



Kiddush is a Chai Kiddush - Chanuka Edition



Shalosh Seudos is sponsored by the Shalosh Seudos Club

## Schedule

**Friday, December 15th (27th Kislev)**

**3rd Day of Chanuka**

Early Mincha	12:45 P
Light 4th Chanuka Candle (before Shabbos candles)	
Candle Lighting	4:32 P
Mincha	4:35 P
Oneg at the Haber Home	

**Shabbos, December 16th (28th Kislev)**

**4th Day of Chanuka**

Shachris	9:00 A
BISLI	10:00 A
<i>See Page 2 for additional Learning programs</i>	
Daf Yomi	3:25 P
Minchah	4:25 P
Maariv/Havdala	5:33 P
Light 5th Chanuka Candle (after Havdala)	
"Hanuka on Ice" at the Scope	7:00 P

**Sunday, December 17th (29th Kislev)**

**5th Day of Chanuka**

Daf Yomi	7:00 A
Shachris	8:00 A
Mincha/Maariv	4:35 P
Light 6th Chanuka Candle	
4th Annual Norfolk Kollel Chanuka Party	6:30 P

**Monday, December 18th (30th Kislev)**

**6th Day of Chanuka - Rosh Chodesh Teves**

Daf Yomi	6:00 A
Shachris #1	6:35 A
Shachris #2	8:00 A
Mincha /Maariv	4:35 P
Light 7th Chanuka Candle	

Late Maariv	7:50 P
Daf Yomi	after Late Maariv
Partners in Torah	8:00 P

**Tuesday, December 19th (1st Teves)**

**7th Day of Chanuka - Rosh Chodesh Teves**

Daf Yomi	6:00 A
Shachris	6:35 A
Tomer Devorah for women	12:00 N
Mincha/Maariv	4:35 P
Light 8th Chanuka candle	
Late Maariv	7:50 P
Kollel Night Seder	after Late Maariv

**Wednesday, December 20th (2nd Teves)**

**8th Day of Chanuka**

Daf Yomi	6:00 A
Shachris	7:00 A
Mincha/Maariv	4:35 P
Late Maariv	7:50 P
Kollel Night Seder	after Late Maariv

**Thursday, December 21st (3rd Teves)**

Daf Yomi	6:00 A
Shachris	6:45 A
Mincha/Maariv	4:35 P
Late Maariv	7:50 P
Kollel Night Seder	after Late Maariv

**Friday, December 22nd (4th Teves)**

Daf Yomi	6:00 A
Shachris	7:00 A
Candle Lighting	4:35 P
Mincha	4:35 P

## CLASSES FOR EVERYONE

### DAF YOMI

**Morning Class:** Sundays at 7:00 AM, weekdays at 6:00 AM  
with Rabbi Loiterman

**Evening Class:** Sunday through Thursday after Late Ma'ariv

**Shabbos & Yom Tov:** both classes meet together one hour before Mincha with Rabbi Loiterman

### BNOS

*Shabbos Afternoon 3:15 - 4:15*

For girls from Kindergarten to 6th Grade in the Fred Aron Education Wing.

**Bnos will not take place this Shabbos**

### SHABBOS LEARNING FOR BOYS

Grades 5th - 8th Gemara class with Rabbi Harpaz at his home at 3:00 PM

Grades 1st - 4th Pasha with Rabbi Lipman at shul 30 minutes before Mincha

### PARENT-CHILD LEARNING

*Motzei Shabbos*

Join us once again for our beautiful Parent-Child learning each Motzei Shabbos. Inspiring atmosphere, beautiful learning, and exciting prizes.

### PARTNERS IN TORAH

*Mondays from 8:00 PM to 9:00 PM*

Meets at the JCC in Room 238

### WOMEN'S PARTNERS IN TORAH

*Sunday, December 10th at 8:00 PM*

At the home of Leah Weinreb

### KOLLEL NIGHT SEDER FOR MEN

Sundays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays following the Late Maariv

Held in the Bnai Israel Minyan Room

### WOMEN'S TUESDAY NOON LEARNING CLASS

The sefer Tomer Devorah is being studied.

TALMUD CLASS - 75 minutes before Mincha

*Tuesday evenings:* With Gershon Aronoff - starting Avoda Zara.

### RABBI GODER OPEN BEIS MEDRASH LEARNING NIGHT

*Wednesdays after Maariv at B'nai Israel*

Join one of several informal study groups being offered.

## **"HANUKAH ON ICE"**

*Tonight, Shabbos, December 16th at 7:00 PM*

Teddy Bear Toss, Post-game Skate with the Players, Candle Lighting Ceremony and Kosher Food (under the Vaad HaKashrus of Tidewater).

Teams: **The Norfolk Admirals vs. the Orlando Solar Bears**

## **4TH ANNUAL KOLLEL PARTY**

*Tomorrow: Sunday, December 17th at 6:30 PM*

Join the Kollel for music, Chanuka crafts, delicious food, exciting stories and moving Divrei Torah. Cost: \$8.00 per person, Family: \$40.00

## **KABBALAH**

Join the Norfolk Kollel for a 6 week Kabbalah course. Discover ancient mystical Jewish teachings and how they apply to our lives today.

All the classes will take place at the Simon Family JCC. There are two options:

- 1) **Tuesday Evenings at 7:30 PM** (Remaining evening class dates are December 19, January 9, 16, & 23)
- 2) **Wednesday Lunch at 12:30 PM** (Remaining day class dates are: December 20, January 10, & 17) There will be boxed lunches available for \$8.00.

For more information, please contact Rabbi Gavriel Rudin at 757-386-3274 or email him at rabbirudin@norfolkkollel.com

## **YAK 2018 SENIORS FUNDRAISER**

Please support the Yeshiva Aish Kodesh Seniors by buying their delicious dips. Flavors available: Onion, roasted garlic, olive, jalapeno with many more to come. Each container of dip is \$4.50. All products are made in the yeshiva kitchen.

All orders should be placed before 8:00 AM on Thursdays by emailing:  
yakseniors2018@gmail.com

## **SISTERHOOD FLOWER FUND**

The Sisterhood provides fresh flowers for the Bimah for every Yom Tov. Contributions to the Bnai Israel Sisterhood "flower fund" can be mailed to Irene Mazel or Frances Berger.

## **BNAI ISRAEL DIRECTORY**

We're just about ready to go to print - just need a few sponsors to offset the cost of printing. If you are interested, please call the office. Suggested sponsorship: \$100.00

## **ANNUAL DATE WITH THE STATE**

*Tuesday, January 30th from 7:00am to 4:00pm, cost: \$36*

Meet your State Senator & Delegate and discuss issues that affect our Jewish community. Bus leaves from the Reba & Sam Sandler Family Campus

# *Chai Kiddush Sponsors*

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✧ In memory of my step-father, A. Sol Weger by Frances Berger</li><li>✧ Esther Bridge</li><li>✧ Jeff &amp; Amy Brooke</li><li>✧ Aaron &amp; Ruth Cohen</li><li>✧ In memory of Behrooz's brother, Yechezkel Dayanim by Dr. Behrooz &amp; Trudy Dayanim</li><li>✧ In honor of Gershon Aronoff, for all he does for Bnai Israel by Dr. Behrooz &amp; Trudy Dayanim</li><li>✧ In honor Rabbi Eliezer Soloff by Yehudah Leib &amp; Helen Griffin</li><li>✧ Robert &amp; Audrey Gutterman</li><li>✧ In honor of Rabbi Rudin and his efforts to have families move to Norfolk, and "Make a Difference" by Shmuel &amp; Shira Itzhak</li><li>✧ Rabbi Gershon &amp; Sara Litt</li><li>✧ In memory of Carol's father, Jerry Malbim by Joey &amp; Carol Miller</li><li>✧ In honor of our girls in Israel: Ilana and Devorah and mazel tov to Ilana for drafting into the IDF by Michael &amp; Marcy Mostofsky</li><li>✧ Happy Chanuka by Ro'ee &amp; Avigail Mor</li><li>✧ In honor of Jacob, Leah and Nathan's birthdays. We are blessed to have them in our lives by Jason &amp; Alison Ohana</li><li>✧ In honor of the engagement of our granddaughter, Leah Gittel Wolf to Shimon Deutsch of Atlanta / Lakewood by Benn &amp; Jackie Richels</li><li>✧ Ruth Rothman</li><li>✧ Barney &amp; Basha Leiba Siegel</li><li>✧ In memory of Laurie's uncle, Norman Shapiro by Drs. Gary &amp; Laurie Goldsticker Siegel</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✧ Happy Chanuka by Lois &amp; Hillary Simon</li><li>✧ Happy Chanuka by Kevin Snashall</li><li>✧ Dr. Michael &amp; Brina Weissman</li><li>✧ Happy Chanuka by Mike &amp; Naomi Zelikovich &amp; family</li><li>✧ Herb Zukerman</li><li>✧ Welcome Harold &amp; Susan Loiterman to our Norfolk family by Rabbi Sender &amp; Chamie Haber</li><li>✧ Mazel Tov to Toras Chaim on their 1st basketball game win of the season by Dr. Gedalia &amp; Jodi Schwartz</li><li>✧ Happy Chanuka from Dr. Gedalia &amp; Jodi Schwartz</li><li>✧ In honor of my dear wife Sonia by Norman Cohen</li><li>✧ in honor of the upcoming marriage of Leah Mostofsky to Eli Krischer! With love, from your Schwartz family in NY</li><li>✧ In memory of Debbie's mom, Marilyn Nochimson, Zelda Miri. By Ken &amp; Debbie Wilson</li><li>✧ In honor of the upcoming marriages of our girls, Leah Esther Mostofsky and Chana Brooke by Gershon &amp; Michele Aronoff.</li><li>✧ Happy Chanuka by Jeanene Anker and Irene Ullman</li><li>✧ Happy Chanuka by Dr. David &amp; Pnina Rosenberg</li><li>✧ In honor of Lisa Kingsley, for her volunteering and acts of chesed: A very special lady with a big heart by Esther Sarah Carroll</li></ul> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

## Thank You to our Contributors

To Irene Mazel for her contribution to the Cemetery Fund in memory of her husband, William Mazel.

To Alan H. Kurzer for his contribution to the Cemetery Fund

To Sarah Zedd for her contribution in memory of her father, Morris Blumenthal.

To Dr. Ludwig & Ruth Sternlicht for their contribution in memory of Ludwig's father, Manus Sternlicht.

To Bob & Honey Low for their contribution in memory of Bob's mother, Kathleen Low.

To Suzanne Mazel and her family for her contribution in memory of their grandfather, William Mazel.

To an Anonymous sponsor in honor of Rabbi Zitter and his recent class

To Caroline Schloss for her contribution in memory of her great-grandparents, Benjamin and Emilia Schloss and her grandfather, Henry Schloss

## For the Week of Shabbos, December 9th through Friday, December 15th

### BIRTHDAYS

Ariella Loiterman	12/17	Tyler Richels	13th	12/21
Henrietta Schatz	12/18	Riley Richels	13th	12/21
Michael Brodsky	12/19	Sorah Weinreb	6th	12/21
Anna Slone	12/19			

### YAHRTZEITS

William Mazel	12/16	Yechezkel Dayanim	12/20
Manus Sternlicht	12/17	Joseph Goldblatt	12/20
Dorothy Eulau	12/18	Sylvia Galen	12/21
Yoel Blumethal	12/19	Louis Beryl Goodman	12/21
Bernard Stein	12/19	Ralph M. Levy	12/21
Marian Coplon Baydush	12/20	Morris Baras	12/22
Leon Brodsky	12/20	Lillie Mand	12/22

### REFUAH SHELAIMA

#### Women

#### Men

Shoshana bas Miriam Vittel Zilke bas Leah Leah Adina bas Chaya Esther Yochana bas Chana Nava bas Fruma Leah Basha Leiba bas Baila Fruma Simcha bas Tzipporah Malka Esther bas Devorah Devorah bas Ruchel Sara Bas Sara Miriam Rochel bas Chava Elisheva Kayla Dodie bas Rochel Bracha Rochel Bracha bas Baila Tirtze Sorah bas Rochel Bracha Rivka Tehilla bas Sarah Hinda bas Dena Shula bas Carmela Eliana Chaya bas Nacha Adi Simcha bas Penina Leah Gilsom Gila bas Tzipporah Tzipporah bas Gilsom Gila Aida Batya bas Etta Chaya Tova Gittel bas Shulamis Sima Elka Gittel bas Basya Chana Yitta bas Bryna Yehudis bas Irma Bayla Mishka bas Devora Malka Chana bas Ruchel Miriam bas Tzipora Chaya Raizel bas Dena Chana bas Sarah Devora Leah bas Civet Elkie Samecha Yehudis bas Esther Reva Raza bas Malka Shoshana bas Netta	Adi Bat Miriam Chana Leah bas Fraydel Ruth bas Sarah Chaya bas Ruchel Tinokes bas Esther Hadassah Sheva bas Rivka Chaya Ruchel bas Zelda Shira bas Sarah Nechama Getzel bas Rachel Ruchama Malka Briendel bas Shaina Shifra Miriam bas Chava Leah Aviva bas Masha Rochel bas Tova Chaya Rochel bas Esti Rivka Rivka bas Chaya Ruchel Rivka bas Yocheved Tzippora Aviva bas Rivka Devora Rivka bas Tzipora Raizel Shoshana bas Faiga Leah Chana Shifra bas Freidel Orly Rachel Bat Yehudit Rus Leah Rivka bas Sarah Yehudis bas Chana Leah Tye Miriam bas Zehavit Yehudis Sima bas Alta Ruchel Chaya bas Ruchel Chana Rochel bas Sara Ginendal Sarah bas Perel Devorah Rivka bas Tzipora Chana Bracha bas Sara Arielle Mazal bas Eliane Miril bas Ida Hudya	Shalom Boruch ben Masha Yehuda ben Chasha Ruchel Moshe Yechezkel Halevi ben Sara Malka Reuven Simcha ben Naomi Rus Yonah Michael Alter ben Esther Sarah Shlomo Yaakov Yonason ben Chana Raizel Aryeh Nachman HaCohen ben Ita Shlomo ben Tzipporah David Shlomo ben Rivka Tehilla Noach HaLevi ben Miriam Koppel ben Bayla Yonatan ben Rivka Abraham ben Iza Yoel Meir ben Chaya Yehudah Ben Batya Rafael Messod ben Naomi Sarah Eliezer ben Sara Avraham Beryl HaLevi ben Miriam Yissachar ben Rachel Binyamin Leib ben Rachel Chana Zecharia Avraham ben Devorah Rivka Nossan Yitzhak Ben Leah Moshe ben Raizel Eliezer ben Penina Kaila Meir Yehoshua ben Penina Kaila Beryl ben Chava Shmuel Yeruchem ben Baila Eitan ben Sarah Yehoshua ben Nechama Aliza Menachem ben Tzipka Avraham ben Chana Asher Eliyahu ben Leah Akiva Hillel Ben Cooki Tziporah Feige Gittel Yehuda Herschel ben Chaya Leah Dovid Leshem ben Esther Chaim Yaakov Dovid ben Avigail	Abba ben Tzipora Pesach ben Baila Dovid Avraham ben Miriam Yosef Aaron ben Keren Shoshana Robert ben Jean Rachmiel Leib ben Mordechai HaLevi Chaim Rafael Yoel ben Shayna Golda Daniel Yosef ben Miriam Aaron Emanuel ben Tzippora Michael Dovid ben Rivka Moshe Yosef ben Esther Reuven HaCohen ben Sarah Eitan Shmuel bas Chana Leah Eliezer Yehuda ben Chana Shaindel Yisroel Shmuel ben Sarah Chaim Avraham ben Feiga Chaim Shmuel ben Rivka Eliyahu Aron ben Hudel Sholom Yehuda ben Fayga Tinok ben Rochel Shlomo Yoel ben Chaya Leah Chanina Getzl ben Chana Fradel Meyer Yisroel Hirsch ben Zahava Zippora Yitzchak ben Emma Shlomo ben Naomi Eliyahu Yaakov ben Sarah Roiza Yitzhak Mordechai ben Yehudis Sima Chaim bas Shifra Dovid Avraham HaCohen ben Libby Yeshia
----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

## THE B'NAI ISRAEL CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

### **Week of December 10th through December 16th**

**Shabbos, December 16th:** Chai Kiddush: *Chanuka Edition*

**Motzei Shabbos, December 16th:** *Chanuka on Ice with the Norfolk Admirals* at Scope.

### **Week of December 17th through December 23rd**

**Sunday, December 17:** Norfolk Kollel Chanuka Celebration in Richels Hall at Bnai Israel.

**Tuesday, December 19th:** Last night of Chanuka

**Shabbos, December 23rd:** Kiddush sponsored by Norman & Dottie Slone in memory of Norman's mother, Leah Aronson Slomowitz

**Shabbos, December 23rd:** Shalosh Seudos sponsored by Aaron & Ruth Cohen in memory of Ruth's grandparents: Samuel & Bessie Streen & Ruth's aunt: Sophie (Dodie) Streen

### **Week of December 24th through December 30th**

**Monday, December 25th:** Chasuna of Leah Mostofsky & Eli Krischer, Lakewood, NJ

**Thursday, December 28th:** Asara B'Teves (Fast Day)

**Shabbos, December 30th:** Shalosh Seudos Sheva Brachos - Leah & Eli in Richels Hall at Bnai Israel

### **Week of December 31st through January 6th**

**Sunday, December 31st:** Chasuna of Herb Zukerman & Bina Kreiger.

### **Week of January 7th through January 13th**

**Sunday, January 7th:** Chasuna of Chana Brooke & Avi Horowitz, Lakewood, NJ

**Shabbos, January 13th:** Shalosh Seudos Sheva Brachos - Chana & Avi in Richels Hall at Bnai Israel

### **Week of January 14th through January 20th**

**Sunday, January 14th:** Bina High School play at Maury High School

**Friday, January 19th:** Annual Bina High School Friday night dinner

### **Week of January 21st through January 27th**

**Shabbos, January 27th:** Kiddush by Rabbi Gavriel & Malka Rudin in honor of their daughter, Rivka Reva (Rivi)

## **RABBI SHTEINMAN, HUMBLE GIANT** **SERVING GOD AND THE JEWISH PEOPLE FOR 104 FULL YEARS.**

based on an article by Rabbi Shraga Simmons

*December 12, 2017 – Rabbi Aharon Yehuda Leib Shteinman, the leader of Torah Jewry, passed away today at the age of 104. An estimated 600,000 people attended the funeral, held on short notice. Note: Although Rav Shteinman asked that articles not be written about him, Rav Chaim Kanievsky, Shlita approved articles such as the one below.*

Visiting the small apartment on Chazon Ish Street in Bnei Brak, Israel, one could be excused from failing to identify this as the home of a global leader. Stucco-cement, simple plastered walls, unfinished wood cabinets – and rows of floor-to-ceiling bookshelves filled with Torah commentaries.

Yet here, in an office that doubled as his bedroom, Rabbi Shteinman received visitors from every stream of Jewish life – educators seeking guidance on curriculum; politicians formulating key legislation; schoolchildren tested on their studies.

The door to his home was always open. No problem was too trivial for him, and people came from around the world to line up outside his door – sometimes waiting hours – to speak with him. Legend has former Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak jumping through the window to bypass the crowds.

Rabbi Shteinman authored 15 volumes of commentaries on the Talmud, plus a series on the Five Books of Moses, all under the title *Ayelet Hashachar*. He was a highly-sought expert on education, and author of *Leading with Love: Guidance for Our Generation*.

### **Sage Advice**

Rabbi Shteinman was born in 1913 near the Polish-Lithuanian border. Just prior to World War Two and faced with forced induction into the Polish Army, he fled to Switzerland. He eventually landed in a refugee labor camp, and was the only member of his family to survive the war; both his parents, and all five brothers, were killed during the Holocaust.

He arrived in Israel in the early 1950s, and for six decades slept on the original plank-board and thin mattress issued by the Jewish Agency. For the next six decades, he led various Torah institutions, including Gaon Yaakov, the yeshiva he founded in Bnei Brak.

Rabbi Shteinman had a vastly broad perspective that comes from living across multiple generations and traveling the world. But his most important asset was having plumbed the depths of millennia of Jewish wisdom – which he then extracted expert on everything from education to parenting, diplomacy to spirituality.

### **Torah Leadership**

In contrast to the Western style of choosing leaders – often a self-aggrandizing popularity contest between egocentrics – Rabbi Shteinman was chosen with no elections, campaigning, or brash publicity antics. He became leader based on his deep humility, compassion, respect for God, and commitment to serve – with no thought to personal compensation or glorification. He served with no salary, no palatial office, no private jet, and no term of office – maintaining his position solely on the people's trust.



When it came to Torah study, Rabbi Shteinman was a purist. He defined "yeshiva" as not simply a place for high-level Torah study, but as a safe haven free of forces antithetical to Torah. Particularly in the digital age, where negative influence is impervious to physical barriers, he believed that the best protection is unswerving commitment to Torah values.

Rabbi Shteinman was a role model for anyone trying to steer clear of the many trappings and pitfalls of a modern lifestyle. When Israeli Ambassador to Japan, Nissim Ben Shitrit, visited Rabbi Shteinman's small and humble apartment, he astonishingly remarked: "I've never seen anything like it."

On weekdays, his entire daily food intake was one cucumber, one boiled potato, and few spoons of oatmeal. Rabbi Shteinman had trained his body to desire food only for pure motives – to keep his body healthy – without a drop of hedonism. On Shabbat, he ate different foods in honor of the holy day. When he was offered delicacies as a guest, he obliged by eating half a grape.

Rabbi Shteinman typically sat on a wooden bench with no back. He used various techniques to stay awake for long hours and study. Over the years, many people offered to upgrade his accommodations, but Rabbi Shteinman always refused, insisting that he has precisely what he needs and no more.

## **Travels**

In 2005, Rabbi Shteinman announced he was travelling the world to strengthen those Jewish communities geographically removed from the great Torah centers. He did so out of a great sense of responsibility, in keeping with the important Jewish tradition of leaders "travelling from place to place" (Midrash – Eliyahu Rabba 11). Though his students and doctor tried to dissuade this arduous trek, Rabbi Shteinman replied: "It is not up to the doctor. It's up to God, and if He wants it, nothing is too difficult."

Rabbi Shteinman's iron will prevailed over his frail body, and these trips continued – to Mexico City, Los Angeles, Montreal, Buenos Aires, Berlin – until his 100th birthday.

On these travels, the frail Rabbi Shteinman would sometimes visit 4 cities and deliver 10 speeches – in one day! Once, after collapsing from exhaustion, and in the face of doctors' orders to cancel the rest of his trip, Rabbi Shteinman declared: "As long as God allows me, I will continue what I came to do."

In Lakewood, New Jersey, 15,000 people came to greet Rabbi Shteinman. When he visited Gibraltar – a Jewish community that numbers just 600 – 700 people showed up to see the rabbi. The community declared a holiday and all Jewish businesses closed down. If a Torah scroll is welcomed with great fanfare, they reasoned, all the more should we honor a living Torah.

During his trip to Ukraine, the streets surrounding the synagogue were filled with hundreds of people at 4:30 a.m., hurrying to join Rabbi Shteinman's sunrise service. The rabbi's ability to generate such enthusiasm in a community that not long ago had trouble putting together a minyan.

In preparing for his first foreign excursion, Rabbi Shteinman had to choose between two candidates to accompany him. He asked each to describe their motivation for travelling abroad. One said he wanted to witness huge crowds honoring Rabbi Shteinman and the

Torah. The other candidate said his main motivation was sight-seeing. Rabbi Shteinman chose the second person – though his motivation was less "lofty" – Rabbi Shteinman felt he was being more honest.

On a visit to the United States, Rabbi Shteinman was asked why America, alone among the great historical powers, had been largely spared foreign invasion. He ascribed it to an ethos of kindness and compassion (Malchut Shel Chesed) which, he added, is America's best shield moving forward.

With his inspiring global travels, Rabbi Shteinman fulfilled the words of Rabbeinu Yona (Sha'arey Teshuva 3:147) describing the effect of greeting Torah leaders: "Sleeping hearts will reawaken when they see the splendor of honoring Torah and recognize its grandeur. This will cause a great thirst for Torah, and desire to serve God wholeheartedly."

Indeed, the people of one community formed a group to undertake communal projects which had been previously rejected as too difficult or time-consuming, "If Rabbi Shteinman can do it, so can we," they said

### **Living on a Miracle**

Not long ago, a young doctor said to Rabbi Shteinman: "You're living on a miracle." Non-plussed, the rabbi replied: "You are also living on a miracle."

This is how Rabbi Shteinman lived: with clarity that the future of the Jewish people is predicated on Torah, and with complete trust in God. During a wave of rocket attacks from Gaza in 2012, he said: "There are dangerous threats every moment, and if God would not protect us, there would be complete chaos... God wants our prayers, so He tries to shake us up however He can, so that people will start to pray."

Israeli President Reuven Rivlin said that Rabbi Shteinman "bore the entire weight of the Jewish people's existence on his shoulders... Despite his firm positions, he knew how to convey his ideas gently, in a pleasant manner, and with a great love of the Jewish people... He was a man whose wisdom was exceeded only by his humility."

Rabbi Shteinman inspired an entire nation that we are truly a "nation of priests and a holy nation. It is now our obligation, to honor Rabbi Shteinman's memory, by living up to those responsibilities.

This article can also be read at: <http://www.aish.com/jw/s/Rabbi-Shteinman-Humble-Giant.html>