

CONNECTIONS



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDIUM

Dear Alumni,

... וחג הקציר ביכורי מעשיך אשר תזרע בשדה (שמות כג, ט"ז)

We find ourselves in the period between Pesach and Shavuos. It is a period in which we focus upon our personal growth as we approach a new *Kabolas haTorah*. It is also a period in which we count toward the חג הקציר ביכורי מעשיך אשר תזרע בשדה – the festival during which we celebrate harvesting the first fruits of our labor.

Ner Michoel finds itself in a similar period in its own development. In this “Expanded-Pre-Yarchei-Kallah-Edition” of Connections – we proudly announce the first One-Day-Yarchei-Kallah scheduled to take place on Memorial Day in Passaic, NJ. Participating will *iy”h* be Maran Rosh HaYeshiva and HaGaon Rav Michel Shurkin. We also proudly announce the “Support Our Kollel Project” – this year’s opportunity for us all to join-hands and support the Yeshiva together.

But this issue is packed with other simchos as well. There are *simchos* of Hanhala Members (the Mashgiach and Rabbi Abramowitz) whose newly published *seforim* have recently appeared. And there are simchos of alumni like Reb Yossi Koff whose newly published *sefer* has been quite a success (!) as well as Reb Simcha (pun unintended) Lang who continues to regale the new and old *talmidim* in Lakewood *zman* after *zman*.

We look forward to future “seeds” and “harvests” and may we all continue to see Ner Michoel grow together.

With best regards,

Rabbi Daniel Sinowitz



Daniel Sinowitz

Rabbi Daniel Sinowitz

Rabbi Shmuel Weiner



Shmuel Weiner

Rabbi Shmuli Weiner

EXPANDED PRE-YARCHEI-KALLAH EDITION



INTRODUCING
NER MICHOEL'S NEWEST INITIATIVE:

SUPPORT OUR
KOLLEL

JOIN TODAY!
SEE PAGE 4



RELIVING OUR REDEMPTION

The Mashgiach's New Haggadah: Guide to a Meaningful Seder Experience



Just before Rosh Chodesh Nissan, excitement hit the extended Toras Moshe family with the news of the long-awaited release of the Mashgiach's *Haggadah shel Pesach*, published under the title of *Vayagged Shmuel*.

There is certainly no shortage of both user-friendly Haggados as well as those with quality *peirushim* to suit every sort of inclination already on the market. This Haggadah, however, stands out as a serious guide on to how to really make the most out of your *leil ha Seder*; to fully understand and utilize it for personal growth and the strengthening of one's *emunah*, all based on *yesodos* from Rishonim and Gedolei Acharonim.

Many people go through the *seder* lacking an awareness of what exactly each paragraph is doing where it is, or how whatever you're about to do fits into the overall theme and direction of this night's *avodah*. Besides the extensive commentary in this Haggadah, the text itself includes frequent "subtitles" – brief, one-sentence captions that explain the particular significance what comes next. Imagine what the *seder* is like when you have the Mashgiach giving you an understanding of why are you saying "*Yachol mei'rosh chodesh*" right after the Four Sons, and so on.

Not surprisingly, there is a rather lengthy section on the ten Makkos. Any Toras Moshe *talmid* will tell you that the Mashgiach's most enjoyable *shmuess* of the year is his "*Makkos shmuess*", when he acts out and gives vivid character depictions of what transpired during each of the ten Makkos. All that is incorporated into the Haggadah, where the Mashgiach details what a "*kezayis-sized louse*" looked like, as found in the *midrash* about the *kinnim*. It is a special *chessed* from Hashem, the Mashgiach explains, that we don't normally see the minutiae of the insects all around us. When we observe these under a microscope, even a fly looks like a tremendously scary monster. Imagine having this all over one's body; besides the severe irritation, it's like having monsters swarming all over you. In this manner, the Mashgiach makes the each of the *makkos* come to life. It's all very much a

part of what he learned from his *rebbe*, Rav Brevda, who in turn received it from his mentor, Rav Chatzkel Levenstein, who would famously line up benches and walk between them in order bring the story of *Yetzias Mitzrayim* alive with vivid clarity.

The actual commentary, called *Daas U'sevunah* – a title selected by the Mashgiach based on the *gematria* of his own name – explains the Haggadah based on Rishonim and Gedolei Acharonim such as the Maharal, Gra, as well as what the Mashgiach heard from his *rebbe*, Rav Shlomo Brevda. Over seven hundred extensive footnotes provide the source for every idea and minor thought mentioned. As most *talmidim* are aware, the Mashgiach is very committed to basing all *chiddushim* on what we already have from Rishonim and Gedolei Acharonim, and to stay away from innovating explanations that are based on improper *yesodos*. So even an idea that people take for granted is backed up by the Mashgiach

The Haggadah contains a wealth of material from great sources that most readers would have otherwise not known or connected with the seder.

with its source, be it a Ramban on this Pasuk, this from the Gra in Sefer Yeshaya; everything can be looked up at its original location.

The Haggadah contains a wealth of material from great sources that most readers would have otherwise not known or connected with the *seder*. These might be from Rishonim on Chumash, particularly the Ramban and the Sforno, Abarbanel, Rashi, as well as not-so-famous Midrashim such as Mechilta, a lot of Maharal from Gur Aryeh, the seforim of Gra and the Malbim, including their respective commentaries on the Haggadah.

About eight years ago, Rabbi Avi Lowenstein asked the Mashgiach if they could go through the Haggadah together as part of their regular learning session (usually spent on Sefer Chofetz Chaim).

As they learned, the Mashgiach would refer to a large stack of his own handwritten notes on the Haggadah. Reb Avi asked *reshus* to photocopy them, then typed up the material and developed it into a Haggadah-style format, filling in helpful *marei mekomos*. Reb Avi also compiled a *peirush* on Hallel, based on insights the Mashgiach shared with him when they studied Hallel together during the Chanukah season. This was appended to the Haggadah commentary and circulated within the Yeshiva in pamphlet form.

Two years ago, the inspiration of a *talmid* of the Mashgiach, Aryeh Ginsberg, initiated the project to publish an enhanced, *sefer-format* version of the Haggadah pamphlet. The Mashgiach reviewed the entire booklet, and, with Rabbi Lowenstein's assistance spent many months editing and reworking everything exactly the way he felt it should be.

The Mashgiach also appended three enriching *maamarim* to the end of the Haggadah. The first one, entitled *Mitzvas Maggid*, goes through the opinions of the Rishonim, clarifying the *sugya* as to what is included in the *mitzvah* of retelling of our leaving Mitzrayim, and what exactly must one do or discuss in order to properly fulfill all the components of this special *mitzvah*. The second *maamar* explains the unique phenomenon of reciting Hallel at night, its purpose and ramifications, based on the *shitos* of the Geonim and Rishonim. The final *maamar* describes and clarifies the unique *avodah* of the *leil haseder* with regard to one's personal growth, the idea behind this *mitzvah* and practical suggestions on how to actually do it, based on *yesodos* of the *baalei hamussar*.

The Haggadah is named *Va'yagged Shmuel* in memory of Aryeh Ginsberg's grandfather. When asked about the attractive cover design and overall layout, Rabbi Lowenstein says it was all the result of tremendous *siyata d'shmaya*. All in all, it is certainly a worthy enhancement to any *seder* table or *seforim* library.

Rabbi Simcha Lang's efforts keep alumni in Lakewood connected

TRIUMPHANT TRANSITION

A number of *talmidim* returning to the States after their *bais medrash* years in Toras Moshe are making Bais Medrash Govoha (BMG) in Lakewood the next stop on their journey. While the mere thought of transitioning from a smaller *yeshiva* where everyone knows each other to one of the largest *yeshivos* in history can be somewhat daunting; when a Toras Moshe alumnus arrives in Lakewood, he is not alone. He will actively be sought out by Rabbi Simcha Lang, a Toras Moshe alumnus who currently serves as a *Rosh Chabura* in BMG, and unofficially “looks after” all the Toras Moshe alumni in Lakewood.

For about six years now, the Lang family opens its home each week for *shalosh seudos* to anyone who wishes to join (no need to “pre-register”). The attendees, which can be anywhere between five and thirty-five *bochurim*, are Toras Moshe alumni. Harav Yosef Yoffe says a *drasha* each week. He is usually preceded by a ten-minute *vort* from Rabbi Lang, who will share a thought from Rabbi Shurkin or the Mashgiach, on the topic of an upcoming Yom Tov or the like.

The new arrival to BMG starts coming to the weekly *shalosh seudos* and already feels connected. Rabbi Simcha is the brother of Rabbi Chesky Lang, the *shoel u'meishiv* of Rabbi Twersky's *shiur*, who has been part of the Toras Moshe family for fifteen years. As a result, people feel a natural connection to the Langs; Rabbi Shurkin also helps make the connection by “sending” his *bochurim* to Reb Simcha.

Rabbi Lang will seek out *bochurim* in BMG's *bais*

medrash during *seder*, or the *yeshiva's* dining hall during meals. He will engage them in conversation about their learning and other matters, assist them with *shidduchim*, invite them to his home for regular Shabbos meals, and stay on the lookout for their general success and well-being. “I’m simply providing these young men with whatever they were used getting up to now in Toras Moshe,” he says with a smile, “Why shouldn’t they continue to have it here in Lakewood as well?”

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As a *Rosh Chabura* in BMG, Rabbi Lang interacts with many *bochurim* on a daily basis. “It is quite obvious that the Rosh Yeshiva has prepared them well for Lakewood’s high level of learning by giving them the tools to properly approach a *sugya*,” he observes. “Most of the *talmidim* join the *chaburas* led by Rabbi Sarel Kalish and Rabbi Yehuda Eisenstein, who really look out for the Toras Moshe *bochurim*.”

When Rabbi Lang first came to Lakewood about nine years ago, he recognized that Toras Moshe *bochurim* and others like them could benefit from the type of coordinated hospitality and friendship he began arranging. He credits his parents, Mr. Shelly and Mrs. Roberta Lang of Neginah fame, for being

exemplary role models and imbuing him with the value of *chesed* by having an open house. The senior Langs are longtime friends and supporters of Toras Moshe; Shelly has played music with his sons in the Yeshiva and at other Toras Moshe events, he also assists the Yeshiva in many ways.

A major Toras Moshe event in Lakewood each year is the “Shabbos of Chizuk”, held when the Mashgiach and Rabbi Abramowitz are in town. The Shabbos is hosted by Rabbi and Mrs. Simcha Lang. Mrs. Lang cooks all the *seudos*, ensuring that all the *talmidim* feel at home. Many *bochurim* come from out of town to spend this special Shabbos in Lakewood and reconnect with the *hanhalla* and their friends. Rabbi Lang also arranges individual appointments at his home for *bochurim* who wish to have a private discussion with the Mashgiach.

New ideas and innovations are always on Rabbi Lang’s mind as he helps *talmidim* acclimate and thrive, making the most out of their time in Lakewood.





SUPPORT OUR KOLLEL

Responding To the Call of the Hour



The major government cutbacks and the steep financial crisis thrust upon the Yeshivos and Kollelim in Eretz Yisroel, is a major concern to all Yidden across the globe. Baruch Hashem, we continue to witness a highly encouraging response on the part of the greater Torah community in America, with various *kehillos* and *shuls* in many Jewish locales “adopting” a *kollel* in Eretz Yisroel as their own, sustaining and supporting it as a means of sharing in the pain and easing the burden during this difficult time.

For *talmidim* of Toras Moshe, the severity of this unprecedented crisis is most personal when they consider the plight of the Yeshiva’s own Kollel. Spurred into action, the Ner Michoel Alumni Association has unveiled a new program called “Support Our Kollel”, as a direct, personal response to the current government funding cuts and their impact on the Yeshiva and Kollel. Alumni from far and wide are being urged to respond to the call of the hour and claim their share in supporting their “own” Kollel, ensuring its continuity at this most difficult time.

In financial terms, the impact of the recent budget cuts to the Yeshiva and its Kollel amounts to a quarter of a million dollars annually. Obviously, such a deficit makes the already crushing burden of raising funds for the Yeshiva all the more daunting and difficult.

Support Our Kollel offers alumni the opportunity to seize this historic moment and to guarantee that the learning in the very *bais medrash* where they have been nurtured and from which they continue to derive *chizuk* and guidance continues to flourish.

The Rosh Yeshiva has often emphasized the incredible life-changing, transformative qualities of Torah. Torah, when studied properly, transforms and uplifts people, making them into better human beings.

“Now it is the loyal sons of the Torah” – the Rosh Yeshiva elaborates – “those who truly love the Torah, those who have seen and experienced its transformative qualities and are passionately concerned for its survival and continuity within Klal Yisroel that are currently being ‘summoned to carry the flag’. It is they who must answer the call of duty and step forward to fortify and protect the Torah which is the only hope for our continued existence as Hashem’s nation.

The Rosh Yeshiva has also pointed out that it is the *kollelim*, in particular, that have borne the brunt of the recent cutbacks. It is the Kollelim which represent the maturity and advancement of the effect of Torah study on the individual and the community. It is our sacred duty, therefore – the calling of American Jewry at this critical hour – to show its solidarity to *kollelim* in particular.





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YARCHET KALLAH

TOGETHER WITH

RABBI MOSHE MEISELMAN
AND
RABBI MICHEL SHURKIN

TOPIC: GENEIVAS DAAS
AND ITS APPLICATION IN THE BUSINESS WORLD

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262 TERHUNE AVENUE | PASSAIC, NJ

SCHEDULE:

9:45AM	WELCOME COFFEE AND REFRESHMENTS
10:00AM-12:00PM	FIRST SEDER
12:00PM-12:45PM	SHIUR - ROSH YESHIVA
12:45PM-1:30PM	LUNCH WILL BE SERVED
1:30PM-3:00PM	SECOND SEDER
3:00PM-3:45PM	SHIUR - RABBI SHURKIN
3:45PM-5:00PM	Q&A
5:00PM	MINCHA



LOOKING FORWARD TO GREETING YOU,
THE NER MICHOEL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



FOR MORE INFO CONTACT:

DAVID DANESH

📞 917-744-8036

✉️ davidedanesh@gmail.com

RABBI NAFTALI KATZ

📞 732-600-9336

✉️ nkatz95@gmail.com

YANKI WEITMAN

📞 917-583-9140

✉️ ytweitman@gmail.com

THE TORAS MOSHE KOLLEL

A Vital Part of the Toras Moshe Experience

The Rosh Yeshiva has often expressed how he views the Kollel as major element of the Yeshiva and its impact on the *talmidim's* growth and development. As the foundation of a young family's new home and the beginning of married life, the *kollel* years serve an important role in a *talmid's* personal development. In addition, the growth and *shteiging* of the *bochurim* in their pre-*kollel* years is impacted and enhanced by the Kollel's unique *hashpa'ah*. The *yungerleit* interact with and influence the *bochurim*, and the entire Yeshiva is exposed to budding *talmidei chachamim* of the highest caliber.

Thirty years ago, when Toras Moshe was established, the Rosh Yeshiva made a priority of rounding out the staff with a *kollel* of high-caliber *talmidei chachamim* who could relate to the English-speaking *bochur*. The Kollel's membership would serve as a living example of what a true *talmid chacham* is, how a maturing *yungerman* is supposed to look and act. At that time, of course, there were no alumni to populate the Kollel's ranks, so the Rosh Yeshiva brought in top notch individuals "from the outside"; each and every one of that original group went on to become world class *maggidei shiur*, *marbitzei Torah* and *klei kodesh* in a variety of fields.

Amazingly, one member of that original nucleus of *avreichim* is still in the Yeshiva's Kollel; he is well known among Toras Moshe *talmidim* as Rabbi Eliyahu Waldenberg, *shlita*. While Reb Eliyahu has made great strides in the greater Torah world as the one who was selected to transcribe and prepare the entire series of Rav Shmuel Rozovsky's *shiurim* for publication, he has one single mission as far as Yeshivas Toras Moshe is concerned; to sit in the *bais medrash* and be a living example of an advanced *talmid chacham*, fluent in all areas of Torah, with his life totally devoted to growth in Torah. Each day, the *talmidim* observe his stellar *hasmada*; his thundering Torah battles reverberate throughout the *bais medrash*. His entire being engrossed in the *sugya* at hand, oblivious to the rest of the world. Everyone who passed through Toras Moshe

is richer for having made his acquaintance.

The Kollel today is comprised mainly of alumni, with close to fifty members. From its doors emerge highly advanced *talmidei chachamim* with expertise in all areas of learning. These *yungeleit* are poised to become renowned *marbitzei Torah* in the yeshiva world. Many of them, such as Rav Shmuli Weiner, have already gained prominence as leading *poskim* in Yerushalayim for the English speaking *tzibbur*.

During their initial years in the Kollel, *yungerleit* still attend the Rosh Yeshiva's *shiur*, until they get a strong foothold in the proper *derech halimud*. As per the Rosh Yeshiva's guidance, members of the Kollel approach all areas of Torah with the same in-depth analysis and effort that the Yeshiva taught them during their early years in the core *mesechtos* in the standard Yeshiva curriculum. At first, they will do this only in the afternoons, moving on eventually to two or even three *sedorim* of their day.

A few years back, over twenty-five *yungerleit*, some who are still currently in the Kollel, were awarded with the prestigious "Kesser Torah VeHora'ah" by the Rosh Yeshiva, a degree higher than ordinary *semicha*. As part the process, they traveled to meet and discuss Halacha topics with various *poskim*, among them Rav Nosson Kopshitz of Beit Shemesh, a world-renowned *posek* who expressed amazement with their level of understanding and expertise.

Looking back at thirty years of accomplishment and growth in the Kollel, the fulfillment of the Rosh Yeshiva's vision and foresight can be clearly seen. Support Our Kollel offers alumni the opportunity to ensure the continued success of this vital and significant part of their own *bais medrash*, which has had such a positive impact on the *talmidim's* growth and *harbotzas Torah* that benefits all of Klal Yisroel.

THE KOLLEL'S
MEMBERSHIP WOULD
SERVE AS A LIVING EXAMPLE
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YUNGERMAN IS SUPPOSED TO
LOOK AND ACT.

MARKING ANOTHER MILESTONE

Latest Volume of Rabbi Abramowitz's Sefer Released

Toras Moshe *talmidim* and the greater world of *seforim* devotees are excited with the news of the release of the latest volume of Levonas HaMincha, Rabbi Yehuda Abramowitz *shlit"a*'s popular *sefer* on the Minchas Chinuch.

The new release is the fifth *chelek* thus far, covering the *parshiyos* of Acharei-Mos and Kedoshim. It is the latest in a series of volumes that began the release of the first *chelek*, approximately twenty-five years ago. More than just a commentary on the classic Minchas Chinuch, which focuses on the core concepts of many *sugyas* in Shas, Rabbi Abramowitz's *sefer* discusses the *shitos* of the Sefer HaChinuch, the Rambam's Sefer Hamitzvos, as well as the opinions of other *monei hamitzvos*.

The Levonas HaMincha series is an outgrowth of what began as a weekly *chabura* on Minchas Chinuch that Rabbi Abramowitz began delivering every Motzai Shabbos to a group of *talmidim* learning in the Yeshivos of Brisk and the Mir. Rabbi Abramowitz often speaks of the special affinity and *geshmak* that he has for the Minchas Chinuch. As a *rebbe* and *maggid shiur*, he sees tremendous value

exposing *bochurim* to its treasure trove of spiritual riches. In his own words, "one gets a breathtaking awareness of the Torah's amazing breadth; you start at Mitzvah so-and-so, perhaps in this week's *parsha*, and you never know where you'll end up!"

The original *chabura* underwent various stages and modifications. Rabbi Abramowitz would type up each session as it went along, and the material developed into one *sefer* at first, followed by many more over the years.

The latest volume, as mentioned, covers the *parshiyos* of Acharei-Mos and Kedoshim, which contain a considerably large number of *mitzvos*, seventy-eight in all. These *mitzvos* embody such fundamentals as *kedushas kahal Yisroel*, agricultural *mitzvos* that serve as the pillars of *emunah*, and *morah av v'eim*.

During the past two years, the Yeshiva learned the *mesechtos* of Shabbos, followed by Yevamos. As a result, at the end of new *sefer* there is an added *kuntres* that includes several *chaburos* on the "Moseich HaShabbos" (a self-contained long section in



the Minchas Chinuch on Parshas Yisro that explains the 39 *melachos*). This additional material comes from Rabbi Abramowitz's regular Gemora *shiurim* and pertains specifically to that section of the Minchas Chinuch.

Levonas HaMincha is very popular, both among *talmidim* who participated in the *shiur* at one time or another, as well as the others who study the Minchas Chinuch in-depth and have come to appreciate the perspective and insights that Rabbi Abramowitz provides.

Savoring Each Shabbos



Shabbos, we all know, is uniquely special. It is the crowning touch that lends meaning to our entire week. Most of us, however, need to sharpen our understanding of the how and why of Shabbos. How can we make the most of this once-a-week opportunity to come closer to Hashem?

When a Toras Moshe *talmid* nears the end of his second year, he participates in a series of *vaadim* presented by the Mashgiach, Harav Elchonon Meir Fishman *shlita*. These *vaadim* are especially designed to enrich and highlight the Shabbos experience in Yeshiva, opening the *talmid's* eyes to the treasures offered by this special day with lessons for a lifetime.

For Rabbi Yossi Koff, who spent four years as a *bochur* in Toras Moshe and is currently a prominent member of the Kollel as well as a *rosh chabura*, these *vaadim* were nothing less than a transformation. Reb Yossi was so moved that he felt he should share them with a much larger audience, and

make them accessible to the general public by putting their ideas in book form. He also thought that it would be beneficial for his fellow Toras Moshe *talmidim* to review and refer back to, especially during their post-*yeshiva* years. After discussion with the Mashgiach, who reviewed the material and gave his warm approval, the book was recently released under the title *A Taste of Heaven*.

While the actual *vaadim* are presented by the Mashgiach on a more scholarly and in-depth level, the book seeks to convey them in a clear and simple fashion. It allows anyone who desires, man or woman, to have the keys to appreciate all the gifts that Shabbos has to offer. In the Mashgiach's own words — in his introductory letter — Reb Yossi has "succeeded in transcribing the spoken word into a very readable book."

"Shabbos shouldn't be something that you 'know' intellectually," Reb Yossi explains. "It should be something that you experience, growing higher and higher each week. The book is intended to guide you along on a most rewarding journey. Each chapter introduces a new idea, or a new way of looking at Shabbos. Every chapter has something

A Rosh Chabura Shares His Rebbi's Inspiration

that a person can contemplate, think over and grow from. Take one chapter each week, and focus on the ideas discussed. Then try to experience a Shabbos with these new concepts. Read about how Rav Yannai would prepare for Shabbos, and try to live and experience it as you sing *Lecha Dodi*, or as you relax after lighting the Shabbos candles. Understand the roots of Shabbos, and how these themes continue through the *seudos* and the *tefillos*. Before long, you will see how your Shabbos begins to change, as you use the day to get closer to Hashem.

"In the short time since the book's release," Reb Yossi continues, "many people have told me that a major insight they gained from the book is that Shabbos is something they didn't fully appreciate up to now. While they may have experienced it hundreds if not thousands of times, they never realized that they have no real conception of what it's all about. Even if that's all the book accomplishes, it will have been well worth the effort; simply getting people to recognize that Shabbos is something to become more familiar with."

A Taste of Heaven was published by Menucha Press and is available at your local Jewish bookstore.



American Friends of Yeshivas Toras Moshe
1412 East 7th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11230
Phone: 718.336.1770 | Fax: 718.336.1799
Email: nermichoel@torasmoshe.org

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BONDING IN BALTIMORE

Second Annual Get-Together Energizes Alumni

Many communities such as Lakewood get to enjoy an annual Shabbos of Chizuk with visiting *rebbeim* and friends from Toras Moshe. The *bochurim* learning in Ner Yisroel of Baltimore always wanted something similar, but until a year ago, it was only a dream.

Each year, usually in February, the Mashgiach, Rabbi Elchonon Meir Fishman, and Rabbi Yehuda Abramowitz, pay a visit to Baltimore to meet with and *far-her* prospective *talmidim*. The idea came up that since the *rebbeim* would need to take a break from *farhers* and have something to eat, and the *bochurim* were also scheduled to have supper, why shouldn't everyone sit together and reconnect?

Moshe Berger and several other *bochurim* took care of all the arrangements. They reserved "The Executive", a smaller room to the side of Ner Yisroel's main dining hall, and ordered food from a local catering establishment. For 90 minutes, the *rebbeim* and *talmidim* got a chance to see and speak with each other, catch up on news and events, and even hear some *hashkafa*-related answers and general guidance on issues of common interest. It turned out to be a very beautiful and memorable evening that was enjoyed by all, including the *rebbeim* themselves, who thanked everyone for the *chizuk* they gained and the quality time spent together.



"It was unbelievable, *mamesh* like being back in Yeshiva for those few minutes," was the way one *talmid* described it.

With everyone still cherishing the positive energy from last year's event, it was clear that there had to be another one when the *rebbeim* returned this winter. While the first time it was sort of impromptu, with everyone walking in and not knowing what to expect, the fact that this year things were more pre-planned didn't diminish it in the least bit. The anticipation, the friendly warmth, and the excitement of seeing each other once again really made it worthwhile.

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Because the event takes place on the Yeshiva campus, most of the *talmidim* who participate are the ones currently learning in Ner Yisroel. This year, because there was a longer planning stage, some alumni who had already moved on, married people, and those in school or working came in from town to take part in it.

Right after this year's get-together, the Mashgiach went to speak at Rav Berger's shul; many of the *talmidim* followed him there and got to hear him speak as well. Everyone shared the feeling that even though the event was very short, the *hisorerus* they gained will carry them for a while, and are looking forward to another event next year, *iy"h*.