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"Purify you Surroundings "	1
Shliach Spotlight : Nosson Labkowski	2
History of the Kinnus part l	3
Fun page	4

NEWSLETTER Boys division, Grades B2 - B8

Purify your Surroundings

Tayere Talmidei Hatmimim sheyichyu,

The Rebbe Rashab was once travelling together with his son the Friedikke Rebbe. At one point during their journey they were walking through a certain city and the time for Mincha was fast approaching. The Rebbe Rashab went over to the side of the road and was very specific to stand next to a certain tree and to daven Mincha in that very spot.

The Friedikke Rebbe thought that it was a bit strange that his father was so specific to daven in that precise location, however, he did not ask the Rebbe Rashab about it. Later that evening they again passed that same spot and once again the Rebbe Rashab stopped by the tree. At that point the Rebbe Rashab turned to his son and told over an incident that took place at the place they were now standing:

He explained that there was a yiddishe business man who would travel each day on the road they were now using. One time, despite his best efforts, the man could not make it to the local shul to daven Mincha on time. He pulled over to the side of the road and despite the fact that there were many goyim around who were not very fond of Jews, he stopped to daven Mincha next to this tree. It is self understood that the davening was not said with the best kavonoh, because the business man was nervous and uncomfortable since there many goyim around him.

Nevertheless, explained the Rebbe Rashab, that place next to the tree still has a



"roishem" (impression) of kedusha from this man's tefillas Mincha, and the air in that place is extra refined and pure. That was the reason why the Rebbe Rashab stopped to daven there and he then returned there a second time – it was a beacon of light, in a spiritually dark location.

Dear Talmidim, Parshas Lech Lecho teaches us how Avrohom Ovinu travelled from place to place to teach the world about the Aibershter. Chazal tell us that "maase ovois siman labonim". every yid, and especially every chossid, needs to know that each place where he goes to, bringing the light of Torah and Mitzvos with him, and every Yid he meets and teaches about what it means to live according to Torah, is refining and purifying that place and the people he meets.

This message is even more relevant to shluchim. The life of a shliach is all about doing this very avoda – to refine and purify the mokom hashlichus and the yidden there. When we go with the ko'ach of the Rebbe, we can achieve so much, and sometimes we might not even see what was accomplished with our own "Lech Lecho" to this specific place, at this specific time.

B'ezras Hashem, soon we will see that everything has been refined and purified, and we will go to Artzeinu Hakedosha "im Malkeinu b'rosheinu"!

Wishing you a wonderful Shabbos!

Rabbi Yaacov Ringo

Principal Boys Older Division





My name is Nosson Labkowsky,

I'm in Grade B6 and I'm a Shliach in Oakland, CA.

So tell us about your place of Shlichus and what you do to help your parents.

I started shlichus at 3 months old, and now am 9 and a half. My Father Has a Chassidus class and my mother has a tanya class on Tuesday morning and Thursday night, and every 3rd week of the month we have a YIP Shabbos Dinner to show others how Shabbos is like. My father says something on the parsha then, (by the way, YIP Stands for Young Jewish professionals). I help out my parents a lot with YJP and The Tanya Class On Thursday.

What are some challenges on your shlichus?

My first Challenge is watching the baby and kids when my mother & Father Go For an Event, the second is preparing food for a event.

What makes your Shlichus meaningful to you?

Hmm... that's a hard one. It Makes Me Feel Good that I am helping others learn and doing the right thing.

What do you enjoy most about the online school?

I like The friends I have on the online school, I also like the fact that the program doesn't slow the computer down, so I can do other things on it.

Tell us a story about your Shlichus.

Okay. This Story Happened to the Whole Family (I have 4



"We then realized that our Menorah was missing..."

brothers, I come from a family of 7 and I am the oldest). this story happened 2 years ago. my father walked to the Chabad house to get stuff done, it was the 2nd to last night of Chanukah, we came to pick him up and then I realized that the menorah wasn't there. I asked my mother where is it and she said "tatty might of put it away" (my tatty was in the Chabad house when I asked my mother, I then asked my father, "how did you manage to pick up the big menorah by yourself?" My Tatty Said "I didn't take away the menorah".

So My Father Called the Police. The Police Men asked "did you leave it here for some one to take?" my father Responded "no I didn't, my 8 feet menorah was stolen, I would never keep it out side for some one to take" so the police looked and looked, and never found it, we think that people took it to make something from the metal. Last year we got a golden Menorah, and we made sure to lock it up.

What kind of Shlichus do you think you will do when you grow up?

I know what I want to do, but it will take 20 mins to read if you're lucky, and 30 mins to write...

(Part 1)

A History of the innus HaShluchim

How did the idea for the Kinnus Hashluchim come up?

During the years 5736 - 5738, the Rebbe sent groups of Shluchim to Eretz Yisroel. Each year around Chof av they would make a Kinnus. The Rebbe would mention that Kinnus at the Farbrengen and even send a special letter to all participants. it was clear that he derived much satisfaction from these Kinnusim.

In the summer of 5743, the Rebbe's Mazkir, Rabbi Yehuda Krinsky suggested to the Rebbe that a similar Kinnus be arranged for Shluchim of the united states. The Rebbe showed much interest in this and a special committee of Shluchim was chosen to organize the very first Kinnus to take place just a few months later on Shabbos Mevrochim Kislev.

In those years the Rebbe wouldn't Farbreng every Shabbos unless there was a surprise, Shabbos Mevorchim was the only time the Rebbe would definitely hold a Farbrengen. Shabbos Mevorchim Cheshvon is still during Tishrei when Shluchim are too busy to leave their posts, so Shabbos Mevorchim Kisley was chosen.

Already before the Kinnus. Rabbi Krinsky was constantly updating the Rebbe and merited to receive many detailed answers and Brachos in all matters related to organizing the Kinnus.

How did the Kinnus in that first year work, was there a banquet, a "roll call"?

Not yet... in those years the Kinnus started on Shabbos and ended Sunday night, there was no grand banquet or exciting roll call, these things evolved in the coming years.

You have to understand that in those years there were very few Shluchim in general and in the united states as well, for that first Kinnus in 5744, only 65 Shluchim participated!

That very first year, the plan was that the official start of the Kinnus should be at the Rebbe's Shabbos Farbrengen. Now being that the group was very

small they were hardly noticed amongst the crowd of thousands of Chassidim. That changed though as the Rebbe began the Farbrengen.

To everyone's surprise, the Rebbe made a big Shturem during the Sichos about the Kinus and the Shluchim began singing the Rosh Chodesh Kislev Niggun At the end of the Farbrengen the Rebbe even handed a bottle of Mashke to the Kinnus Organizer in connection with the Kinnus. Now everyone saw openly how special the Kinnus HaShluchim was to the Rebbe.

The following day, the Shluchim gathered for sessions in the a "large" room in the offices on top of 770, the Shluchim gave reports on activities throughout north America, and spoke how to further



For the first Kinnus HaShluchim in 5744, the Shluchim posed for a group picture inside 770

broaden these programs. Some Shluchim were sent by the Rebbe in the early years and didn't know the younger Shluchim, so every Shliach got up to introduce himself (that later became the "roll call"). The Kinnus officially concluded that night.

The following day, on Monday, the Shluchim collectively signed a Pan to the Rebbe asking for Brachos in their Shlichus, the Rebbe responded with a beautiful handwritten Bracha.

(to be continued)

Send in <u>Your</u> Drawings, Games, Riddles and Comics to boysprograms@shluchim.org

