

Yidden Yearning for Yeshuos Travel to Liska for Tal Chaim's, Zt"l, Yahrtzeit

BAIS LISKA

The concept of visiting the *tziyun* of a *tzaddik* on his *yahrtzeit* to beseech for *yeshuos* has been a hallmark from time immemorial.

The Tal Chaim of Liska, *zt"l*, son-in-law and successor of Harav Tzvi Hirsh of Liska, *zt"l*, was the author of *Ach Pri Tevuah*. He was renowned throughout Hungary as a *gaon* of epic proportions and a *masmid* who was engrossed in learning Torah 24 hours a day. His *chiddushim* on the *sugyas haShas*, published under the name *Tal Chaim U'vrachah*, allows for a glimpse into his vast and sharp knowledge and is indicative of the Torah scholar that he was.

Over the past several years, there have been several incredible, firsthand accounts of individuals who traveled to Liska, Hungary, to *daven* at the holy *tziyun* of the Tal Chaim of Liska and who merited *yeshuos*. This has prompted a group to be organized in honor of his 115th *yahrtzeit* upcoming on 9 Iyar/May 14.

Renowned also for his piety and asceticism, the Tal Chaim was famous for not being able to differentiate between the various coins of the Hungarian currency. He once remarked, when it was brought to his attention that the "red" coin was more valuable than the "blue" coin, that red is *middas hadin* and blue is *middas harachamim*; hence it should be the opposite.

The Tal Chaim's *hasmadah* in Torah learning was legendary; every second was dedicated to the *amkus* of being *mechadesh chiddushei Torah*, coupled by extreme humility, to the point of limiting his accessibility.

An interesting anecdote that highlights his *hisbatlus* is worth mentioning. A man who lived near Liska found himself in Munkatch and went to the Darkei Teshuvah, requesting a *brachah*. Upon inquiring where he was from, the Darkei Teshuvah asked the man why he hadn't gone to see the Tal Chaim, who lived closer to him.

He replied that the Tal Chaim rarely interrupts his Torah learning to see people and held himself unworthy of giving *brachos*. The Darkei Teshuvah told him that



Tziyun of Tal Chaim of Liska, *zt"l*, in the *ohel* in Liska, Hungary.

when he returns to Liska, he should go to the Liska Rav and relay, in the Darkei Teshuvah's name, that he should "open his doors to receive people and that he is worthy to be a *poel yeshuos*."

The Tal Chaim's son and successor, known as the Shaarei Hayosher, once recalled that the Belzer Rav, Harav Yehoshua, *zy"ta*, to whom the Tal Chaim traveled to, secluded himself in private with his father for many hours, discussing the intricacies of *Toras haKabbalah*.

When the Tal Chaim was pressed to reveal the contents of his discussion with the Belzer Rav, he replied, "This is precisely why the Belzer Rav is talking with me; he knows that it will remain confidential." In later years,

the Tal Chaim and his son confirmed that the Belzer Rav had wanted to discuss with his father *Toras hanistar*.

In fact, the Belzer Rav once referred to the Tal Chaim as "the Hungarian *Lamed-Vav*." Once, during a *tisch*, he took the Tal Chaim's plate and mixed the contents with those of his own plate, mixing the two portions and then distributing *shirayim*, which was symbolic of his deep respect for him.

He was *niftar* on 9 Iyar 5664/1904. It is related that at the time before his *petirah*, there was a change in the political climate of Hungary as well as a worsening of the economy with harsh ramifications for the *tzibbur*. The Rebbe went to the *beis medrash* and led heartfelt *tefillos*; he offered himself as a *korban tzibbur* if this terrible verdict could be averted.

The following week, as the Rebbe was eating, a piece of food got lodged in his throat and he choked. In the merit of his self-sacrifice, the terrible tragedy against the Jews had been averted.

Before the *levayah*, it was discovered that there was no room in the *ohel* of his father-in-law, the Ach Pri Tevuah, for him to be buried. A *minyán* of prominent Rabbanim, including his son and successor Harav Tzvi Hirsh, went to *daven* at the *kever* of the Ach Pri Tevuah and requested that he should make room for his son-in-law.

When they returned, an open *nes* occurred and the walls surrounding the *kever* literally moved. To this very day, one can still see that the *tziyun* of the Tal Chaim is connected to the wall of the *ohel* in Liska.

Lichvod the *yahrtzeit* there is an opportunity to connect with "this *tzaddik* who was one with the Torah" on the special trip to Liska and to various *kivrei tzaddikim* throughout Hungary, that is being organized by Go Gold Tours for May 12-14, 48 hours that will, *b'ezras Hashem*, bring forth *yeshuos* for *Klal Yisrael* and for the individual.

For details pertaining to the itinerary please contact: 718-473-9867 x 8 or via email at: Europe@gogoldny.com.

Chai Lifeline Provides Crisis Intervention and Support in Poway Family of Mrs. Lori Gilbert-Kaye establishes Chai Lifeline Memorial Fund

CHAILIFELINE STAFF

Chai Lifeline mourns the tragic loss of Mrs. Lori Gilbert Kaye, *Hy"t*, who was murdered in the horrific April 27 attack at Chabad of Poway Synagogue, and prays for the speedy recovery of all those injured.

"Chai Lifeline stands in solidarity with the Jewish community of San Diego during this difficult time and we express our heartfelt condolences to the families and loved ones of all impacted," said Rabbi Simcha Scholar, chief executive officer of Chai Lifeline. "This heinous act of violence and anti-Semitism has shaken our community, and we encourage anyone in need to avail themselves of Chai Lifeline's resources."

In the immediate aftermath of the shooting, guidelines were issued by Project Chai, the crisis intervention, trauma and bereavement department of Chai Lifeline, offering helpful tips for addressing children's reactions to the traumatic event.

Within hours of the attack, Rabbi Dr.

Dovid Fox, Project Chai's director of interventions and community education, mobilized his team throughout the Southern California Jewish community, providing crisis intervention and one-on-one counseling.

Dr. Fox and the Project Chai team, along with Rabbi Scholar, met with local community leaders, Rabbis and educators, and consulted with federal and local law enforcement.

"Death, under any circumstance, is a painful and troubling event to face. Willful, hate-filled terrorism, in our cities, in our sacred places which are dedicated to worship and outreach, is beyond horrifying," said Dr. Fox. "When a person has taken the life of another, and when homicide erupts within our community, the impact on us, whether as adults or children, has a discernible and traumatizing impact."

The Poway attack hit close to home for Chai Lifeline. Mrs. Lori Gilbert-Kaye was the beloved sister of Mrs. Randi Grossman, director of Chai Lifeline West Coast. Mrs. Gilbert-Kaye dedicated her life to helping others and was a proud supporter of

many worthy causes, including her sister's important work at Chai Lifeline.

Mrs. Gilbert-Kaye's social media reflects her strong ties to the organization and deep connection with Chai Lifeline's mission of providing social, emotional and financial support to children living with life-threatening or lifelong illnesses and their families.

To honor her memory and in keeping with her legacy of caring for others, Mrs. Gilbert-Kaye's family has established the Lori Gilbert-Kaye *z"l* Memorial Fund at www.chailifeline.org/lori.

Project Chai encourages anyone with questions or concerns to contact crisis@chailifeline.org or 855-3-CRISIS.

Chai Lifeline provides more than 5,800 families around the world with the emotional, social, and financial tools to weather the crises and challenges of life-threatening illnesses, chronic diseases and disabilities. Through two-dozen, free, year-round programs and services delivered through 12 regional offices and international affiliates, Chai Lifeline brings joy and hope to lives impacted by pediatric illness or untimely loss.

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