geulah.



# *Credits*

Project Coordinator, Editor  
Chana T. Piekarski

Writers  
Carly Namdar  
Nechamy Charytan

Editor and Layout  
Devora Krasnianski

Companion CD  
Gishi Blotner

Graphic Consultant  
Penina B. Popack

Cover Design  
Unique Image Advertising

Published by:  
The Shluchos Division  
The Shluchim Office  
816 Eastern Parkway  
Brooklyn, NY 11213  
718-221-0500  
[www.shluchim.org](http://www.shluchim.org)  
[shluchim@shluchim.org](mailto:shluchim@shluchim.org)  
[shluchos@shluchim.org](mailto:shluchos@shluchim.org)

# *Table of Contents*

<i>How To Use This Book .....</i>	11
The Function .....	12
Handouts .....	14
Speeches.....	14
Themes.....	15
Programs .....	15
Décor.....	16
The Menu .....	16
Souvenirs.....	16
Entertainment.....	16
Invitations .....	17
Thank You Notes .....	18
Gift Ideas.....	18
The Appendix.....	18
Resources .....	18
Recipes.....	18
Songs.....	18
The CD.....	19
Icons Used in This Book .....	19

<i>Bris</i> .....	21
The Rebbe's Letter .....	22
Function .....	23
Shabbos Bris .....	23
Late Afternoon/ Early Evening Bris .....	23
Early Morning Bris .....	23
Some Ideas .....	24
Handouts .....	24
Customs of Bris Milah (from Kovetz Minhagim) .....	24
Excerpt from Likutei Sichos (Bris) .....	29
Bris Milah - Circumcision .....	30
Why Do We Have A Circumcision? .....	36
The Bris Ma'amer, B'etzem Hayom Hazeh, in English: .....	37
Naming A Child .....	40
Bris Guide for the Clueless & Curious .....	44
Guide to the Bris Milah .....	47
Customary Procedures .....	48
The Honorees, Their Functions And Significances .....	51
Bris for Dummies .....	52
It's Good To Know! .....	53
Milah on Shabbos .....	54
Order of a Circumcision .....	54
Speeches .....	56
Eliyahu HaNavi .....	56
Décor .....	57
Centerpieces .....	57
Menus .....	59
Fleishig Bris Menu I .....	59
Fleishig Bris Menu II .....	59
Milchig Bris Menu: Breakfast or Lunch II .....	60
Milchig Bris Menu II .....	61
Invitations .....	61
Thank-You .....	65
Baby Gifts .....	67
Lists .....	68
Bris Checklist .....	68
Kibbutzim .....	70

List of Certified Mohelim .....	72
Vach Nacht.....	73

## *Pidyon Haben..... 75*

Rebbe's letter .....	76
Handouts .....	79
The Ceremony.....	79
Pidyon Haben - Redemption Of A Firstborn Male .....	81
Other Customs .....	83
"Your Money or Your Life?".....	85
Pidyon Haben (from Kovetz Minhagim) .....	87
What Are The Conditions That Require The Pidyon Haben Ceremony? .....	89
Reasons for Pidyon HaBen .....	90
The Pidyon Haben, in Depth.....	92
Dvar Torah.....	99
Speeches.....	101
The Program.....	101
Souvenirs.....	102
Invitations .....	103

## *Girls: Kiddush, Naming & Baby Welcome..... 107*

The Rebbe's Letter.....	108
Soldier in Tzivos Hashem.....	109
Letter in Children's Sefer Torah .....	110
Shir Lamalos Card .....	111
The Function .....	111
Handouts .....	111
Customs at the Birth of a Girl.....	111
Naming A Child.....	114
Naming A Child.....	116
Importance of Only Kosher Animals.....	118
Customs Observed Upon The Birth Of A Child.....	122
The Meaning of a Name .....	123
Speeches.....	124
Why a Girl Does Not Need a Bris .....	125
Jewish Naming.....	125

Chaya Mushka .....	125
Chana .....	127
Themes.....	130
The Program .....	130
Décor.....	133
Entrance Tables .....	133
Centerpieces.....	134
Tips .....	135
Menu .....	136
Shabbos Menu .....	136
Buffet-Style Menu: Milchig .....	137
Dessert Buffet Menu: Milchig or Pareve.....	137
Sit-Down Menu .....	138
Cocktail Party Menu .....	139
Souvenir Gifts .....	140
Invitations .....	141
Thank-You .....	146

## *Upshern..... 149*

The Rebbe's Letter .....	149
Function .....	151
Weekday Breakfast .....	151
Outdoors Party/ Barbecue.....	151
Sunday Afternoon.....	151
Some Ideas.....	151
Handouts .....	152
Days On Which An Upshern Should Be Postponed.....	153
What are the origins of the Upshern custom?.....	155
Upshernish: Insights, Laws & Customs on this Milestone in a Child's Education .....	156
Book: Zalman and the Smiling Tree.....	179
Upshern Sources .....	182
Hachnosos L'cheder/Areinfirinish .....	182
Customs of the Areinfirenish.....	182
Themes.....	184
Programs .....	185
Sample Programs .....	188
Entertainment.....	189

Video or Power Point Presentations .....	189
Other Forms of Entertainment .....	192
Crafts.....	192
Games .....	194
Displays.....	195
Lag B'omer .....	199
Décor.....	205
Entrance Tables.....	205
Centerpieces.....	205
Menu .....	211
Buffet-Style Menu: Barbecue .....	211
Buffet-Style Menu: Fleishig .....	212
Buffet-Style Menu: Milchig.....	212
More Menu Ideas .....	213
Cakes/ Cookies.....	215
Cookies/ Cupcakes.....	215
Cakes.....	216
Some Ideas .....	222
Souvenirs.....	223
Invitations .....	224
Some Ideas .....	224
Sample Invitations .....	226
Sample Invitation Rhymes .....	250
Sample Upshern Explanations .....	255
Some Ideas .....	258
Gift Ideas.....	262
<i>Girl's Third Birthday .....</i>	<i>265</i>
The Rebbe's Message .....	265
The Function .....	266
Weekday Party .....	266
Shabbos Party.....	266
Handouts .....	269
Why Girls Light Candles At Age Three .....	270
Themes .....	276
Program.....	276
Weekday Programs .....	276
Sample Program.....	278

Erev Shabbos and Shabbos Programs.....	280
Some Ideas.....	281
Sample Friday Program .....	282
Sample Friday Program II: .....	282
Décor.....	284
Centerpieces.....	286
Some Ideas.....	288
Souvenirs .....	288
Invitations .....	290
Thank You .....	317
 <i>Birthdays.....</i>	<i>319</i>
The Rebbe's Letter .....	320
Function .....	320
Toddlers/Preschoolers.....	321
Children .....	322
Adults.....	323
Handouts .....	324
Essays (from Sichos in English).....	324
What Does 'Mazal Tov' Mean?.....	333
Does Judaism attach any significance to birthdays?.....	335
How should we celebrate birthdays? .....	335
The Candle of G-d .....	337
Brochures, Checklists and Certificates .....	339
Birthday – Women's Group.....	347
Speeches .....	352
Sample Speech.....	353
Themes.....	355
Programs .....	358
Toddlers/Preschoolers.....	358
Children .....	360
Adults.....	361
Décor.....	363
Menu .....	364
Toddlers / Children .....	364
Adults.....	364
Cakes/ Dessert .....	365
Birthday Candles .....	366

Crafts/ Food Activities.....	367
Toddlers/Preschoolers.....	367
Children.....	368
Adults.....	370
Games/ Activities.....	371
Toddlers/Preschoolers.....	371
Children.....	373
Adults.....	376
Shliach's Birthday.....	380
Videos/ Presentations.....	380
Toddlers / Children.....	380
Adults.....	381
Invitations .....	381
Thank You Cards .....	385
Souvenirs.....	385
Ideas for Gifts .....	386
<i>Appendix</i> .....	389
Recipes .....	389
Cake Decorating Tips .....	393
Songs.....	396
Neshamale (Soul) By Abie Rotenberg .....	399
It's Time to Say Good Shabbos .....	401
I Used to Think My Mother was the Shabbos Queen.....	402
It Was After The Meal Friday Night.....	403
Candles.....	404
Among the Smiles.....	405
Resources .....	406
Crafts.....	406
Décor/ Centerpieces .....	407
Food .....	407
Gifts.....	408
Misc.....	410
Index .....	411

**מוקדש**  
**לחזקת ההתקשרות לנשיינו**  
**כ"ק אדמור זי"ע**

\*

ולזכות

מרת פיעשע לאה שתחי' קליאן  
הרה"ת ר' שמואן וזוגתו מרת אסתר שיחיו

הרה"ת ר' משה הלוי וזוגתו מרת מנוחה קריינDEL  
בניהם ובנותיהם

הרה"ת שלמה הלוי וזוגתו מרת חנה, ובתם רחל ובנם ישי הלוי

מרת זיסי ובעלה הרה"ת אהרן משה גראסבוים  
ובנותיהם חי' מושקא, חנה מרים ויאשה ליבא

מרת חנה ובעלה הרה"ת שנייאור זלמן שפירא,  
ובניהם מנחם מענדל וחيم צבי הירש

הרה"ת יהנן הלוי וזוגתו מרת אסתר יהודית, ובתם מושקא

חי', שמואל זנויל הלוי, מושקא

שיחיו לאורך ימים ושנים טובות

קליאן

**לעלוי נשמה**

**הרה"ח ר' אברהם אליעזר הלווי ע"ה**

**בהרה"ח ר' שלמה הלווי ע"ה**

**קלין**

**נפטר ש"ק פ' וירא, טו"ב מראחשון, ה'תשס"ו**

**ת. ג. צ. ב. ה.**

לע"ג

**רחל לאה בת ר' משה אליקים בריעעה ע"ה**

**Dr. Aryeh and Chaya Sara Steiner  
Thornhill, Canada**

devoted supporters of  
The Shluchos Division

הוור

In honor of  
our children and grandchildren,  
who serve as Shluchim  
of the Rebbe,  
**נשיה דורינו**  
world-over.

May we merit to share  
in many Simchas together  
גאונגטערהייט and **פריליכערהייט**  
for many years to come.

Rabbi Shmuel Isaac and Miriam Popack