

LUBAVITCH OF N. C.

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Thoughts From The Lubavitcher Rebbe

Yud-Tess Kislev

By Rabbi Yossi Groner

During this month we celebrate the Chassidic festival of Yud-Tess Kislev, commemorating the liberation from Czarist prison of Rabbi Schneur Zalman of Liadi, on the nineteenth day of the Hebrew month of Kislev. Rabbi Zalman, who founded the Chabad-Lubavitch movement, was a disciple of the successor of the Baal Shem Tov.

The historic day of Yud-Tess Kislev was more than a personal triumph for Rabbi Schneur Zalman. In regaining his freedom to continue his teaching and work, he gained a victory for the entire Chassidic movement which had been threatened with suppression and extinction.

Rabbi Zalman was the chief exponent of the teachings of the Baal Shem Tov, who founded the Chassidic movement about a half century earlier. It was for this reason that he was made the chief target of attack by the opponents of Chassidism, and his redemption brought salvation to the numerous followers of the Baal Shem Tov and the Jewish people as a whole.

One of the great achievements of the Baal Shem Tov is that he revealed the true nature of the Jew. While he dedicated his life to the spreading of the Torah and its commandments in the fullest measure, he never despaired of any Jew, no matter how overshadowed his Judaism may have been.

The Baal Shem Tov taught, and Rabbi Schneur Zalman expounded, that the Jew was essentially, by his very nature, incorruptible and inseparable from G-d; that no "Jew is either able or willing to detach himself from G-dliness."

The Baal Shem Tov introduced a new brotherly relationship between Jew and Jew, based on the inner meaning of "Have we not all one Father?" By the personal ex-

ample of his own dedicated work, he taught us what our attitude and approach to our fellow Jews should be. Starting out as an assistant "Melamed" (teacher of small children), he took tender care of little children and teaching them the prayer "Shma Yisroel," blessings and other simple prayers.

At the same time he revealed to the maturer minds of his great disciples some of the profound teachings of the Inner Torah the 'Kabbala' and the true way to serve G-d with heart and mind. This profound philosophy found its systematic expression and exposition in Chabad Chassidism.

Nowadays more than ever, it is the duty and privilege of every Jew to help educate Jewish children; "children" in the literal sense, in age and children in knowledge of Judaism.

As the Lubavitcher Rebbe Shlita, Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson said: "A person's years are not to be measured by his birth certificate. An elder of 70 years may, in truth, be like a baby without knowledge!"

In a true sense, a person's education is not confined to the schoolbench; it must continue throughout his life, to become wiser and better every day. Thus, one must be a student and teacher at the same time, and in both cases success depends on mutual affection, or true 'Ahavas Yisroel' — Love of a fellow Jew.

Preschool and Day School Host Expo

Lubavitch Preschool and Day School will host a spectacular Children's Expo on Sunday, November 13 at the Chabad House. The entire school will be open to visitors with a variety of entertaining and educational activities. Parents are encouraged to bring their youngsters to join in the fun and learning. They will participate in challah baking, creative movement, arts and crafts, storytelling, music and much more.

Each teacher will have a full range of programs catering to the 2-year-old up to the first-grader. The latest in Jewish educational toys and will be on display at the school.

This will provide an opportunity for parents to meet with teachers and see for themselves the unique program Lubavitch offers to its students.

Susan Doobrow, kindergarten teacher, and Chanie Weiss, Judaica teacher, will have their special display in the new modular building adjacent to the Chabad House. These new classrooms provide the perfect environment for the best in Jewish and secular education.

Fern Sanderson and Debbi Maslov will make use of the classrooms in the Chabad House with the best in preschool education. Terry Tucker, afternoon teacher, will display her crafts which enthrall the children in a most spectacular way. Terry also has done wonders with the children in her music and dance class.



Terry Tucker involves her students during story time.



Learning all about Succoth: Chanie Weiss and Jason Rosenberg.

Photo/Debbie Burks



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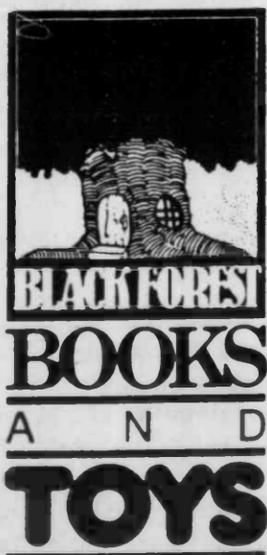
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For more information, please call us at
Lubavitch of North Carolina at 366-3984