



פרשת תצוה, י"ב אדר תשס"ז
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A project of CHINUCH YALDEI HASHLUCHIM a division of The Shluchim Office
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PARSHAS TETZAVEH



Suri had invited some friends over to her house after school. The girls were playing jump-rope in the driveway and Mommy could hear their loud and happy voices through the kitchen window.

Mommy didn't mind the noise. She was glad that the girls were having a good time. Still, something bothered her. "Why do I always hear Suri's voice above everyone else's when she is playing?" sighed Mommy to herself. "Yet, when she has something important to say, she often doesn't speak up."

That evening, Mommy asked Suri to sit with her on the couch.

"Suri," began Mommy. "In this week's parshah, the Torah tells us about the beautiful clothes which the kohanim wore."

"Yes. I know, Mommy," Suri interrupted. "We learned about that in school. Morah even showed us pictures of the clothes. I loved those little golden bells and pomegranate-shaped balls which hung at the bottom of the me'eil (robe)."

"Those bells were not sewn onto the kohen gadol's clothes just to make them look

pretty," said Mommy.

"Really?" asked Suri. "What else were they for?"

"Those little bells jingled as the kohen gadol approached, so that people would know that he was coming.

"When the Torah describes those bells, it says: 'And [their] sound will be heard as he enters the holy [place].' When it comes to something holy - we should let ourselves be heard. When we are playing, our voices don't always have to be the loudest in the crowd. But when we say berachos, daven, or bench, our voices should be heard loud and clear."

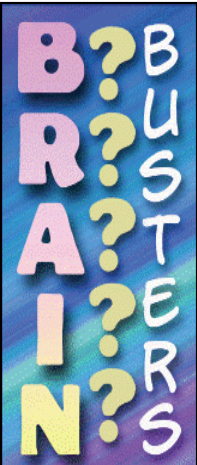
Saying things loud and clear shows that we are excited and proud of what we are doing. That's how we should feel about studying and fulfilling the mitzvos of the Torah. The people around us will hear the excitement in our voices and see how proud we are to do mitzvos. This will encourage them to do more mitzvos.

(Adapted from Likkutei Sichos, Vol. XVI)
 'Please Tell Me What the Rebbe Said'

WITH MANY THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS:

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 Rabbi Kasriel and Mrs. Chana E. Shemtov

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 Mr. Yochanan and Mrs. Peri Brook
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**WITHOUT MY HEAD, I'M MY FATHER'S SON,
 WITHOUT MY TAIL, I'M MY SON'S FATHER.**

Please send your answers to connections@shluchim.org

Last weeks' brain buster: 40, 50 and 320 in between, Do you know what I mean?

Answer: משכן

**Congratulations to Mendel & Lieba Fischer from Augusta, Georgia
 for solving the brain buster.**



FROM THE DESK OF DR. GETZEL...

Hi again Junior Shluchim!

Well even the most absent-minded, forgetful and dozy Professor (by that I mean me), couldn't possibly forget what is coming up this week. I must admit that in the past I have forgotten about some really important things like forgetting the day of my wedding, or forgetting to buy Getzel Junior tefillin for his bar mitzvah, or forgetting the speed limit when I was rushing to mitvzoyim (well, that's what I told the patrolman who stopped me anyway...). But even with a scattered brain like mine, I could never forget about PURIM!!!

Yup, it's that time of year again. When adults get to act like kids and kids get to act.... well pretty much however they want, because the adults are too busy acting like kids to notice what they are doing.

As a kid – and an adult who gets to act like a kid – one of my favorite parts of Purim was eating all the nosh that we used to get in mishloach monos. I used to sit down by my desk on Shushan Purim with my favorite volume of Likutei Sichos, and a pile almost to the sky of chocolates, candies and cookies, and work through them. Them' meaning the chocolates, candies and cookies, not just the sichos! Nowadays, I don't get to eat anywhere near as much yummy stuff. Of course that is partly because Mrs Getzel and I now live in the cornfield state of Iowa, and so we don't get anywhere near the amount of mishloach monos that we used to get when we lived in Crown Heights. Actually in the last couple of years, thanks to all those Purim Basket websites out there, we have been getting a few more mishloach monos. Although I think a lot of them are just coming to the wrong place, because they are addressed to Rabbi and Mrs Getzel.

The real reason that I had to stop my yearly Shushan Purim Feast – actually I always used to call it 'Pesach Cleaning', because that made me feel a bit less guilty – was because of my teeth. The ones I had left that is. Did you know that false teeth can't get fillings? Not that the sugar used to do so much damage to them - it was only once a year after all – it was just that I used to like eating those extra hard candies and I cracked a few of my teeth! So now I am very careful, which is a shame, because I used to be really proud of the one bit of serious Pesach cleaning that I used to do.

So for all you young Shluchim who were thinking of sending me mishloach monos, a fruit basket will do. Make sure that there are two types of brochos though. Like a chocolate coated banana, and apple flavored marshmallows. Oh, and you'll have to send the mishloach

monos via the Shluchim Office – I can't give my address out for security reasons. On second thoughts then, maybe stick to regular apples instead of the marshmallow ones – they'll have a better chance of getting to me.

Have a really, truly, absolutely, completely and totally freilichen Purim!

Dr Getzel

KIDS SPEAK

Where Young Shluchim talk about their Shlichus



**MUSSI LEVERTOV, AGE 12
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO**

We have 6 kids in our family. Me, Mendel (10), Rivka (8), Esther (6), and Sara (4) & a brand new baby girl - Cirel (2 weeks).

I go to the CYH Online School and I think it's the best!

Where we live a lot of tourists come. It's filled with a lot of artists. There are not many kids here. It's a very beautiful town. I like that it's quiet and there is no traffic.

I help with our Hebrew school because I help the kids with the alef-bais and I also help set up for events.

In my free time, I like to talk to my classmates on the phone or jump-rope, draw, and play ball.

My CYH Chassidische Calendar hangs next to my bed.

Hey kids!

Send us a report about your shlichus and we will IY"YH publish it in our future connections!
E-mail us at connections@shluchim.org
Please include your name, age and location of shlichus.

When מרדכי told Queen אסתר about the decree, she told him: "Go and gather together all the אידן and fast for me for three days." Why did she ask him to gather the אידן together? Why didn't she just tell him that the people should fast?

מרדכי realized that there was a reason why the Jewish people were given the power to destroy the אידן. This could not have happened by itself. The Jewish people must have been doing something wrong if such a terrible גזירה was threatening them.

מרדכי also knew this. He had seen the אידן's weakness and planned to use this opportunity to destroy them.

What was that weakness? What were the אידן doing wrong?

If we look closely at what מרדכי told King אחשורוש, we can understand. He said: "There is one nation which is spread out and separate among the people. They do not keep the king's laws. They should be wiped out."

When מרדכי said, "spread out and separate," he did not mean only that the אידן lived in different places throughout the empire. He meant that they were separate from each other. Instead of caring for others and showing אהדות, each person

was concerned with his own affairs.

מרדכי knew that when the Jewish people are united, they are strong. Since they were "spread out and separate," he figured that this was the right time to try to destroy them.

But the Jewish people really are a nation of אהבות ישראל and אחדות. We all have a נשמה that is part of ה' and that unites us.

This is what מרדכי was thinking. She knew that it was necessary to bring the אידן together again and that is what she told מרדכי to do.

מרדכי was right. The אידן gathered in תפילה and revealed the אהבת ישראל which makes us a strong nation. Now מרדכי's plan could no longer work. He suffered a well-deserved ending and the אידן celebrated this great נס by establishing the יום טוב of פורים.

We celebrate פורים in the spirit of אהבת ישראל. We send משלוח מנות to our friends and give מתנות to the poor. Just as in the time of פורים, so too today, by gathering together and performing these מצוות, ה' will give us "אורה ושמחה וששון ויקר".

(Adapted from Sichos Purim 5722; Sichos Purim 5727)
'Please Tell Me What the Rebbe Said'

DID YOU KNOW?



One of the most important מצוות is כבוד לרעה. We, as אידן, have to love every person. ה' created people, and every person is precious. There is only one case where it is a מצוה to hate - we have a מצוה to hate עמלק.

עמלק is evil. עמלק has no regrets; he does not hesitate to get hurt as long as he can hurt us. עמלק made us afraid, and עמלק continues to make us afraid of being attacked.

There are those who attack for a reason, and there are those who attack just for the sake of destroying someone else. Some countries will start a war because they want to protect a certain cause. And there are times when a group of people decides to scare and destroy other people, even if they will be destroyed in the process. This is pure evil, with no reason for it.

There is no place for such evil in the world. It only makes people scared. So we are given a מצוה to destroy עמלק, to get rid of any trace of this evil and hatefulness in the world. עמלק comes to attack when we least expect it. If we are ready for him, we do not need to be afraid.

So we remind ourselves about the מצוה that עמלק needs to be destroyed. On the פורים, the יום טוב when we celebrate being saved from our enemies, we read in the תורה about the war with עמלק.





Stories of Olde

Since this is a story about a gragger, it is of course a פורים story.

One פורים many, many years ago, in the little town of Vardik, in far-off Russia, everyone was very sad and worried. Instead of looking forward to the happiness of the יום טוב, they were afraid that their entire Jewish community would be destroyed. It almost seemed like the times of the first פורים - that's how great the danger was.

The son of the great powerful Czar had gone hunting in the woods with a group of friends. They had lost their way and by chance arrived in the town of Vardik. All the people were excited to have this distinguished visitor in their midst. They gave him the finest room in the local inn, the finest food, and delicious cakes.

The next day, the prince suddenly became very ill and was unable to return home. Messengers were sent to the Czar to report the bad news. In a very short time, the Czar and several important ministers arrived in Vardik.

They had brought several doctors with them who immediately began to examine the prince. Each one tried to cure him, but none was successful. The prince was moaning in pain. His face was flushed, and he was burning with fever. Most of the time he slept. He refused all food and drink. His very life was in danger.

And then one of the ministers said that it was the fault of the אידן that the prince was sick, because they gave him bad food. This was of course ridiculous and untrue, but everyone was so worried about the sickness of the prince that they believed him. Unfortunately, many times in history, when there was any kind of trouble, evil men placed the blame on innocent אידן.

And so the אידן of Vardik were very frightened, for they knew that their lives might be in danger.

On the day before פורים, two notices were put on trees. They said that if the prince did not recover by the end of the next day, all the אידן in Vardik would be held responsible. Also, since the prince was very weak, everyone had to be very quiet.

But the מגילה had to be read. The אידן gathered silently in the little שול on the main street, right near the inn where the prince lay gravely ill. Everyone in שול was told to sit absolutely still, for the Rabbi would read in a soft, low voice. The children had been told to leave their graggers

home, for the notice had requested silence.

The fathers looked very serious and sad. The mothers in the women's section were crying. There was no feeling of פורים in the air, that's for sure.

Suddenly, there was an awful noise. The name of המון had been read, and a little boy called יעקב was swinging his gragger with all his might. Happily, with a big smile on his face, he was swinging that gragger.

Everyone became very frightened. The Rabbi continued reading. People were shaking their heads. They made signs to יעקב that he must be quiet. One man wanted to take the gragger away from him, but יעקב would not even let him touch it. Everyone was afraid that יעקב would scream and make a lot of noise if he was forced to give up his gragger. So he was allowed to keep it. No one could tell him to stop using the gragger, for during the reading of the מגילה it is forbidden to speak. They were hoping that יעקב would understand and put the gragger away.

The windows to the prince's room were open to let in some fresh air. Gathered around his bed were the ministers, the doctors and the Czar. There was total silence in the room. The prince was pale and weak. He had no strength left. His eyes were closed and he seemed not even to be breathing.

What was that? Who dared to break the rule of silence? All the people in the room ran to the window to see who the guilty one was. The next moment they jumped in fright, for they heard a voice behind them asking for some water.

There was the prince, sitting up in bed, wide awake. "What a cheerful noise I hear! What is it? Please bring me some water. I have never been so thirsty in my whole life. Hurry, please. I feel so dry." The noise of the gragger had awakened the prince.

In a few days he was well, and the whole company returned in peace to the palace. The אידן in the town were saved, and they had the happiest פורים day you could ever imagine.

יעקב was the hero of the day. People hugged him and kissed him. They gave him so much nash that he had enough to eat till פסח.

'The Secret of Success'

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

פרשת תצוה

Kids! Fill out the answers to the puzzle below, and fax it to the Shluchim Office at (718) 221- 0985 or e-mail it to connections@shluchim.org by Wednesday

Level 1:

Fill in this פורים Crossword. The answers are in לשון הקודש.

									1
									2
									3
									4
									5
									6
									7
									8
									9

1. _____ ליהודים היתה אורה ו
2. אחשורש's first wife.
3. The capital city of Persia.
4. In שמונה עשרה and ברכת המזון we add _____ ועל.
5. We read the מגילה after?
6. Many people drink a lot of?
7. המן came from the family of?
8. _____ the מגילה.
9. The date of פורים.

הצלחה רבה

Name: _____ Age: _____
 City: _____ State: _____
 Country: _____ E-mail: _____

Last Week's Winners:

Mushky Wineberg, age 9 from Kansas City, Kansas

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

פרשת תצוה

Kids! Fill out the answers to the puzzle below, and fax it to the Shluchim Office at (718) 221- 0985 or e-mail it to connections@shluchim.org by Wednesday

Level 2:

Circle whether each sentence is True or False.

The מצוה to read the מגילה is only at night.	True	False
Everyone is חייב to read or hear the מגילה, during the day and at night.	True	False
We say three ברכות before מגילה only at night.	True	False
We say הלל on פורים.	True	False
For the whole world, י"ד אדר falls on פורים.	True	False
If פורים falls on שבת, then it's called קטן פורים.	True	False
We give מתנות לאביונים to make poor people happy.	True	False
It's better to spend more money on מתנות לאביונים than on the סעודה.	True	False
משלוח מנות is like מגילה, we have to do it at night and during the day.	True	False
We daven מנחה before the סעודה	True	False
We are allowed to fast on פורים just like on הכפורים.	True	False
משנכנס אדר ממעטים בשמחה.	True	False

הצלחה רבה

Name: _____ Age: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Country: _____ E-mail: _____

Last Week's Winners:

Rochele Wolowik, age 11 from Los Angeles, California