

# Connections

A Project of the Shluchim Office

PARSHAS LECH LECHA  
ZAYIN CHESHVAN 5765

Connecting Tzeirei Hashluchim around the World!

VOLUME 1  
ISSUE 3



## PARSHAS LECH LECHA

As he walked into his friend Moshie's home one afternoon, Levi pointed to the suitcases lined up at the door. "Who's going where?" he asked. "Oh, I forgot to tell you. My brother Akiva is going on **shlichus** to Switzerland. It's supposed to be a beautiful country. I can't wait until I grow up and get a chance to travel. You know, last year he went to Hong Kong to help out in the summer camp." Akiva was in the hall and had overheard his brother. "Moshie," he said gently, "you seem to be missing the point. We don't go on **shlichus** just to travel around the world!

In this week's **parshah**, we read about the first person who was told to leave his home and journey to go to another land because he had a mission to do. I can't imagine anyone in Avraham **Avinu's** household saying: "How nice! **HaShem** commanded us to leave this country and move to **Eretz Yisrael**. What an opportunity to travel and discover new and interesting places!" "Well, 3,000 years ago, **Eretz Yisrael** was not exactly Switzerland," replied Moshie wistfully. "And Switzerland today is not exactly **Eretz Yisrael**," said Akiva. "It may not be as far away and isolated as Hong Kong. But then again, I may find myself in a city like the place where our cousin Menachem stayed when he went to Brazil. There was no kosher food, no **minyan**, no **frum** friends, and very high telephone bills! On **shlichus**, a person gives of himself to help Jewish people learn about **Yiddishkeit**. **Shlichus** is real **mesirus nefesh**, and I am very happy to have the **zechus** to go."

"Hey Akiva, you sound just like Rabbi Akiva," quipped Levi. "He said that his entire lifetime he waited to have the opportunity to show **mesirus nefesh** and give up his life for the sake of **HaShem**." The next day in school, Moshie and Levi learned about a level of **mesirus nefesh** even higher than that of Rabbi Akiva. "Avraham **Avinu** had reached the peak of **mesirus nefesh**," their teacher explained. "His goal was to spread the knowledge of **HaShem** to anyone and everyone he met. And if people didn't cross his path, he made it his business to seek them out. Sarah **Imeinu** was doing the same for the women. This wasn't easy. Can you imagine how hard it was to tell people who worshipped idols that they should stop believing in them and believe in one, invisible Creator?"

"Avraham was prepared to give up his very life for the sake of **HaShem**. He walked straight into the burning furnace, bravely showing everyone how strongly he believed in **HaShem**." Levi remembered his conversation at Moshie's house the day before and asked his teacher, "You said that Avraham **Avinu** reached the peak, but didn't Rabbi Akiva have the same type of **mesirus nefesh**?" in mind: his mission to teach others about **HaShem**. If it called for **mesirus nefesh** - well, he would do that, too. But his goal was teach about **HaShem** and he dedicated his life to this purpose."

"There's a difference," his teacher answered. "Rabbi Akiva was looking for **mesirus nefesh**. It was an important goal for him. He told his students that he hoped he would have an opportunity to show that he loved **HaShem** 'with all his soul.'" "Avraham **Avinu**, on the other hand, wasn't looking to reach the peak of **mesirus nefesh**. He had one thing in mind: his mission to teach others about **HaShem**. If it called for **mesirus nefesh** - well, he would do that, too. But his goal was teach about **HaShem** and he dedicated his life to this purpose."

*From Please Tell Me What the Rebbe Said,, adapted from Sichos Shabbos Parshas Noach, 5733; Likkutei Sichos, Vol. XXV, P. Noach*



My head and tail are yes, My middle is moving, I'm mentioned in this week's parsha, Who am I? \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

Please send your answers to [CYH@shluchim.org](mailto:CYH@shluchim.org).  
The answer will be published in next week's "Connection."

B"H



## FROM THE DESK OF... **DR. GETZEL**

HEY ALL YOU KIDS

OUT THERE ON SHLICHUS! THIS IS DR. GETZEL REPORTING LIVE FROM IOWA. AN INTERESTING THING HAPPENED TO ME THIS MORNING. I WENT TO WAKE UP YANKELE AND MIREL FOR SCHOOL BUT I COULD NOT FIND MIREL ANYWHERE! I PUT ON MY SPECIAL EXTRA VISION GLASSES AND STARTED MY SEARCH. I CHECKED THE PANTRY (THEIR USUAL FAVORITE HIDING PLACE) BUT THEY SEEMED TO HAVE DISAPPEARED JUST LIKE THE HAIR ON MY HEAD. THEN I SAW YANKELE SLEPPING THE BIG BOX FROM OUR NEW REFRIGERATOR. "HEY WHERE ARE YOU GOING WITH THAT, KID?" I ASKED. "I'M GOING TO MITZRAYIM WITH MIREL IN THE BOX, JUST LIKE AVRAHAM DID WITH SARAH. MY TEACHER TOLD US THAT WE HAVE TO LEBEN MIT DER TZEIT- LIVE WITH THE PARSHA OF THE WEEK."

I KNEW THAT THIS CALLED FOR ONE OF MY EXPERT EXPLANATIONS. FIRST I PUSHED MY GLASSES UP HIGHER ON MY NOSE SO I COULD USE EVERY INCH OF MY SPECIAL CHASSIDIC VISION GLASSES. THEN I TOLD YANKELE THAT LIVING WITH THE PARSHA DOESN'T MEAN COPYING EXACTLY EVERY LITTLE DETAIL THAT AVRAHAM DID, BUT LEARNING A LESSON FOR OURSELVES. HASHEM DOESN'T WANT US TO PUT OUR SISTERS IN BOXES BUT TO FOLLOW AVRAHAM'S EXAMPLE AS THE FIRST SHLIACH.

WHEN HASHEM TOLD AVRAHAM TO LEAVE HIS LAND AND GO TO A NEW PLACE. HE DIDN'T ASK ANY QUESTIONS. HE AND SARA BELIEVED IN HASHEM, PICKED UP THEIR THINGS AND MOVED. EVERYWHERE THAT AVRAHAM WENT, HE TAUGHT THE PEOPLE ABOUT ABOUT HASHEM AND ENCOURAGED THEM TO THANK HASHEM FOR WHAT THEY HAD. I TOLD YANKELE THAT BY BEING ON SHLICHUS AND TEACHING OTHER YIDDEN ABOUT TORAH AND MITZVOS HE IS DOING EXACTLY WHAT HASHEM WANTS AND FOLLOWING IN AVRAHAM'S FOOTSTEPS. YANKELE UNDERSTOOD MOST OF THAT, HE JUST COULDN'T UNDERSTAND HOW HE COULD FIT INTO AVRAHAM'S SHOES IF HE'S ONLY A SIZE 4. OY VAY, THIS WAS TOO MUCH EXPLAINING FOR ONE DAY. I TOLD HIM THAT WE'LL DISCUSS IT ANOTHER DAY.

GOOD LUCK TO ALL OF YOU OUT THERE WITH YOUR AMAZING SHLICHUS WORK. KEEP ON MAKING THE REBEBE PROUD!

P.S. MRS. GETZEL SENDS HER REGARDS. SHE WAS VERY BUSY THIS WEEK WITH ORDERING HER NEW REFRIGERATOR. I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY SHE NEEDS ONE. BUT SHE SAYS, "DR. GETZEL, WE MUST LIVE WITH THE TIMES. I CAN'T USE THAT REFRIGERATOR FROM 1952 ANYMORE." OK, OK, WHATEVER THE WIFE SAYS.

Dr. Getzel

## DID YOU KNOW?

### **GIMMEL CHESHVAN**

Gimmel Cheshvan is the yahrtzeit of Rabbi Yehuda Leib, the "Maharil" of Kopust. R. Yehuda Leib was the second son of the Tzemach Tzedek and the grandson of the Miteler Rebbe. He was very close to the Miteler Rebbe and the Rebbe would never start a maamar until the Maharil came.

The Miteler Rebbe called the Maharil his shtender because he would lean on him while he explained Chassidus. In fact, once he leaned on him for eighteen hours straight!

After the Tzemach Tzedek passed away, the Maharil left Lubavitch and moved to Kopust, where he was Rebbe for two months. On Simchas torah 5627/1866 he fell ill and passed away on Gimmel Cheshvan. He is buried in kopust.

*(Days in Chabad)*

## **KIDS SPEAK** WHERE YOUNG SHLUCHIM TALK ABOUT THEIR SHLICHUS

MUSHA MANN, Age 8

VENETIAN ISLANDS, FL

*I went with my father and brother to bentch Lulav and Esrog with some Yiddin on our Island. We met someone who thought he was not Jewish. When my father asked him if his mother was Jewish, he answered, "No, but my mother's mother was Jewish."*

*"Well", answered my father, "Guess what?! That makes YOU Jewish!"*

*And so, my father bentched Lulav and Esrog with him.*

*His wife, who was standing by, was full of joy and emotion at finding out that she, a Yid herself, had indeed married a Yid!*

SEND US A SHORT PARAGRAPH OF YOUR SHLICHUS AND WE MAY PUBLISH IT IN OUR FUTURE CONNECTIONS!  
E-MAIL US AT: [CYH@SHLICHIM.ORG](mailto:CYH@SHLICHIM.ORG)





# Stories of our Rabbeim

## The Alter Rebbe, A Blessing of Long Life

One day, the Alter Rebbe informed his sons that every Friday night he would tell them a maamar in Chasssidus. Occasionally he would allow certain other people to come in and listen as well. The Alter Rebbe's sons could hardly contain their excitement, and animatedly began discussing between themselves what their father had just told them. The Tzemach Tzedek, Reb Menachem Mendel, who was then only nine years old also yearned to hear the special maamarim of his grandfather, the Alter Rebbe.

"Grandfather, please allow me to enter your room when you teach my uncles Chassidus," the Tzemach Tzedek beseeched the Alter Rebbe. "Under no circumstances whatsoever!" answered the Alter Rebbe.

Little Menachem Mendel was saddened and decided to take matters into his own hands to make sure he would hear his grandfather's maamarim. He came up with a plan. The Alter Rebbe's home was divided into two sections. One was where the family lived and in the other was a room which the Chasssidim called Gan Eden Hatachton, where the Chassidim waited before entering yechidus with the Rebbe. The second room was the Alter Rebbe's room, which the Chassidim called Gan Eden Ha'elyon.

Between these two rooms was a large fireplace that heated the whole house. Menachem Mendel's plan was to hide inside the fireplace where he would be able to hear the maamarim. This plan succeeded for a few weeks, until one night... It was a cold winter's night. Strong winds and a heavy snowstorm blew outside. The snow was piling up in the streets and courtyards of Liozna. Ivan, the non-Jewish servant who worked in the home of the Alter Rebbe, went outside to bring in logs for the fire. He kept on falling in the deep snow and barely managed to bring the logs inside.

Once inside, Ivan began piling the logs into the fireplace, but the logs simply wouldn't go in! He wondered why he couldn't push the logs further into the fireplace, and decided to leave them at the opening. He lit the fire and opened the chimney. The fire caught on quickly and the entire house filled with smoke. Suddenly, a terrible thing happened. Ivan could not believe his eyes. Burning logs started to fly out of the fireplace! Ivan took fright and shouted for help. The family heard the shouts and rushed to see what had happened. Rebbetzin Sterna and her daughter-in-law Rebbetzin Shayna, the wife of the Mittlerer Rebbe, hurried from their rooms. The Mittlerer Rebbe and his brother rushed out of the Alter Rebbe's room.

What did they see? Burnt-out logs were scattered on the floor and inside the fireplace lay a small boy. Reb Chaim Avraham, the second son of the Alter Rebbe, rushed to take the boy out of the fireplace. At that moment, Rebbetzin Sterna let out a cry. "Oh no! It's our grandson Menachem Mendel!" Everyone was very frightened. They tried to revive the boy but did not succeed. They poured water over him, but that also didn't work. They slapped his cheeks but that too was unsuccessful. Rebbetzin Sterna burst into her husband's room calling, "Rebbe, please save our grandson Menachem Mendel!"

The Alter Rebbe rose from his seat and approached the child. As the Alter Rebbe placed his holy hands on the child's head, a miracle happened and the Tzemach Tzedek opened his eyes and smiled. As the child lay on his bed, his grandmother Rebbetzin Sterna asked, "Menachem Mendel my dear child, whatever were you doing inside the fireplace?"

"I wished to hear my grandfather's maamarim in Chassidus," he explained. "I begged Grandfather to allow me to listen, but he forbade me to enter the room. Therefore, I had to find my own way of listening." When Rebbetzin Sterna heard what her grandson told her, she was very angry and went immediately to speak with her husband. "Do you know what could have happened? Menachem Mendel was saved by a great miracle! You allow others to enter your room, but your own beloved grandchild who begged to be allowed in, was forbidden from entering!"

The Alter Rebbe answered his wife, "Please calm down my dear wife, for Chabad demands inner feelings, and the only way to achieve that is by self-sacrifice. That is the only way to attain the Torah. You have nothing to fear for Menachem Mendel, he will be fine and will merit a long life."

*(Chassidic Stories for Children)*



THIS WEEK WE LEARNED THE IMPORTANCE OF 'LEBEN MIT DER TZEIT'- LIVING WITH THE TIMES. WE CAN ACCOMPLISH THIS BY LEARNING THE CHUMASH OF THE WEEK. THIS WEEK'S MITZVAH MISSION IS TO SAY THE CHUMASH PART OF CHITAS EVERY DAY. IF YOU ARE ALREADY SAYING TEHILLIM AND TANYA, GREAT. DON'T STOP THAT, KEEP UP THE GREAT WORK.

**GOOD LUCK!**



Coming Soon....

B"H

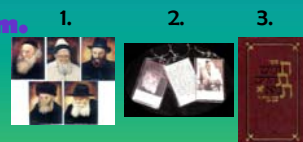
# LET'S CONNECT

THE MONTHLY EDITION OF "CONNECTIONS"  
A NEWSLETTER FOR KIDS, BY KIDS

Hey Kids,

The new monthly newsletter "Let's Connect" is a newsletter for YOU, by YOU, so we need your help! Choose **one** of the topics listed below for the **Kislev Edition of "Let's Connect"**, and e-mail the story, report, paragraph, essay etc. no later than **Monday, Tet Zayin Cheshvan, November 1** to [CVRP@NLUCHIM.ORG](mailto:CVRP@NLUCHIM.ORG).

- \* All participants will receive 1 picture (from a set of 5) of drawings of the Rebbeim.
- \* The winners (the ones that we publish) will receive a keychain with the Rebbe's picture and Tefilas Haderesh in the back.
- \* The winner of the Featured Chabad house which will be published every month, will receive the new Chita with their name engraved!



## 1. FEATURED CHABAD HOUSE

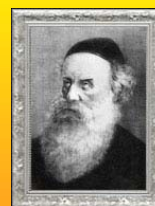
- a. Picture of your family on Shlichus
- b. How you got the Shlichus and when
- c. Picture of your Chabad House
- d. Peulos that your family runs (optional: picture)
- e. How the children help out in the Shlichus (optional: picture)
- f. Moving story that happened on Shlichus (optional: picture)

These are the topics that will be published in the Kislev Newsletter:

### Kislev – A Chassidishe Chodesh

#### 2. Essay about a Chassidishe Yom Tov in Chodesh Kislev: (choose 1)

- a. Rosh Chodesh Kislev
- b. Bais Kislev
- c. Tes and Yud Kislev
- d. Yud Gimmel Kislev
- e. Yud Daled Kislev
- f. Yud Tes Kislev



#### 3. Essay on how your family celebrates the Chassidishe Yomim Tovim on Shlichus

#### 4. A Chossid's Hachana for Yud Tes Kislev – Rosh Hashana L'Chassidus

#### 5. Essay on "What being a Lubavitcher Chossid means to ME"



## CHANUKAH

### 6. Story of Chanukah

### 7. Chanukah on Shlichus

- a. Describe Chanukah functions in your city
- b. post a picture of Public Menorah

### 8. Chanukah Fun Page

### 9. Coming to Crown Heights for the Kinnus Hashluchim