

WHAT'S HAPPENING

— @ Chabad of Coral Springs

Parshat

Chukat – Balak



Mazal Tov

*Rabbi Yankee & Rebbetzin Chana Sheinberger,
and the entire Sheinberger family
on the engagement of their daughter,
Lieba to Ari Engel of Denver, CO*

AND.....

*on the engagement of their son,
Moshe to Many Gurevitch of Offenbach, Germany*

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*Yigal & Shulamit Bitton*

*on the engagement of their daughter,  
Orit to Ari Rudd*

#### Davening Times & Information

**Friday Candle Lighting:** 7:59 p.m.

**Shabbat Ends:** 8:57 p.m.

**Tzeit Hakoachavim (Friday):** 8:44 p.m.

**Shabbat:** 8:15 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m. & 11 a.m.

**Shabbat Mincha:** 8:00 p.m.

**Sunday:** 8:00a.m., 9:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

**Weekdays:** 6:45 a.m., 7:45 a.m. & 8:45 a.m.

**Mincha & Ma'ariv:** 8:10 p.m.

**Ma'ariv, 2<sup>rd</sup> Minyan:** 9:30 p.m.

**06/28 Earliest Tallis & Tefillin:** 5:44 a.m.

**Latest time for Shma:** 9:55 a.m.

**07/03 Earliest Tallis & Tefillin:** 5:46 a.m.

**Latest time for Shma:** 9:57 a.m.

# TIMELESS TORAH

By: Rabbi Yossie Denburg

## **A SLICE of SACRIFICE**

My mother's generation had their 'youth' stolen. Their experience, the result of a World War thrust upon them, was certainly never agreed to by them. But imagine a loving father doing that to his only son? Also imagine a teen consenting to be robbed of his best years? Yet that is exactly what the Rebbe Rashab (5<sup>th</sup> Lubavitcher Rebbe) and his 15-year-old son both endorsed.

Yosef Yitzchok Schneersohn was a sensitive child, who loved to study and kept a private journal. However, two years after his Bar-Mitzvah his father deputized him to undertake the welfare of Russian Jewry. Suddenly this beardless young man was attending high profile conferences, Rabbinic convocations, and supervising an endless stream of supplicants seeking guidance.

He soon proved himself to be a brilliant administrator with an outstanding talent for organizing communal activities on a grand scale. Three years later, he added another job. He became the first executive director of the flagship Lubavitch Yeshivah, established other satellite branches, and was involved in overseeing the spiritual growth of each student. His energy and ability seemed limitless. Nothing was out of bounds; Jews' economic plight, Jewish soldiers in the Far East, and the political aggressions of the day.

As difficult as life was under the Czars, it took a dramatic turn for the worse under the Communists. The young Rabbi was forced to travel to St. Petersburg and Moscow, to go where Jews were not allowed. His missions were so dangerous that a delegation of Rabbis confronted his father and asked, "*By whose permission do you endanger the young man's life?*" Regardless, Yosef Yitzchak penetrated government offices with impunity to destroy incriminating documents. In fact, he was arrested four times, but as concrete evidence was lacking, he was always released with a stern warning.

After his father passed away (1920) the new Rebbe's far-reaching activities aroused the regime's wrath. Other Rabbis, intimidated, either emigrated or went into hiding. Practically he alone led the fight, a task that required superhuman - indeed, impossible - effort. In his writings, he laments those religious leaders who abandoned their posts, demanding self-sacrifice even at the cost of life. Read between his lines, and the distinct impression one gets is that he himself did not expect to live very long. He became a one-man army.

But an army requires two things: money and men. For the first, he appealed to world Jewry for funds, pulling back the Iron Curtain to reveal the abject poverty of Russia's Jews. As for men, he turned to his former students from the Lubavitch Yeshiva. They were conscripted. They became underground teachers, incognito Rabbis and anonymous *Mohelim* (those who perform

circumcisions). My grandfather was one of those masked soldiers for G-d. His oldest child (my father) was his first *Bris* as there was no other *Mohel* available. Three hundred plus babies later the Communists caught up with him. He went on the run and would die with his son not present. These unsung warriors were sent all over Russia. Very few survived.

Consequently, the Rebbe established hundreds of clandestine small study groups and Mikvahs, committees to help Jewish workers who wished to observe Shabbos and sent secret *Shluchim* (agents) to the most remote Jewish communities. He even organized Yeshivos in Poland and formed the Agudas Chasidei Chabad of the US and Canada.

His position was now even more perilous, and the government was determined to stop him. His struggle came to a head in 1927, when the Rebbe was arrested (for the 7<sup>th</sup> time), placed in solitary confinement under the worst conditions, tortured and sentenced to death. Thankfully, his global fame and prestige in defying the Communists generated an unlikely coalition of international public and government figures who pressured the Communists into commuting his death sentence and ultimately releasing him. Among them were Mordechai Dubin, an influential member of the Latvian Parliament, (Russia desperately needed Latvian trade) Louis Brandeis of the U.S. Supreme Court and Senator William Borah, Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee who applied immense behind-the-scenes pressure. Even Calvin Coolidge, the U.S. President appealed on the Rebbe's behalf.

Russia capitulated and released the Rebbe on his 47<sup>th</sup> birthday, the 12<sup>th</sup> of Tammuz. But now he was used as bait. Anyone who contacted him was arrested, sent to the Gulags or executed, and their families harshly punished. Recognizing the trap, he requested permission to leave Russia. In 1929, he visited Israel and America. The crowds that welcomed him garnered such publicity that President Hoover received him at the White House.

At the outbreak of World War II, the Rebbe refused every opportunity to leave the inferno of Warsaw until he had taken care of his students and Chassidim. Another unlikely pair once again saved the Rebbe. Admiral Wilhelm Canaris, head of the *Abwehr* (the German military intelligence) ordered his agents to locate and safely escort the Rebbe to Berlin, and then to Latvia. Using back channels, the U.S. State Department arranged the second part of his journey to New York.

During the ten years of his leadership in America, his influence and accomplishments transformed the Jewish landscape. Though he did not physically oversee the founding of Chabad of Coral Springs, he created its possibility. In fact, I am named after him, and this Shabbos marks 100 years since that original 12<sup>th</sup> of Tammuz.

This is but a small slice of the sacrifices he made his entire life. Thankfully, our battles are different. Then we required courageous Jews willing to accept death in the wake of Communism. Today, we need proud Jews willing to live religiously in the wake of Capitalism. *Suffering and giving up everything, no. Offering and giving it all, yes.*



# Tarah and Tea

A Learning Group for Women

*Eishes Chayil: The Women of Our History*

Tuesdays 10:45 A.M.  
at the Yaras Home

9406 NW 37<sup>th</sup> CT - in Brokenwoods



Babies Welcome!



3925 N. University Dr. Coral Springs, FL 33065  
CoralSpringsChabad.org 954-344-4855  
Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
Mobile door access inactive during office hours.

