

The Shul
at the Lubavitch Center
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Bo

8 Shevat, 5777

Reach Out and Touch Someone

Rabbi Shimon Raichik, emissary of the Rebbe in Los Angeles, California, relates: "In 1976, right after the Entebbe rescue, my brother Yossi and another yeshiva student went to Japan and other nations of the Far East on 'Merkos Shlichut' (whereby pairs of young rabbinical students visit small and isolated Jewish communities around the world). He visited Bangkok, India, Iran, and other neighboring countries.

"One Friday in Japan, he helped the Israeli Ambassador put on tefilin and affixed a mezuzah on the embassy door. He met a man in the embassy and asked him, 'Do you want to put on tefilin?'

"The man responded, 'After the Six Day War, I was at the Kotel (Western Wall) and I was asked to put on tefilin. I told them that I believe in the country and the history, but I'm not religious and I will not put on tefilin. Later I visited the U.S. and was on Fifth Avenue in Manhattan. A fellow came out of a van and asked me to put on tefilin. I refused, saying that if I didn't put it on at the Kotel, do you think I'll put it on in New York? I traveled to Philadelphia and saw the Liberty Bell. While I was there, someone approached me and asked me to put on tefilin. I refused again. If I didn't put it on at the Kotel, do you think I would do so at the Liberty Bell?'

"The man then looked Yossi in the eye and said, 'If the Lubavitcher Rebbe sent you 10,000 miles away to Japan just to ask me to put on tefilin, could I still refuse? I'll put on tefilin.'

"This person," concludes Rabbi Raichik, "felt as though my brother's entire trip was for him. He felt how much the Rebbe cared for him as an individual, and that is why he was finally willing to put on tefilin. This is the Rebbe's ahavat Yisrael, love of a fellow Jew, shining through. When we reach out to another with this love, the person cannot refuse."

Rabbi Dovid Jaffe, emissary of the Rebbe in Manchester, England, relates: "In 1992, my brother-in-law Max Cohen, a Lubavitcher Chasid in Manchester needed to travel to Bangladesh on business. Political unrest and a deadly cyclone had aborted his two previous trips. Although assured by his contacts there that it was now safe, he would go only with a blessing from the Rebbe.

"I went in line at 'Sunday Dollars' (when the Rebbe would distribute dollars for people to give to charity and have a momentary meeting with them). I apprised the Rebbe of the situation. The Rebbe handed me a dollar and blessed Max with a successful journey.

"The Rebbe then presented an additional dollar, saying, 'This is for the shaliach (emissary) in Bangladesh.'

"The Rebbe noticed my shock. It seemed inconceivable to me that amongst the 114 million Muslims in Bangladesh Max would find even one Jew, let alone a shaliach! The Rebbe clarified for me, "There is someone who is doing Lubavitch work there."

Explains Rabbi Jaffe: "I understood from the Rebbe's clarification that the person to whom he was referring did not wear a black hat or have a beard. Perhaps he was not even religiously observant. But to the Rebbe he was an emissary.

"Through a twist and turn of events that can only be called Providential, Max found Walter. Walter had once arranged Jewish materials for the child of a Jewish couple who were temporarily located in Bangladesh. The materials were sent to him by Rabbi Yoseph Groner, emissary of the Rebbe in North Carolina. Rabbi Groner had mentioned this to the Rebbe in a report three years earlier."

Concludes Rabbi Jaffe, "To the Rebbe everyone is a shaliach."

The Rebbe stated, "The numerical value of the word 'shaliach' is 348; add ten, corresponding to the 10 faculties of the soul, and you have 358, equaling the word 'Moshiach.' Every Jew is G-d's shaliach and has the task of building a home for G-d in the world. When the shaliach actually harnesses the 10 faculties of his soul toward the fulfillment of his task, he brings the world closer to the Messianic Era which is the ultimate goal of his mission.

(from <http://www.lchaimweekly.org/>)

Appreciate the Small Things

"This is one of the nicest weddings that I've ever attended. When it finishes, all you have to do is tell the caterer that the liver wasn't so good."

When the Jews left Egypt, the Torah says "and to all the Jews no dog barked" (Shemos 11:7). Rav Zelig Pliskin explains that G-d made this miracle, because we were joyous at being liberated from slavery, and G-d didn't want that joy minimized in any way. Even though the dogs' barking seems insignificant, Hashem is letting us know that even a small minimization of joy should be avoided. Don't be a party pooper !!


(by Rabbi Chaim Flom from Project Genesis at www.torah.org)







Join us on Shabbat Parshat Mishpatim for Chazan Yaakov Lemmer and the Mezamorim Choir.



The Rav's next "**Hashkafa Q&A Shiur for Men**" will take place **next Friday night (Beshalach, February 10th) at 8:15 p.m.** at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Dovi Ziffer, 6610 Clarington Road (in Beazer). Questions can be submitted in advance to rabbikaplan@chabadmd.com or anonymously in the shul mailbox.

Yahrzeits This Week:			
Larry Ziffer	9 Tevet - Saturday night/Sunday	for mother	Rochel bas Meir Yehuda Leib HaKohen
Dovid & Atara Ziffer	9 Tevet - Saturday night/Sunday	for grandmother	Rochel bas Meir Yehuda Leib HaKohen
Liz Mayer	9 Tevet - Saturday night/Sunday	for father	Yekusiel Shmuel ben Michoel

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Davening and Shiurim Schedule	
<p>Friday, 2/3 — 7 Shevat</p> <p>Candles — 5:12 p.m.</p> <p>Minchah / Ma'ariv — 5:10 p.m.</p> <p>Father-Son Learning — 8:15 p.m.</p> <p>Shabbat, 2/4 — 8 Shevat</p> <p>Shacharit — 9:00 a.m.</p> <p>Sof Z'man Kriat Shema — 9:43 a.m.</p> <p>Berachot Gemara Shiur — 4:30 p.m.</p> <p>Minchah & Seudah Shilishit — 5:00 p.m.</p> <p>Ma'ariv — 6:13 p.m.</p> <p>Sunday, 2/5 — 9 Shevat</p> <p>Shacharit — 8:00 a.m.</p> <p>Minchah / Ma'ariv — 5:15 p.m.</p> <p>Monday, 2/6 — 10 Shevat</p> <p>Shacharit — 6:50 a.m.</p> <p>Ma'ariv — 8:15 p.m.</p>	<p>Tuesday, 2/7 — 11 Shevat</p> <p>Shacharit — 7:00 a.m.</p> <p>Ma'ariv — 8:15 p.m.</p> <p>Wednesday, 2/8 — 12 Shevat</p> <p>Shacharit — 7:00 a.m.</p> <p>Ma'ariv — 8:15 p.m.</p> <p>Thursday, 2/9 — 13 Shevat</p> <p>Shacharit — 6:50 a.m.</p> <p>Ma'ariv — 8:15 p.m.</p> <p>Friday, 2/10 — 14 Shevat</p> <p>Shacharit — 7:00 a.m.</p> <p>Candles — 5:20 p.m.</p> <p>Minchah / Ma'ariv — 5:20 p.m.</p>