

פ' יתרו • PARASHAT YITRO

17th of Shevat 5771 • January 22, 2011 • Shabbat Begins: 4:28pm • Shabbat Ends: 5:35pm

**PARNESSE HAYOM
 SHEVAT**

These Days of Learning have been dedicated to the memory of the following by members of their family.

2 Shevat - Drazin Family in memory of mother, Gertrude Drazin (Gittel bat Harav Moshe Halevi z'l)

9 Shevat - Russell & Steven Samuels in memory of grandfather, Aron Eichenbaum (Shmuel Aharon ben Yisrael Lev z'l)

11 Shevat - Dr. Hyman Schipper in memory of David Jacob Rubenstein (Dovid Yaacov ben Yechekiel z'l)

14 Shevat - Mr. & Mrs. Aron Lieberman in memory of mother-in-law and mother Esther bat Shiah Zeileg, z'l

17 Shevat - Bobby Shaul in memory of father, Norman Shaul (Natan Zev ben Nachman Halevi z'l)

28 Shevat - Joannie Lieberman in memory of father, Zalman Singer (Zalman ben Yacov David z'l)

For more information on the KTM Parnesse Hayom Project, please call our office at 514 486 5718.

TRIBUTE CARDS

With your donation of \$18.00 or more KTM will send a card to mark the occasion of a birth, anniversary, engagement, marriage, speedy recovery, holiday greetings, birthday, or in memory of.



כאיש אחד בלב אחד

**“As One Person,
 With One Heart”**

“They journeyed from Refidim and arrived in the wilderness of Sinai, and they encamped in the wilderness; Israel encamped there opposite the mountain” (Shemot 19:2)

Rashi explains that *Benei Yisrael* encamped as one person, with one heart. Since they were unified, like one person with a single heart, they were deserving of *Ma'amad Har Sinai* – the Revelation at Sinai – and the privilege of receiving the Torah. The simple meaning of this concept of “one person with one heart” is that they were like a person who is a single individual despite having within him many different forces and organs, as each provides what the other is lacking. In truth, however, this is not complete unity. There must be “one heart,” a centerpiece that impacts upon and animates all parts of the nation, much like the *Mishkan* and the two *Batei Hamikdash* served as the heart of the nation which gave forth life, and to which everybody turned. As our Sages described the *Mikdash*, תל שכל פיות פונים אליו – “the hill to which all mouths turn.”

How fortunate our generation is that we have finally been privileged to experience a national renewal, as millions of Jews, have gathered from around the world and come together in *Eretz Yisrael*. There is still much to be done in order to unify the nation and bring everyone together. But we can already see the stage of כאיש אחד, “as one person,” a broad social spectrum – right and left, all the different ethnic groups, and all the different social, religious and cultural streams in Israeli society – with each part and each color of

the rainbow making its contribution and providing what the others are lacking. But we still pray for, believe in, and eagerly await the day that will soon come when the “one heart” will also be built – the *Beit Hamikdash*, the heart of the nation and the heart of the world. The *Mikdash* will be built, speedily and in our times, when genuine feelings of אהבת חינום (unconditional love) are cultivated and strengthened within us. We will then earn the merit of complete redemption and comfort, as we pray each day, ומביא – גואל לבני בניהם למען שמו באהבה – “and He brings redemption to their [the patriarchs'] descendants, for His Name’s sake, with love.”

Shabbat Shalom,

Rav Nadav Levin, KTM

**AL
 HAPEREREK**

A weekly learning Nach program.

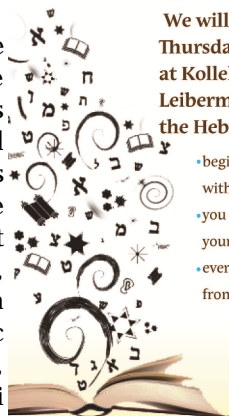
How many times have you wanted to learn tanach and stopped at yehoshua perek 5?

If you love tanach, and have always dreamt of learning the entire tanach,

come join us!

We will begin with Sefer Yehoshua, Thursday night, Tu b'shvat Jan 11 at 8pm at Kollel Torah Mitzion Leiberman Beit Midrash of the Hebrew Academy

- beginning of the week, you will receive an email with a personal study sheet.
- you can learn it any time by yourself, your family or with a chavruta.
- every Thursday there will be a review shiur from 8:30pm – 9pm of the 2 perakim of the week.





The Living Beit Midrash

A Vibrant Community Learns Together


<p>MONDAYS—THURSDAYS, 8-10PM (MAARIV 9PM) For more information on other learning opportunities, please contact us.</p>
<p>Mondays, 8:30-9pm Sefer HaKuzari with Rav Ido Tauber</p>
<p>***NEW*** Mondays, 8-9pm Sefer Derech Hashem • Rav Raphael Afilalo, Ramchal</p>
<p>Tuesdays, 9:30-10:30am • Women's Beit Midrash</p>
<p>Tuesdays, 8-9pm • Parashat Hashavua • Rav Nadav Levin</p>
<p>Tuesdays, 9:15-10pm • Masechet Brachot • Rav Nadav Levin</p>
<p>***NEW*** Thursdays, 8:30-9pm Al Haperek—Nach Learning Program • Rav Nadav Levin</p>



SHIRAT NASHIM Melave Malka

We would like to invite you to an evening of music and song for women and Mesibat Hodaya (thanksgiving evening) for Shira Tauber

The evening will take place on **Saturday night January 22nd** at the Kollel Torah Mitzion 5700 Kellert Ave. at 8:00 pm. See you there.



The Kollel Bachurim's Corner

by Oriel David

Yitro, the priest of Midyan, heard..." (Shemot 18:1)

"What news did he hear, and then he came? The splitting of the Yam Suf and the war against Amalek" (*Mechilta*)

Many people heard the news that Yitro heard. All the nations in the region heard about the miracles, just like Yitro. So what is it that makes Yitro special? The fact that he heard – "and then he came"!

Still, the question remains, why did he join *Benei Yisrael* specifically now, after hearing about these two events – the splitting of the sea and the war against Amalek?

We must understand that when news of the miracle of the sea reached Yitro's ears, he was convinced once and for all and believed with all his being in the God of Israel. Meaning, he personally felt with all his heart that he has found his way to God. But at the same time, he heard another piece of news that came from the Israelite camp: Amalek attacked! The thought immediately jumped into Yitro's mind that if an enemy could attack *Benei Yisrael* right after a miracle as spectacular as *keri'at Yam Suf*, then this must mean that something is not quite right. If a miracle that had injected fear in all the surrounding nations did not frighten Amalek – this indicates that the excitement generated by a miracle can be neutralized. It is possible to overcome the fear of a nation that was saved through supernatural means. All that is needed is a suitable theory that lends a natural explanation to the event, an explanation that allows one to free himself from the stunning force of that event. At that moment, Yitro understood that the logical conclusions he had reached are not enough. If we wished to firmly establish his faith, he must come and spend time among *Benei Yisrael*, and receive the Torah with the powerful experience of Mount Sinai.

We must understand that all the events that take place around us are all the result of divine providence. And we must not fall into the trap that Amalek set for us through its attempt to dilute our faith. We must "come" just like Yitro came, in response to everything that happens, and receive the Torah, living on a deeper level within the reality that we see in front of us.

During the period of winter break, I sensed this in a very real way. After all the intensive and detailed planning of what we would do each day and even every hour of every day, הקב"ה put us to the test by showing us that there was "something else" controlling this trip. I will not elaborate on our trip to the West Coast of the United States, but instead share with you our first experience on this trip. The plan was to travel by bus to Burlington and from there catch a flight that would bring us in time for the beginning of our trip. For whatever reason, He who controls all events wanted us to spend an entire night at the U.S.-Canadian border (several passengers were held for security checks), so that we would arrive five hours late to the airport – a long enough delay to force us to take a later flight, thus requiring us to spend Shabbat in Burlington. (Oh, I forgot to mention that all this took place on Friday morning...) We found ourselves stuck in the middle of nowhere before Shabbat. Fortunately, we found out that there was a Chabad House in Burlington, and they hosted us lovingly. Before we left, the rabbi's wife said that there must have been a reason why we needed to stay there for Shabbat and not make the flight. הקב"ה wanted us there for that Shabbat. I still don't know why, and I perhaps never will, but what is clear is that we must "come" – like Yitro – to all events in our lives and understand that every מקרה ("coincidence") is really – by just rearranging the letters – רק מה' (from God).



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Executive Director: Eddie Shostak

Kollel Torah Mitzion has a faculty of graduates from Hesder Yeshivot in Israel who come here to serve as teachers and role models in our community. The core of the Kollel is the Beit Midrash which features a full schedule of classes as well as a drop-in center with a warm atmosphere where all, regardless of background, feel comfortable.