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SHABBOS TABLE

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כ"א סיון תשפ"ו

5786

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RABBI YEHUDA MUNK
EDITOR

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MRS. CHANIE LANDAU

WEEKLY INSPIRATION AND INSIGHT ADAPTED FROM CLASSIC ARTSCROLL TITLES

PROJECT DEDICATED BY THE JAFFA FAMILY

PARASHAH

THE CALM VISION OF A ZAKEIN

Rav Yaakov Bender on Chumash 2

After the people complain to Moshe Rabbeinu that they are hungry, Moshe turns to Hashem, wondering how he is meant to feed all the people. Hakadosh Baruch Hu instructs Moshe Rabbeinu to gather together seventy *zekeinim*, elders.

The Ramban wonders what sort of solution this was. Were the *zekeinim* capable of producing meat for hundreds of thousands of people?

The Ramban answers that Moshe thought that the many leaders would appease the wrath of the people by speaking to their hearts when they would start complaining.

Here, the Ramban is sharing the secret of leadership. Leaders know how to placate, to listen, to soothe, to make the other person feel like he is being heard, and this way, his anger subsides on its own. Many times, people are angry only because they feel ignored, and they lash out because they are starving for warmth or respect.

One morning, the rosh yeshivah of Slabodka, R' Eizik Sher, was walking toward the yeshivah in Bnei Brak, each step measured and focused, the walk of a *baal mussar*.

As he walked, a woman suddenly came rushing down the very same path, blocking R' Eizik's way. The *talmid* accompanying R' Eizik gestured for her to step aside, but she seemed not to notice and hurried by them without a word of apology.

The *talmid* was upset by what he viewed as blatant disrespect.

The rosh yeshivah remained silent and continued walking.

Only the next day, following the practice of true *baalei mussar*, did R' Eizik discuss the incident.

"Let us examine the full picture," he said. "I wake up in the morning and my devoted rebbetzin prepares a hot drink for me. I walk to *Shacharis*, and peo-

ple greet me respectfully, opening doors because I am a rosh yeshivah. In yeshivah, a siddur waits on my *shtender*, and *talmidim* compete for the privilege of carrying my *tallis* and *tefillin*. I *daven* in a place of honor along the eastern wall.

"After davening, I learn peacefully for a few precious moments before returning home to a delicious breakfast prepared by my rebbetzin, who is devoted to my well-being.

"That is my morning," R' Eizik said. "But let us think about hers.

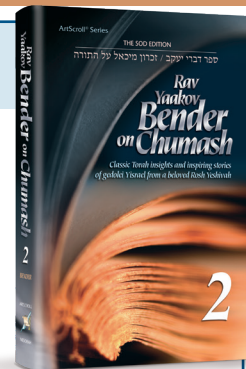
"She is young, likely with several small children, perhaps even a baby who cried all night. Morning arrives, and she must dress and feed everyone while rushing from one child to another. She wants desperately to sit for a moment with a cup of coffee, but the clock tells her there is no time.

"She works hard to support her husband learning in kollel, and though she is proud to be his partner, the burden is demanding. Her employer warned her not to arrive late again, so she rushes from the house anxious and overwhelmed.

"On the street, she barely notices the elderly man walking slowly and peacefully in the sunshine. She sees only her empty chair at work and her employer's disapproval.

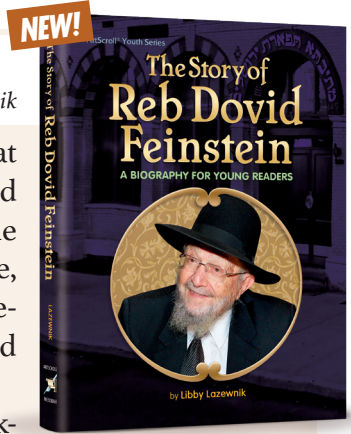
"So she hurried around him," R' Eizik concluded. "She was not disrespectful, because she never truly saw me. She is courageous and deserving of praise."

That is a leader: calm enough to see another person's reality. A *zakein*, seasoned with wisdom and understanding, perceives what lies beneath behavior. A nation blessed with such leaders naturally feels heard, understood, and cared for. 📖



EXTRAORDINARY SIMPLICITY

The Story of Reb Dovid Feinstein by Libby Lazewnik



One day, a *talmid* who was close to him noticed that the Rosh Yeshivah's hat was getting out of shape. "Why don't we go to the store for a new hat?" he suggested.

He expected Reb Dovid to protest that his hat was fine. Instead, to the *bachur's* surprise, the Rosh Yeshivah agreed to go with him to the hat store.

They went to a hat store in Williamsburg, where the *talmid* asked the salesman to help fit the Rosh Yeshivah for a new hat.

"Me?" Reb Dovid exclaimed. "I thought *you* needed a new hat!"

The *talmid* was astonished.

"If I needed a new hat, why would I take the Rosh Yeshivah?" he asked in bewilderment.

"I thought maybe you wanted someone to help you choose," the Rosh Yeshivah replied.

In his humility, he saw nothing strange about a *talmid* asking his rosh yeshivah — who was in his eighties at the time — to come all the way out to Brooklyn to give his opinion about a new hat!

...

Reb Dovid took responsibility very seriously. One Purim, he went into a local bakery to buy challos for the Purim *seudah*. The owner came over and asked to speak to him privately.

The owner had just received the news that his father had passed away. What should he do? He knew he ought to leave the store right away, but he was hesitant to close his store on such a busy day.

Reb Dovid gave him good advice. He told the man to sign ownership of the store over to a brother-in-law

whom he trusted, and to ask that brother-in-law to come in and run the bakery for the day. The owner took Reb Dovid's advice, but it would be a few hours before the brother-in-law could make it to the Lower East Side.

"Go," Reb Dovid told the bakery owner. "The bakery will be taken care of until he comes."

With that, Reb Dovid stepped behind the counter to serve the customers himself!

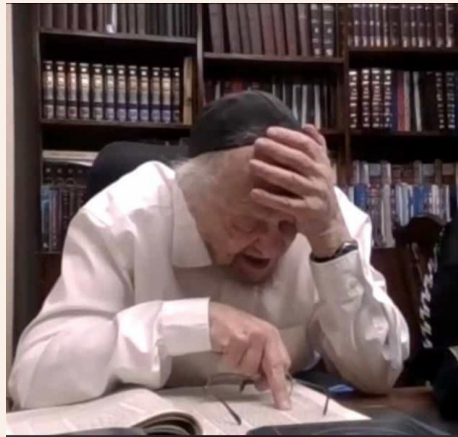
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In his humility, it was very important to Reb Dovid that people think of him as just a normal, ordinary person. Once, after joining the Satmar Rebbe on a fundraising trip, the Satmar newspaper wrote all about the trip. The article included a big picture of the *gedolim*, the leaders of the generation, who had been part of it. Reb Dovid was one of those in the picture.

That Friday morning, he was sitting in a bagel store in Williamsburg having breakfast, when a group of Satmar teenagers happened to be reading the newspaper at the next table. They kept looking at the picture and then back at the Rosh Yeshivah. Was it possible that a leader of the generation was

sitting at the next table, eating a bagel with cream cheese?

Noticing their interest, Reb Dovid smiled gently. The boys quickly approached to ask for *berachos*. They could hardly believe their good luck! 📖



R' Dovid shopping for Shabbos to help the Rebbetzin

YOMI SCHEDULES FOR THIS WEEK:

	SHABBOS JUNE 6 בא סיון	SUNDAY JUNE 7 בב סיון	MONDAY JUNE 8 בג סיון	TUESDAY JUNE 9 כד סיון	WEDNESDAY JUNE 10 כה סיון	THURSDAY JUNE 11 כו סיון	FRIDAY JUNE 12 כז סיון
BAVLI	Chullin 37	Chullin 38	Chullin 39	Chullin 40	Chulin 41	Chulin 42	Chulin 43
YERUSHALMI	Megillah 29	Megillah 30	Megillah 31	Megillah 32	Megillah 33	Megillah 34	Megillah 35
MISHNAH	Keilim 8:10-11	Keilim 9:1-2	Keilim 9:3-4	Keilim 9:5-6	Keilim 9:7-8	Keilim 10:1-2	Keilim 10:3-4
KITZUR	152:8-End	153:1-9	153:10-154:1	154:2-End	155:1-6	155:7-End	156:1-157:3
ORAYA	Yevamos Chazara 69a-70a	Yevamos 70b Chazara 70a	Yevamos 71a Chazara 70b	Yevamos 71b Chazara 71a	Yevamos 72a Chazara 71b	Yevamos 72b Chazara 72a	Yevamos Chazara 70b-71a

As Executive Director of Yeshivah and Mesivta Torah Vodaath and a close talmid of Rav Wolfson, R' Yitzchok Gottdiener sought the Mashgiach's counsel many times over the years. He shares one particular incident where he saw firsthand how the Mashgiach's thought process was firmly rooted in his *emunah*.

It was a time when the yeshivah was faced with a huge deficit. We reached out to a philanthropist who had a connection with Torah Vodaath. If he came through, we would find matching money to wipe out the remainder of the deficit.

I invested a lot of time into arranging a meeting and finally after meeting him, which I thought went well, was looking forward to a very good response. Imagine my shock and disappointment when our chairman of the board, Mr. Chaim Leshkowitz, informed me that the philanthropist had informed him that he could not help the yeshivah.

We knew that he was a huge baal tzedakah and could certainly give those kinds of numbers.

That night, I went to bed very upset and hardly slept. In the morning, my wife suggested that I visit the Mashgiach and hear his perspective. It was the best advice ever.

I entered the Mashgiach's office and told the Mashgiach what had happened, and he responded in his usual calm, soft-spoken way:

"Yitzchok, isn't it true that as executive director of the yeshivah, you've helped make things even better and initiated improvements with Hashem's help? Salaries have been increased, the yeshivah is growing... Everyone is learning and happy.

"But you know who's not happy? The Sitra Achara [the Satan]. He is not happy that the yeshivah is doing so well and that there is so much learning. So he is trying to get you upset so that you will feel despondent and dispirited, and this way, you won't do your best for the yeshivah.

Rav Moshe Wolfson by Rabbi Shimon Finkelman

"Now is not the time for modesty. Forget about what just happened and continue with your avodas hakodesh, secure that what you are doing is the right thing."

The Mashgiach's words were what I needed to hear. I came to my office with renewed energy and spirit.

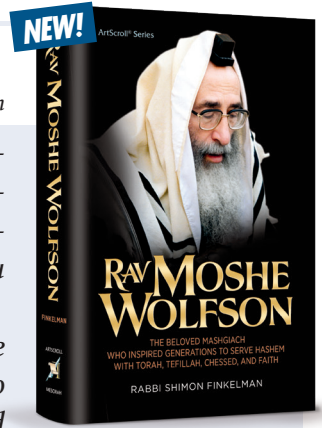
A few months later, this philanthropist sent us a very significant sum. And he has remained a strong supporter of our yeshivah ever since.

A few years later, we found ourselves \$300,000 short for our pre-Pesach payroll. It was the third of Nissan and I very much wanted to pay the rebbeim the next day, which happened to be my birthday.

We tried "pulling out all the stops" to put the money together, but nothing seemed to work. I had a migraine and told my comptroller, R' Binyomin Lipsky, that I was going home to rest. R' Binyomin reminded me of my conversation with the Mashgiach and suggested that the Sitra Achara was once again trying to interfere with my holy work for the yeshivah. I returned to my office and together with my development team, began reaching out to more of our supporters.

A parent offered to loan us the entire sum with very good terms for repayment. I was uplifted by his offer, but preferred to try to raise the money as contributions. As I was contemplating my next move, R' Binyomin came to my office and handed me two government checks that had just arrived in the mail, courtesy of a government program in which the yeshivah had been participating. The total exceeded the \$300,000 we were short, and on the following day we were able to distribute the checks.

Baruch Hashem, the good prevailed and once again the Sitra Achara remained unhappy! 📖



WIN A \$36
ARTSCROLL
GIFT CARD!

THE WEEKLY QUESTION

What did the mahn taste like, if the one eating it had no particular taste in mind?

Kids, please ask your parents to email the answer to shabbosquestion@artscroll.com by this Wednesday to be entered into a weekly raffle to win a \$36 ARTSCROLL GIFT CARD! Be sure to include your full name, city, and contact info. Names of winners will appear in a future edition. HINT: The answer can be found in *The Jaffa Family Edition Weekly Parashah*.

The winner of the question for Behar is: RACHEL MADDALI, St. Louis, Missouri

Question for Behar was: Why is the fiftieth year called Yovel

Behar Answer: This name is hinting to the ram's horn from which, according to some Tanna'im, the Shofar blown on Yovel was made.



PART 13: THE YAD AVROHOM MISHNAH – THE NEXT STAGE

In the early years, ArtScroll’s work was limited to Chumash and individual books. A shocking loss led to the next stage.

Avraham Glick, the young scion of a well-known family, passed away under tragic circumstances during a business trip in Europe. His bereaved father, R’ Louis Glick, was one of the New York diamond industry’s most prominent diamond dealers. Although he graduated from Torah Vodaath years earlier, he remained a lifelong *talmid* of the legendary R’ Shraga Feivel Mendlowitz. Mr. Glick was anxious to do something significant in memory of his son, something that would have lasting value and would benefit not just one neighborhood.

That last point was something that gave unique appeal to ArtScroll’s work. Torah is the *neshamah*, the life-source of Klal Yisrael, and yeshivos are the “body” in which the Torah infuses life. Yet neighborhoods change and enrollments decline. And even the largest yeshivos are limited to the capacity of their classrooms and dormitories. By contrast, printed Torah volumes are not confined by time and space.

Sefarim written in small towns generations ago are still widely studied today across the globe.

Could Avraham Glick be memorialized with something that would have such broad and lasting appeal in a way that would bring Torah in its majesty and authenticity to people whose primary language was English?

Someone suggested that Mr. Glick fund an English translation and commentary of the Mishnah and that the young and budding ArtScroll was the best candidate to do it. R’ Zlotowitz and R’ Scherman met with Mr. Glick and the chemistry worked. There was a general understanding, but before a final handshake and contract could be finalized, there was a problem that was a potential dealbreaker.



Mr. Louis Glick

Mr. Glick went to Monsey to consult Rav Yaakov Kamenetsky *zt”l*, who though formally retired as Rosh Yeshivah of Torah Vodaath, was still the primary address for *daas Torah* and sound advice for many of the yeshivah’s alumni. The question was, “If I commit myself to dedicate the ArtScroll Mishnah, I might have to reduce my contributions to yeshivos. Is it the right thing to do?” By that time, R’ Yaakov had become familiar with the work and reliability of ArtScroll. He urged Mr. Glick to undertake the project and assured him that in the unparalleled merit of being *marbitz Torah* to such a broad public, his support of yeshivos would not be diminished at all.

And so, the “Yad Avraham Mishnah Series” was born. Though the commentary begins with the *Bartenura* — the “Rashi” of Mishnah commentators — the treatment features an original anthology of comments and explanations from classic sources. Clear, authoritative and comprehensive, it was unprecedented in any language.

R’ Hersh Goldwurm, already on staff, reviewed, wrote, and was on call to help other writers and editors, and was the key person to guarantee the quality and accuracy of the work.

R’ Scherman edited the first several volumes until the staff could be expanded. It was not easy to find qualified personnel, but one candidate was uniquely successful and remains one of our key people to this day.

R’ Yehezkel Danziger, a *talmid* of Mir-Yerushalayim and Beis Medrash Govoha, was recruited to write for the project and became R’ Hershel’s primary protégé and colleague. After R’ Goldwurm’s untimely passing, R’ Yehezkel became one of our primary editors and the one who trained a generation of writers.

The 44-volume *Yad Avraham Mishnah* is still widely popular. Mr. Glick’s hope has been realized and R’ Yaakov’s assurance has been vindicated. And Klal Yisrael is the beneficiary.

UP NEXT: *First of the History Series: History of the Jewish People*