

Feb. 8, 2015

To Our Beloved Membership,

I am writing all of you to follow up on the ground breaking world wide Adopt-A-Kollel program that we launched yesterday in Shul.

The goal of this project is for every shul around the world to adopt a Kollel in Eretz Yisroel and underwrite a portion of the Kollel's budget. In this way, we share their burden, show we care and help alleviate their immense financial pressures.

For those of you who were not in Shul yesterday, let me share this incredible story: The friends and family of Meir Volk, z'tl recently gathered together to mark the 'sheloshim' (thirtieth day) since his untimely death. His family and friends were joined by the avreichim (scholars) of the kollel of the Gadol Hador and Rosh Yeshivah, R Aron Leib Shteinman, shlita, for a seudas mitzvah. Friends and avreichim of the kollel had learned the entire Mishnayos for the benefit of R' Meir's soul.

After the siyum was completed, the discussion at the seudah centered around the unique agreement which R' Shteinman had signed with R' Meir shortly before the latter's death. R' Meir had agreed to donate a significant amount of money to R' Shteinman's kollel in exchange for a signed agreement of partnership in R' Shteinman's portion of Olam Haba (World to Come). R' Shteinman was hesitant at first to sign this agreement, but ultimately agreed to sign a contract sharing his portion of Olam Haba which he would receive in the merit of the kollel.

R' Avraham Pecter, who is in charge of financing the kollel, and had arranged the contract, later discovered how valuable the contract had been to R' Meir. After R' Meir's death, R' Pecter met R' Meir's friends and associates from Chutz Leeret, who described the value and esteem with which R' Meir had viewed the contract. One of his close friends said in a eulogy that **the day after the contract was signed, R' Meir called and told him about it. He had said, "I made the greatest deal of my life. I can die in peace because I'm confident that I have a share in Olam Haba."** At that point, no one was aware of how soon these words would come true.

R' Shteinman at a different venue later told over an awesome story which invoked fear and trembling in all who heard it. R' Shteinman prefaced the story by saying that he felt it was necessary for them to hear it order to understand that this agreement of partnership was not an imaginary deal. **He said that after his death, R' Meir appeared to him in a dream, and revealed that this contract of partnership was the only thing which saved him from the harsh judgment of the heavenly tribunal.**

Let us be inspired to support those who dedicate their lives for the study of our holy Torah, who are dedicating their lives to preserve the "National Treasure."

Yours truly,



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