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"Hidden and Revealed"	1
Shliach Spotlight: Mendel Wilhelm	2
Chassideshe Maise	3
Fun page	4

NEWSLETTER

Boys division, Grades B2 - B8

Hidden and Revealed

Tayere Talmidei Hatmimim sheyichyu,

This coming Sunday is Chof Daled Teves, the day of the Histalkus of the Alter Rebbe.

Chassidim tell a story that when the Alter Rebbe was a young man and had been in Mezritch by the Maggid for a short time, the other talmidim did not recognize who the Alter Rebbe was and how great he was.

Now, the Alter Rebbe was the youngest of the talmidei haMaggid and the other talmidim, who did not see the greatness of the Alter Rebbe, used to "use" him for their own personal needs such as to help them with cleaning etc.

One night, when all the talmidim were already asleep, the Maggid came to the home where the talmidim slept and walked into the room where many of the talmidim were sleeping.

The Maggid had problems with his feet and would walk with the aid of a cane and as result, when he would be approaching or passing by, it was always possible to hear him as the cane would tap the ground as he walked.

When he passed by the bed of the Alter Rebbe he paused, looked intently at the Alter Rebbe and commented in astonishment how is it possible for such a small body to hold such a "giant" neshoma. Then the Maggid left.

Some of the talmidim, who were awakened by the noise of the Maggid's cane tapping as he walked, overheard the comment of the Maggid, and they realized that the



Alter Rebbe was "no ordinary" talmid. After that, they made a point to never disrespect the Alter Rebbe again by using him out for their own personal needs ever again.

The Alter Rebbe's name, Shneur Zalman, is very significant in that it describes within it essential aspects of his Avoda in this world. The Rebbe explains that Shneur is made up from the words "shnei oir" which means "two lights", and hints at the fact that Alter Rebbe was involved in binging both the light of the revealed parts of Torah and of the hidden

parts of Torah into the world. This was clear with the seforim that he wrote, namely, the Shulchan Oruch (Nigleh revealed part of Torah) and the Tanya (Chassidus - hidden parts of Torah.) His second name, Zalman, represents the bringing of this light into "zman" (the letters of Zalman could form the word lezman) meaning into time, and making a change in the world.

Dear Talmidim, let us use the ko'ach of Chof Daled Teves which often falls out close to Parshas Shemos (which means names) to strengthen our connection to learning all aspects of Torah, both revealed (Niglah) and hidden (Chassidus) as is appropriate to the name of the Alter Rebbe.

In the zechus of really learning both at Online School and at home, we should be zoche to complete our Shlichus in Golus, and soon go to the Geula with Moshiach.

Wishing you a wonderful Shabbos,

Rabbi Yaacov Ringo

Principal Boys Older Division





My name is Mendel Wilhelm

I'm in Grade B5 and I'm a Shliach in Oslo, Norway.

So tell us a little about yourself...

We first came here on Shlichus in Av 5754, a month after Gimmel Tammuz. I was born here.

In my family, I'm the only older boy. Also I'm the only Lubavitcher boy for many miles around. For that reason I really love the online school because I make such good friends who I never would meet otherwise, plus it's the only way to get a Chassidehse Chinuch in my shlichus.

I'm in the SOS since I was 5 years old! I llearn with the American division. because Oslo is 6 hours ahead of the East track, I start learning at 330 PM and end classes at 9:15 PM. I do my homework the next morning....

I speak English, Yiddish, Swedish, and Hebrew. At home we speak Norwegian (which is similar to Swedish).

Where is Oslo? I don't think I've ever seen it on the map...

Oslo is in Norway it's a country near Sweden but it's bigger, its actually bigger than England, so you need to take a closer look at the map...

Norway is one of the only countries in the world that is still ruled by a king and queen who are actually in charge (unlike England where the prime minister is the one in charge).

So what is the Jewish history in Oslo, where there any Yidden here before world war 2?

Before the war there were thousands of Yidden here, the Nazis Yimach Shemom



The Jew at the Palace

came to take them to the camps and the Norwegians (the Goyim living here) even helped them. The Anti-Semitism was so bad that this country was one of the last to apologize after the war.

Before the warm, about 300 Yidden escaped to Sweden and remained there

till the war ended. The rest were sent to Auschwitz. Today there are about 800 Jews living here.

So what are some of the programs your parents to reach out to Yidden in Norway?

We Daven in a Shul of the local community, unfortunately the shul isn't so excited about Chabad or real Judaism in general.

Sometimes we have Minyonim of our own, on Friday nights we have guests like locals or even tourists. Usually the tourists are younger Israelis that come here after finishing the army.

On yomim tovim we make programs for example on Simchas beis hashoeiva we had a massive event with siyum sefer torah with avrohom fried concert. Also Bachurim come here and I go with them on Mivtzoim.

Can you tell us a story that happened with you on your Shlichus?

When Bachurim came here 2 years ago on Pesach, we decided to go to the palace and do Mivtoim outside. We couldn't find a Jewish soul around. I insisted that we stay. Finally a man with fancy cameras and an orange beard showed up, it turned out he was Jewish! We spent like 2 hours with him, gave him matza and made him a bar mitzyah.

Yimei Chabad

(1813) כ"ד טבת תקע"ג

As he escaped the advancing French army led by Napolean, the Alter Rebbe fell ill and was Nistalek on Moitzai Shabbos in the village of Piena, he was buried in Haditch many hundreds of miles away.

כ"ח טבת תר"מ (1880)

Rebbetzin Chana the Rebbe's mother was born Reb Meir Shlomo Yanovsky the Rov of Nikolaiev and Rebbtzin Rochel. When a Maamer would arrive from the Rebbe Rashab, she would copy it down for all of the Chassidim. When Napoleon invaded Russia, the Alter Rebbe sided with the Russian Czar. "If Napoleon wins, the Gashmiyus of the Jewish people will improve, but their Ruchniyus state will decline. If the Czar wins, however, the Jews might not prosper BeGashmiyus, but they would continue to prosper BeRuchniyus", he explained. For this reason, he took an active role supporting the Russian armies. Therefore when Napoleon's armies advanced through White Russia, he had to flee.

In middle of the Russian winter, he found himself deep in the countryside, far from any Jewish community. It was very cold and it affected his health. He became sick and had to stop traveling. He ended up in a village called Piena. There were no Jews in that village. Nevertheless, one of the Goyim was impressed by the great holiness that surrounded the Alter Rebbe and provided him with a small cottage. The Alter Rebbe's illness continued and on Motzei Shabbos, 24 Teves, he passed away.

Before he passed away, the Goyishe owner of the cottage entered to get a Bracha. At that time, the Alter Rebbe told him: "When Jews pass through this village and do not follow to their Jewish heritage, you'll know what to do." After the Alter Rebbe passed away, the Goy set aside the cottage and did not use it for himself. On the rare occasions, when a Jew passed through the village, he allowed him to lodge there.

Ten years after the Alter Rebbe passed away, two Jews came to this inn. "Do you have food? We're hungry," they demanded. "I do not have any kosher food," the gentile told them. "What difference does it make? Kosher or non-kosher; we will eat whatever you serve." The Goy went out as if to prepare food for them, but returned with an ax in hand. "I know what to do with guests like you," he told them. Motioning them towards the Alter Rebbe's cottage, he continued: "You have only a few moments to live. I will leave you alone to say your final prayers." The Ruchniyus influence of the Alter Rebbe and



When Napoleon's armies advanced through White Russia, the Alter Rebbe had to flee

the fear of death had its effect. The men began to confess their Aveiros. Slowly, they started doing Teshuva. They were sincerely sorry for leaving the path of Yiddishkeit.

The Goy was watching them from the window. When he saw that the Jews really wanted to change their ways, he released them and brought them kosher food. He told them about the Alter Rebbe and how he had foreseen their coming. "Go to his Kever and Daven," he finished. "Show that your Teshuva is sincere." And the two merchants did exactly that, making their way to Haditch to Daven at the Alter Rebbe's Kever and ask Hashem to help them in their future.

Lesson:

1) A Rebbe can see what's going to happen in the future. 2) A Rebbe's effect carries on even years after his Histalkus and can arouse Yidden to Teshuva. 3) The place where a Rebbe was in, is a very special place.

Chabad House Edition

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REHNDETS

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Here are 6 most basic Chabad house items, lets see how quick you can unscramble the words and figure out what they are. Good Luck!



א קלאץ קשיא

The more you have of me the less you see, what am I?



Answer: Darkness