

# CONNECTIONS



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDIUM

"כִּנְנִים הַנִּפְטָרִים מֵאֲצִיָּהֶם וְהוּא אֹמֵר לָהֶם קָהָה עָלַי פְּרִידָתָם" (רש"י במדבר כ"ט: לו)

It is now a good few weeks since we left the confines of our סוכות and returned "back home" to face the upcoming winter and the challenges that will come with it. Here in Eretz Yisroel the rains have ב"ה already begun to fall. A new *zman*, with many new *talmidim*, has been ushered in. It is a promising and exciting time.

Yet, it is perhaps during this time of new beginnings that we most sharply feel the absence of those who recently (or not so recently) left us and are making their own beginnings in all types of places and occupations all over the world. As we

march on in Yeshiva, we know that we have compatriots marching alongside us everywhere.

In this Post-Succos issue of Connections, you will be updated on various goings-on in Yeshiva during this past Succos season (and earlier). We formally (and in print) say farewell and wish *hatzlacha* to our friend Rabbi Noach Peled, who recently took a position in Miami Beach, Florida after having been a presence in Yeshiva for the better part of the last twenty years. We wish our friend Rabbi Zvi Simon *mazal tov* on the publication of his new *sefer*.

Additionally, in this issue you will hear the drumroll of coming events. We pay

tribute to the Class of '96, of which Rabbi Simon is a member, who will be spotlighted at this year's Dinner. We also are proud to announce this year's Second Annual Yarchei Kallah to be held in Yerushalayim in January 2015.

May each of you each enjoy *hatzlacha* in all of your endeavors. And may we all see each other very soon... at the Dinner... or better yet... in Yerushalayim.



*Daniel Sinowitz*  
Rabbi Daniel Sinowitz



*Shmuli Weiner*  
Rabbi Shmuli Weiner

# LAST CHANCE!

Deadline to submit your reservations & ads  
is Friday, November 28th.

# 32 Anniversary Tribute Dinner

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## The Class of '96

Recipients of the

# NER MICHOEL ALUMNI TRIBUTE

The Yeshiva takes tremendous pride in presenting the Class of '96 with the Ner Michoel Alumni Tribute. A lot has happened in the eighteen years since this outstanding group first arrived in Toras Moshe. To the members of the class — many of them in various capacities of leadership in diverse locations — it often feels like it was just yesterday, especially when they meet a *shiur*-mate whom they haven't seen in a while. Despite the passage of time, the connection to the Yeshiva and to one another has remained palpable; there are strong roots and a meaningful sense of purpose that are shared by all.

"The Class of '96 brought together an amazing *chevra*," recalls Aaron Saltz, who currently lives in Lakewood. "We were a great group of guys who came from very different backgrounds. This actually helped foster an amazing sense of camaraderie and family, but more significantly, it was conducive to everyone's growth. We grew from each other's strengths, enhancing whatever we gained from our *rebbeim* and the general Yeshiva environment. The group who came from Ner Yisroel in Baltimore, for example, had a highly impressive background in *bekiyus*, they had an amazing fluency in many *mesechtos* and different parts of Shas; complementing

their unique strength were the *bochurim* from *yeshivos* who were used to the innate *geshmak* of in-depth *iyun* type of learning. There were several individuals whose *hasmada* was extraordinary, and the rest of us would think, 'I may not be up to putting in the hours that he does, but I can certainly try a little harder than I am right now.'"

Rabbi Mordechai Kalatsky is another member of the class who currently serves as the Rav of Congregation Keneseth Israel in Minneapolis. "1996 was a real turning point for the Yeshiva. It was the true "step-over" into the new Toras Moshe as we know it today," he reflects. "For the first time, a majority of the *bochurim* — almost 80 percent — stayed for a full three years. Before that time, you came for a year, maybe for two, but our year was a fork in the road, you no longer came for just 'a stint in Israel' but 3 to 5 years that would prove to be a life-changing experience."

"Almost immediately upon our arrival, we were awestruck by the caliber and dedication of the older *bochurim* in the *bais medrash*," says Rabbi Reuven Schwartz of Brooklyn. "People like Matis Feld, or Eliezer Niehaus — who was the *gabbai* in Yeshiva at the time — motivated and inspired us by their example." Rabbi Schwartz also points

out that this was the year that Rabbi Shurkin began encouraging groups of *talmidim* to visit Rav Moshe Shmuel Shapiro, *zt"l*, in Be'er Yaakov and forge a connection with him. Members of this class — as well as other Toras Moshe alumni — relate that Rav Shapiro's influence still impacts the way they understand the nuances of the *rishonim*.

Classmates also fondly recall the time when they left to America or other *yeshivos* in Eretz Yisroel. Inevitably, Rabbi Fishman would tell us that you never really leave Toras Moshe, it continues to be your "home" even if you only come to visit on occasion. When asked about the motivation for their impressive accomplishments, such as Rabbi Kalatsky's ripple effect in Minneapolis, or the Ginas Reuven — Rabbi Schwartz's acclaimed series of *seforim* on *Mishnayos Zera'im*; Doni Greenwald's leadership in Ner Yisroel, Shaarei Zion and the ways he brings Baltimore's diverse types of Jews together; Chaim Schulhof's achievements for the children of the Five Towns, in *chinuch* as well as safety awareness — or the many other ways they are making a difference as leading *baalei batim* or senior *kollel avreichim*, all point to the Yeshiva's continued guidance and inspiration for true leadership.

# The Class of '96

Avigdor Adler	Pinchas Grossman	Moshe Lieberman	Ruvi Schwartz
Yehoshua Ashman	Simcha Hersh	Shimmy Neuwirth	Zvi Simon
Baruch Berzon	Dovid Ireland	Avi Oberlander	Itzik Sonnenschine
Zevi Farkas	Ari Jacobs	Meir Perlow	Yaakov Weiland
Michoel Feld	Tovia Jakubowitz	Yonah Plotnick	Aryeh Wiederkehr
Shragi Feldman	Mordechai Kalatsky	Avrohom Chaim (A.C.) Posner	Dovi Wisnicki
Joshua Fogel	Zechariah Kraines	Yonatan Quinn	Yehuda Zolty
Yehuda Frogel	Aryeh Kurz	Yehuda Rabinowitz	Dovid Zomber
Benjamin Gerendash	Pinny Lachman	Ari Saltz	
Avraham Rafael Goldberg	Moshe Dovid Lehrer	Shai Scherer	
Doni Greenwald	Chaim Shalom Leibowitz	Chaim Schulhof	

## ALUMNUS PROFILE

### RABBI NOACH PELED

This past September, Toras Moshe alumnus Rabbi Noach Peled returned with family to his native Miami after living in Eretz Yisroel for nineteen years. During that time, Rabbi Peled served with distinction as the Mashgiach of Yeshivas Mesoras Mordechai in Beit Shemesh for several years. More recently, he and several other Toras Moshe *talmidim* established Yeshivas Oholei Yaakov, a post-high school yeshiva in Geula that is still flourishing.

Rabbi Peled is quick to credit his alma mater for the inspiration and direction that brought him success in his multifaceted endeavors. “My *hadracha* in learning, including the approach

of *bakoshas ha’emes* that I came to appreciate, primarily came from the Rosh Yeshiva and Rabbi Shurkin,” he nostalgically reflects. “I spent a total of five years in each of their *shiurim*; all of that, plus the *hashkafa* and guidance I received from them and from the Mashgiach, made me into who I am today.”

Reb Noach's close relationship with the Mashgiach led the way to his own *rebbe*, Rav Shlomo Brevda, *zt”l*, and Reb Noach started attending his *drashos*. In the meantime, he moved from Yerushalayim to Beit Shemesh. “The neighborhood of Ramat Beit Shemesh was just beginning to develop,” Rabbi Peled recalls, “and

I wanted to impact the direction the community would take. When I asked the Mashgiach if he could think of a way for me to bring Rav Brevda to speak in Ramat Beit Shemesh, he simply said, ‘Why not just call him?’” Rav Brevda accepted the invitation, initiating what became a regular schedule of *drashos*







At Rabbi Peled's Seudas Preidah



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

several times a year. For the next eleven years at Kehillas HaGra in Ramat Beit Shemesh, Rav Brevda would speak every Motzei Tzom Gedaliah, as well as several other times each year, with Rabbi Peled driving him back and forth. At some point, he became involved in arranging Rav Brevda's *shiurim* in other places throughout Eretz Yisroel. Rabbi Peled and his wife feel privileged to have enjoyed a close relationship with Rav Brevda, with whom they spent over 50 hours of private one-on-one time over the years.

Reb Noach recognizes the foresight and encouragement of the Rosh HaYeshiva, who allowed him to serve as the exclusive *arba minim* supplier in the Yeshiva. "The Mashgiach was very reassuring at the time," he remembers. "I'll teach you everything you need to know," he said, spending hours upon hours familiarizing me in all aspects of the trade, from start to finish; how to inspect *minim*, every detail. Once I got into it, people came to value my expertise, and soon I was managing five busy outlets in Yerushalayim and Beit Shemesh. This is just one example of the

way Toras Moshe provides motivation, opportunity, and the necessary expertise for every *talmid* to succeed in a manner that suits him most. In my case, I think they saw that I 'had what it takes': a combination of ambition, work ethic, dedication, and the right kind of personality. I truly feel that I could keep at this for a lifetime, should I consider reestablishing myself as an *arba minim* provider here in America.

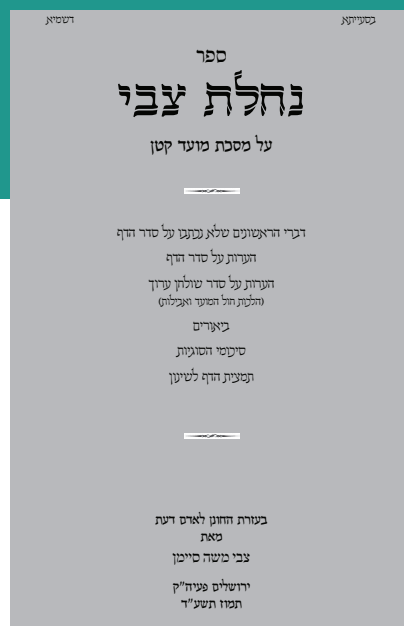
"Another thing my wife and I are extremely grateful for is the unlimited amount of time and attention that both the Rosh Yeshiva and the Mashgiach gave us to discuss all sorts of issues, such as marriage, *chinuch*, *parnassa* – every single aspect of our lives. Without their clarity and direction, we wouldn't have been able to navigate ourselves to where we are today. When, for example, I began visiting numerous cities in the States trying to find a suitable position, the Rosh Yeshiva would not allow us to pick up and move until a secure position would already be in place. No matter how much we felt that things could be better arranged after we moved, we were committed to follow his advice.

Whenever I would return from a trip entailing one or more interviews, we would sit together with the Rosh Yeshiva, discussing and ironing out every minute detail. At last, when the position of Director of Development at Bais Yaakov of Miami came up, the Rosh Yeshiva looked into it carefully and gave me the "green light." Baruch Hashem, we're very satisfied with the way things worked out, and we're extremely grateful for his guidance and foresight.

"I sometimes think about why I chose to learn in Toras Moshe. Even with the limited perception of an eighteen-year old, I felt that this was a *yeshiva* where I could best absorb the truth and the sincerity of Yiddishkeit. Clearly, I was not mistaken. The Torah, *yiras shomayim* and *hashkofas ha'emes* I received from Rosh Yeshiva, the Mashgiach and Rabbi Shurkin, gave me a solid foundation and fortified me for a life as *ben-Torah*, whether in North Miami Beach, or wherever else I, or any other *talmid* may be led by our destiny."



# SUPER KOLLEL SUPERB SEFER



RABBI ZVI SIMON PROVIDES MUCH-NEEDED  
INSIGHT INTO MESECHTAS MOED KATTAN

Talmidim of Toras Moshe like to call it “the Super-Kollel”. For the past four years, Kollel Ateres Elimelech, which had originally started under the auspices of Rav Naftoli Kaplan, found a new home in the Yeshiva’s *bais medrash*, where they are a welcome enhancement to the *ruach* and energy of the daily learning.

The impact of the Kollel thus far has been truly immeasurable. Officially, however, it is a completely separate entity graciously hosted by the Yeshiva. The *avreichim*, numbering between ten and fifteen, learn at a slightly faster pace than the Yeshiva, going through *mesechtos* according to *seder hadaf* while covering the related *halachos* for a more complete and thorough learning experience.

Over the years, several Toras Moshe alumni were members of the Kollel. (The Rosh Kollel, Rabbi Aryeh Colton, also learned in Toras Moshe for a short time.) Rabbi Zvi Simon, a well-known alumnus from the Class of '96, has been with the Kollel since its inception.

Several years ago, when the Kollel was learning Moed Kattan, the *avreichim* realized that there was a lack of *seforim* on the *mesechta*. As they proceeded through Moed Kattan, Rabbi Simon sensed there was a void that needed to be filled, and he began writing a *sefer* to try to provide what had been missing up to now. Even as the Kollel continued on to other *masechtos*, Reb Zvi dedicated his free time during the next few years to complete his *sefer* and prepare it for publication.

Rabbi Simon’s newly released Sefer Nachalas Zvi is a masterful work that comprises a major contribution to what was already described by Rav Yehuda HaChassid (13<sup>th</sup> century) as a sorely neglected volume of Shas. In addition to being one of the few

contemporary works on Moed Kattan, the *sefer* is multifaceted. The first section contains the commentaries of several *Rishonim* on *hilchos*

*Chol haMoed*, which Rabbi Simon enriched with insightful footnotes and *marei mekomos*. The next 150 pages contain Rabbi Simon’s extensive, well-indexed commentary which proceeds first through the *dapim* of the *Gemara*, followed by *he’aros* on *hilchos Chol haMoed* and *hilchos Aveilus* (including discussions of several prevalent *minhagim* which seem to be at odds with what it says in *Shulchan Aruch*).

The next section, a comprehensive summary of different *shitos haRishonim* according to *seder hadaf*, is designed to benefit individuals on all levels. Those learning the *daf* without enough time to go through the *Rishonim* in-depth can get a quick picture of all their respective *shitos*. At the same time, those who are learning on more of a *be’iyun* level will appreciate the extensive *marei*

*mekomos* that will help them attain greater insight into each of the *shitos haRishonim*.

Rabbi Simon looks back fondly on the years he spent in Toras Moshe, which laid the foundation and fueled the inspiration that brought him to where is today. “The Rosh Yeshiva,” he says, “gave me the *derech* with which to properly analyze a *sugya* that continues to guide me in my learning. His *shmuessen* and insights continue to guide my *hashkafa* in life. I am also grateful to the Mashgiach, who ignited the fire of *ahavas haTorah* within me.”

**Rabbi Simon’s Sefer Nachalas Zvi is available for purchase directly from the author at [sefernachalaszi@gmail.com](mailto:sefernachalaszi@gmail.com).**

The Rosh Yeshiva gave me the *derech* with which to properly analyze a *sugya* that continues to guide me in my learning.

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## Yeshivas Toras Moshe Arba Minim Shuk

## ד' מינים מהודרים

Once again R' Maor Ben-Zeev (a.k.a Rabbi Noach Peled's doppelganger....all the way from Miami, Florida...) will be providing the yeshiva with **Mehudar Daled Minim**. Stay tuned for more signs full of random information about the location of the sale (ToMo), the date of the sale (during Aseres Yemei Teshuva), prices (only the best)...and other bits of info that you do or do not need/care to know!



The Rosh HaYeshiva leading the Tisha B'Av Kinnos. In addition to the *talmidim* present, the Kinnos were joined by over 600 alumni from around the world via web broadcast.







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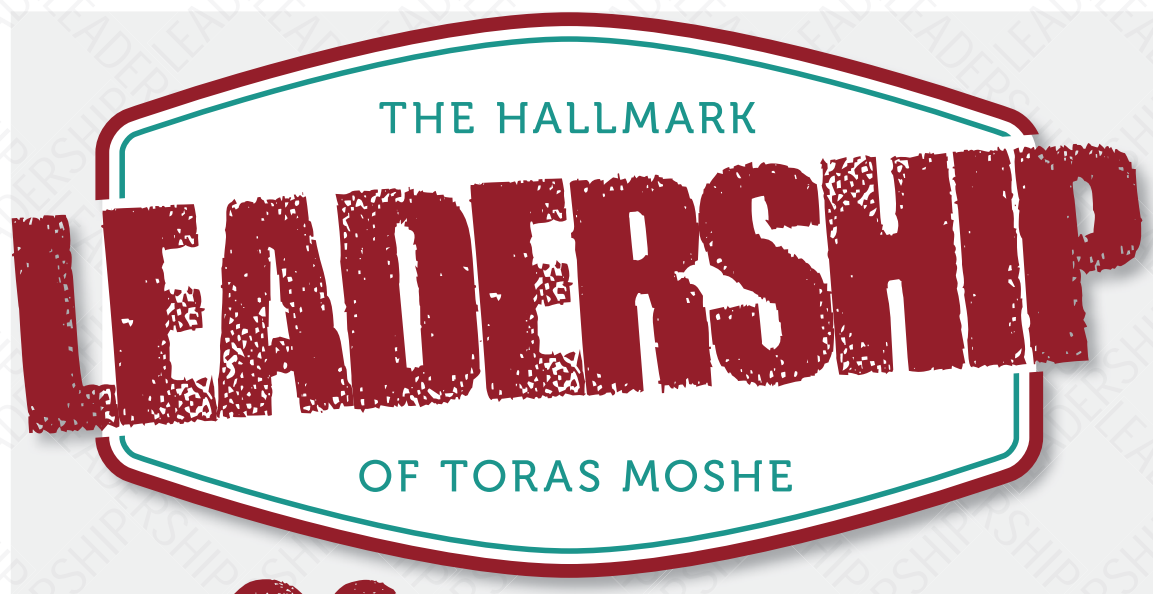
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## 32 Anniversary Tribute Dinner

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**We hope to greet you personally at the Dinner.**

*The Dinner Committee*