



והענין  
chazara,  
chazara,  
chazara,  
and then?  
CHAZARA!

שמחת התורה  
ט' ניסן תשע"ו

# SIMCHAS HATORAH

By C.B. Weinfeld

## *in the Atrium*

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נגיל ונשיש ביאת התורה כי היא לנו עוז ואורח  
והענין  
chazara, chazara, and then?  
CHAZARA!

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO A  
שמחת התורה  
קניין המסכתות מתיקנות  
THROUGH CONSTANT חזרה

*Program.*

2:45 PM מנחה  
3:00 PM רציפות סדר  
WITH 500 BOCHURIM  
5:30 PM HARAV EPHRAIM WACHSMAN שליט"א  
6:00 PM נגיל ונשיש  
WITH SHLOIME DASKAL  
8:00 PM GRAND SIYUM  
HARAV MOSHE B. NEWMAN שליט"א  
ZALMAN BROWN נ"י  
HARAV CHAIM N. SEGAL שליט"א  
MOSHE FORDSHAM נ"י  
HARAV YAAKOV BENDER שליט"א  
ELISHA LOEB נ"י  
9:00 PM KUMZITZ  
WITH R' BARUCH LEVINE  
& R' EITAN KATZ  
11:00 PM מעריב

ט' ניסן תשע"ו •  
SUNDAY APRIL 17, 2016 •  
ATRIUM PLAZA • 401 ROUTE 59, MONSEY, NEW YORK

IT'S HARD TO DANCE WITH PASSION AND FIRE when there's something precious nestled in your hands.

But when that something is your Gemara, over which you've sweated all zman, you could well be floating on air.

As I stood mesmerized at the Atrium Plaza, the over 700 bochurim who celebrated a grand siyum masechta seemed to be floating as they hugged their Gemaros closer, dancing with their beloved rabbeim who had made it all possible. The twelve-piece band and delectable hot dishes were a backdrop to the true simchas hatorah, the affirmation of the special bond between each bochur and his Gemara.

It was the Sunday before Pesach, the first Sunday of bein hazmanim, a perfect day to celebrate the milestone that transformed their lives. Thanks to the V'haarev Na program, which is catching on like wildfire, these yeshiva bochurim, from over thirty yeshivos across the New York tri-state area, Detroit, Miami, Cleveland, Montreal, and Toronto, have learned to love to learn.

Watching these bochurim, aflame with joy as they cradled their beloved Gemaros, and later as they stood on the dais for the siyum, it was obvious this was the real deal.

Images of a yeshiva bochur huddled over his Gemara late into the night while the rest of the world is asleep, humming a blissful niggun,



are part of our mesorah. Whether serving in the Russian army, huddled in the trenches under enemy fire, or in the horrific conditions of the ghetto, yeshiva bochurim have clung to their source of strength.

Nowadays, we live in an era of relative peace and calm, when kol Torah is proliferating, and yeshivos and botei medrash are flourishing in every corner of the world. That doesn't mean the yetzer hora is out of work. To the contrary; there are more distractions than ever. Making one's learning a part of the neshomah is key to becoming a ben Torah.

This may seem to come naturally for the metzuyonim in every yeshiva. But what of the average or above average bochurim? What of the thousands of boys going through the system, learning by rote, waiting for shiur to be over? Is there a way to transform boys who have to learn into boys who want to learn?

Rabbi Dovid Newman, a beloved mesivta rebbi in Monsey, is proof that it is not only possible, but natural. Once a boy has tasted the sweetness of the Torah, sweeter than all the pleasures of this world, he is naturally addicted to the joy of learning. He doesn't need prizes or motivations. As Rabbi Avigdor Miller famously said, when asked why some boys daydream while learning, "Nobody daydreams while eating ice cream!"

When the Torah becomes sweet as ice cream, the distractions simply melt away.

When Rabbi Newman, a musmach of the Yeshiva of Staten Island (where his father, Rav Moshe Boruch Newman, is a rebbi), began his teaching career, he realized that a large percentage of yeshiva bochurim were merely coasting along, learning by rote, without a cheishek or bren.

"These boys really wanted to want to learn, but they hadn't yet tasted the sweetness of learning," Rabbi Newman explained. "I wished there was a way for the Torah

to enter their bones, to become a part of their neshomah."

When Rabbi Newman was a bochur, hearing stories of gedolei Yisroel and their mesiras nefesh for Torah gave him the desire. But that only works for a bochur who is already intrinsically motivated. Here's the million-dollar question: how can one make this happen?

The answer was breathtaking in its simplicity. The rebbi doesn't have to do anything to make it happen. It's enough to allow the Torah to work its way into the bochurim's hearts.

But this can only happen if a bochur achieves ownership of the Gemara, if the words of the Gemara become a part and parcel of his being.

Rabbi Newman's mantra, echoed by hundreds of bochurim, is "Chazara, chazara, chazara, and then? More chazara!"

To achieve this goal, Rabbi Newman created the V'haarev Na program, focusing on giving the boys the ta'am of learning, until it entered their bones.

Vhaarev Na, the tefillah we say every morning, begging our Father to allow the sweetness of Torah to permeate our bones, isn't just the title of a catchy new program.

It really works.

Thousands of bochurim who were merely going through the motions are now learning overtime. They learn after seder, late at night, early in the morning, on planes and trains, and during summer vacation.

They don't learn because they have to. They learn because they want to.

From the first day of every new zman, the bochurim embark upon a journey of growth and ownership. They are each given a masechta, such as Sukkah, Ta'anis, or Brochos, which will become "theirs" over the course of the zman. The boys make a kabbolah about how many dafim they will review each day, regardless of what else is happening in their lives.

## When the Torah becomes sweet as ice cream, the distractions simply melt away.

Photos by Shmuel Heineman Photography

**Join hundreds of Bochorim who pledge (בני נדר) to review every day over פסח בין חזרות!**

**2 Blatt**  
☐ 1x Daily (34 Blatt) ☐ 2x Daily (68 Blatt)

**3 Blatt**  
☐ 1x Daily (51 Blatt) ☐ 2x Daily (102 Blatt)

<input type="checkbox"/> Sunday April 17	<input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday April 20	<input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday April 26
<input type="checkbox"/> Monday April 18	<input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday April 21	<input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday April 27
<input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday April 19	<input type="checkbox"/> Thursday April 22	<input type="checkbox"/> Thursday April 28
<input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday April 20	<input type="checkbox"/> Friday April 23	<input type="checkbox"/> Friday April 29
<input type="checkbox"/> Thursday April 21	<input type="checkbox"/> Shabbos April 24	<input type="checkbox"/> Shabbos April 30
<input type="checkbox"/> Friday April 22	<input type="checkbox"/> Shabbos April 25	<input type="checkbox"/> Shabbos May 1
<input type="checkbox"/> Shabbos April 23	<input type="checkbox"/> Sunday April 26	<input type="checkbox"/> Sunday May 2
<input type="checkbox"/> Sunday April 24	<input type="checkbox"/> Monday April 27	<input type="checkbox"/> Monday May 3
<input type="checkbox"/> Monday April 25	<input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday April 28	<input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday May 4

Please submit your **קבלה** before 10:30 pm tonight to be entered into a raffle to be drawn before **מעריב** for 10 winners, each receiving **\$100!**

**DISCONNECT IN ORDER TO CONNECT!**  
**TO THE "שמחת התורה"**  
**POWER OFF YOUR PHONE!**



3 HOUR  
ליופון סדר  
WITH 700 BOCHURIM

They are encouraged to write footnotes, thousands of them, in the margins of their Gemaros, and to review their blatt every day, until they know it in their dreams. Once the words of the Gemara flow smoothly, the Torah enters their kishkes. The boys are relentlessly driven as they work toward their goal of making a siyum by the end of the zman.

Aside from the tremendous diligence, it develops a bridge for the bochurim to yearn for the iyun of the Gemara, and to be koneh larger masechtos in Shas.

As the zman continues and the words of the Gemara become ever sweeter, the mesiras nefesh of these boys is awe-inspiring to witness. Rabbi Newman recounted several powerful examples during his emotional address.

One of the bochurim making a siyum was in the middle of a dental procedure, and the Novocain wasn't working. To dull the incredible pain, he reviewed two blatt of Gemara ba'al peh while his teeth were being fixed.

Another bochur was on a ski trip during bein hazmanim. He was going up the mountain when non-Jewish teenagers in the cable car began using crude language. The boy was trapped with nowhere to escape, except into his sugya. For the rest of his way up to the summit, he reviewed his Gemara, blocking the nivul peh from his mind.

The culmination of this zman was the Simchas HaTorah at the Atrium Plaza, a celebration that began at 3:00 p.m. with three hours of learning, continued with dancing, a grand siyum, and culminated in a late night kumzits.

Over seven hundred bochurim gathered with their rabbeim, learning a retzifos seder in the chupah room. This was followed by an inspirational address delivered by Rav Ephraim Wachsmann, who depicted the nachas ruach taking place in shomayim.

The bochurim then entered the large ballroom, where a twelve-piece band serenaded them in song and dance. As Rabbi Newman stressed in his inspirational speech, "Why such a simcha? Why such a celebration? Why a twelve-piece band? This is not a chasunah, some might say. You're right, it's not a typical chasunah, rather a chasunah between Yisroel and Avinu shebashomayim through the Torah.

"Rav Shmuel Kamenetsky, Rav Yisroel Dovid Schlesinger, and other gedolim advised that such a celebration should be more lavish than a regular chasunah!"

After the spirited dancing wound down, the boys enjoyed a lavish fleishig dinner, followed by more dancing. Then came the culmination of months of learning and reviewing, the grand siyum.

In his address to his beloved bochurim, Rabbi Dovid Newman called this celebration a kiyum of the first parshah of Krias Shema, as ahavas Hashem is achieved through intense study of His Torah.

"There is a bochur here who gave me a calendar, four years ago, of how he will finish maseches sukkah 101 times in eight and a half years by reviewing two blatt a day. Tonight he will be making his 51st siyum! What I'm nispoel from is not the number, rather from the fact that he never missed a day of chazara, including on motzoei Tishah B'Av in camp on his bunk bed, after waking

up and realizing that he had forgotten to review!" Rabbi Newman declared to resounding applause.

He then related several moving stories of mesiras nefesh for Gemara, quoting from letters that bochurim across the United States wrote.

"Getting up after a four hour retzifos seder, feeling on such a high. I hope never to come down from such a high again."

"I used to enjoy snowboarding more than anything else in the world, until I tasted the taste of a blatt Gemara in the bones!"

*There wasn't a dry eye as the beloved rebbi, flanked by over 200 mesaymim, said the hadran and kaddish, with cries of mazel tov echoing through the crowd.*



“Learning was so difficult for me in the past. Now that it is clear, with constant chazara, I enjoy every moment.”

“My emunah and tefillah are so much better, now that I feel connected to Hashem.”

There wasn't a dry eye as the beloved rebbi, flanked by over 200 mesaymim, said the hadran and kaddish, with cries of mazel tov echoing through the crowd. Many bochurim were sobbing openly, overcome with emotion.

Rav Moshe Boruch Newman, Rabbi Dovid Newman's illustrious father, then delivered a stirring address; followed by Rav Chaim Nosson Segal, Director of Community Development and Outreach for Torah Umesorah; and Rav Yaakov Bender, rosh yeshiva of Yeshiva Darchei Torah.

Three of the mesayimim, Zalman Brown of Brooklyn, Moshe Fordsham of Toronto, and Elisha Loeb of Monsey, described the impact of the V'haarev Na program on their lives.

As Zalman expressed, "When you're sitting on a bus and two strangers start talking about one of your close friends, your ears perk up. 'That's my friend!' You feel a sense of ownership. That's how I feel about the Gemara Sukkah. I've made a siyum 26 times. Whenever I'm in shiur and the rebbi mentions something from Sukkah, I perk up. That's my masechta, my friend!"

Moshe Fordsham described his experience on Shavuot night when he was in the eleventh grade, and somehow didn't feel turned on. His rebbi urged him to stay up, to review seventeen blatt he did not

know. He pushed himself and did it, but felt nothing.

The following year, with the V'haarev Na program, he was koneh Maseches Sotah, making eight siyumim on the 49 blatt! That Shavuot, the learning was part of his neshomah. As his rebbi admitted, "It's not about learning the seventeen blatt that you don't know, but about the one blatt that you do know. It's not the quantity, it's the quality."

Elisha Loeb attested that the transition from high school to beis medrash was made so much easier, after knowing that he could achieve the impossible.

The final highlight took place at the end of the program, when the bochurim made their pledges for this bein hazmanaim. There was a box full of kabbolos, with the average bochur promising to review bli neder four blatt every day, with an average of 68 blatt throughout bein hazmanaim. Multiply that by 700 and you have an astounding number: 47,600 blatt Gemara in total. Can you put a price tag on the nachas ruach being given to the Ribono Shel Olam?

The evening ended with a moving kumzits, headed by Baruch Levine and Eitan Katz, who sung a special song composed especially for this event. Then the bochorim headed for their homes to help their mothers prepare for Pesach and to make good on the kabbolos, one blatt “in their bones” at a time.

**"It's not about learning the seventeen blatt that you don't know, but about the one blatt that you do know. It's not the quantity, it's the quality."**





וזה עת  
...RA, AND THEN? CHAZARAI



סיום





# Vhaarev Na

They lift him on their shoulders  
And bring him to the cheder,  
Where he licks the honey off the letters  
of the aleph-bais,  
And with tears they pray to Heaven  
for their precious little gem,  
May the Torah always be this sweet  
Vhaarev Na Hashem

But as the boy grows older, and Gemara leads his day  
That passion for his Torah learning slowly fades away  
For he struggles with each sugya, and he tires from despair  
If Gemara is so challenging, does it even pay to care

**Chorus:**  
*Vhaarev Na Hashem, make it sweet for us again  
Like the honey that we tasted years before  
Because each word is ours to own  
Until we feel it in our bones  
And we'll want to keep on learning more and more*

*Vhaarev Na Hashem, Oy Vhaarev Na Hashem  
So Your Torah will forever pierce the heart  
Be mesayem and return  
To the words we love to learn  
For we never feel complete when we're apart*

A tiny ray of hope soon begins to show  
When his Rebbe says Chazara is the key to help you grow  
To gain clarity and cheishek,  
You must constantly review  
And you'll love to learn Gemara  
when the words speak back to you

With chazara of his learning,  
His spirit is revived  
As the words of Torah penetrate and slowly come alive

His excitement is rekindled  
And he's shteiging with his peers  
He can finally feel that passion that was  
lost for all those years

**Chorus:**  
*Vhaarev Na Hashem, make it sweet for us again  
Like the honey that we tasted years before  
Because each word is ours to own  
Until we feel it in our bones  
And we'll want to keep on learning more and more*

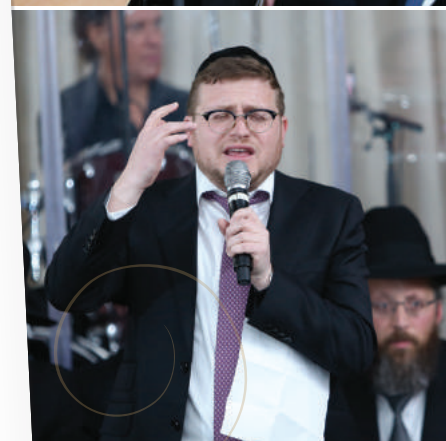
*Vhaarev Na Hashem, Oy Vhaarev Na Hashem  
So Your Torah will forever pierce the heart  
Be mesayem and return  
To the words we love to learn  
For we never feel complete when we're apart*

Oh the power that we share  
As words of Torah fill the air  
Could you imagine that we'd ever come this far  
And the nachas that we'll see  
Might have never come to be  
If we didn't know how capable we are

*Vhaarev Na Hashem, Oy Vhaarev Na Hashem  
So Your Torah will forever pierce the heart  
Be mesayem and return  
To the words we love to learn  
For we never feel complete when we're apart*

*Vhaarev Na Hashem, Oy Vhaarev Na Hashem  
I can sit and learn as hours pass me by  
And my Gemara, now worn-out  
I could never be without  
For I finally feel that sweetness from on High*

Lyrics by Mrs. Ruchie Torgow



# INBOX

[6 OF 177]

I'm sure I wasn't the only one that was moved to tears more than once ... thank you for letting me partake in such an unbelievable event ... even though I had to go, I couldn't possibly leave before the Vhaarev Na alma mater and I had to tell you it was the absolute highlight! I was standing between a chassidishe bochur and some cool dude from out of town - both shukeling away with their eyes closed and I thought this is what it will look like when Mashiach comes - all together ... ASHRECHA! and gut Yom Yov...

I can't even describe the incredible chizuk this "chasuna" gave me. I was losing steam both in retzifus and chaishek to finish Yevomos which I have 2/3 left. The feeling after leaving the Atrium mamesh gave me the drive to CHAZER AND KNOW SHAS starting now with Yevamos to get it in the bones. Thank you Rebbe for the drive to put the extra effort, and reminding me of the mesikas hatorah that can be achieved through constant chazara. Kol Tuv.

I made my 15th siyum on mesechtah succah on Chol Hamoed, it was my third siyum with every tosfos. The Simchas Hatorah before Pesach elevated the importance of knowing a masechta in the bones to a new level. I really enjoyed learning it again!!! So mazel tov and b'ezras Hashem many more to come.

The "Simchas HaTorah" was AMAZING Baruch Hashem. It definitely made a big impact on me ... and the Shas already came in the clutch, making my train ride to the Yankees game shorter than usual because of the Gemara Succah I was learning.

My son just came home from the "Simchas HaTorah" so happy and inspired like never before. He learns in a Mesivta in Flatbush and absolutely loves this program. It has opened his eyes to realize that through chazara, learning is not just a chore but is even "fun" and enjoyable. There are goals set and you feel revived when you reach them and as you get closer the energy and Adrenalin kicks in. The best part (for my son at least) is that while doing all this learning, be it in Yeshiva, Chutz Lseder, over Shabbos or whenever, you can do all of this and still be "normal", "with it", "down to earth" (whatever you feel these terms mean).

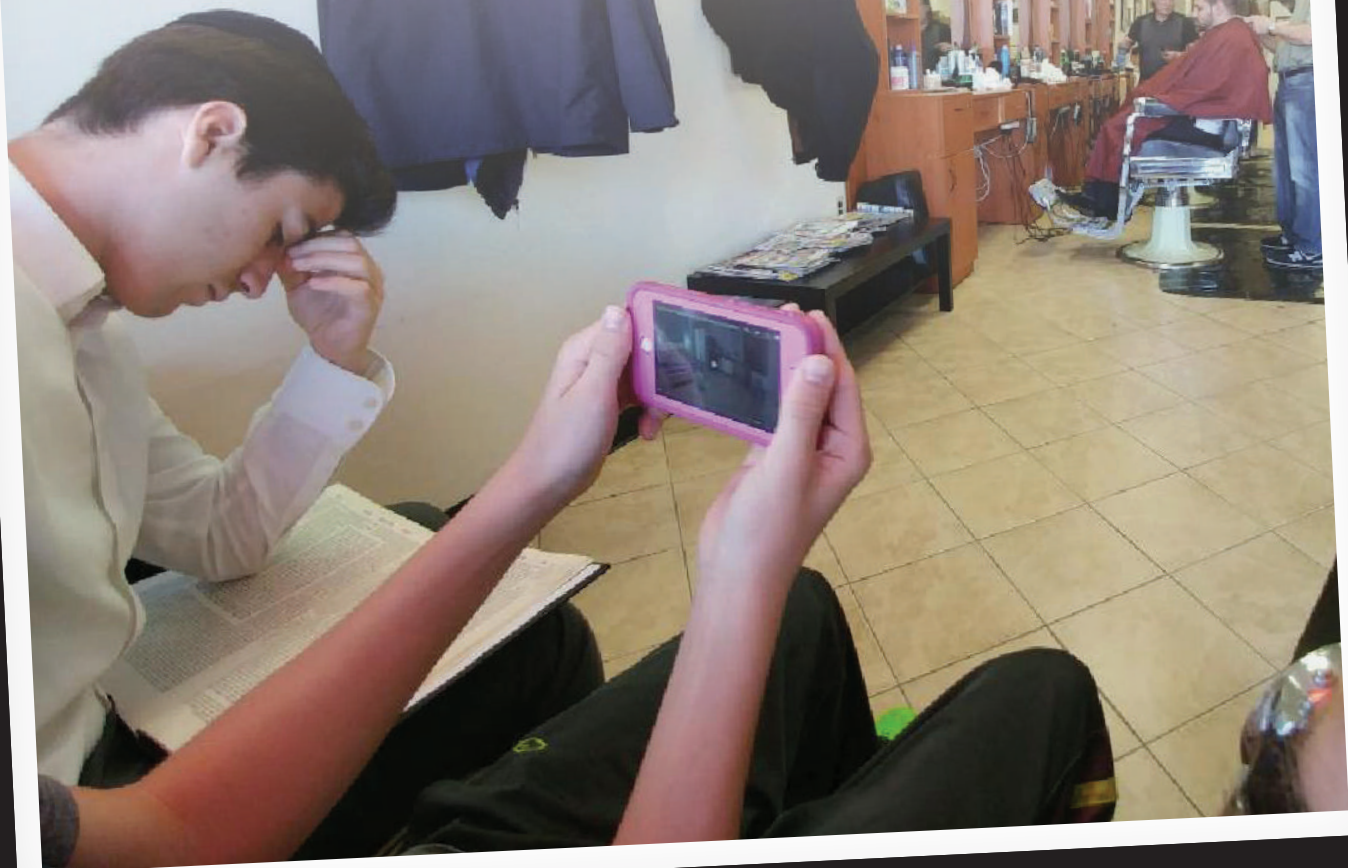
A very special thank you to the dedicated financial backers who make this all possible, to the Rebbeim who infuse a geshmak in learning a blatt gemara and of course to ALL of the amazing Talmidim in this program who feed off of each other, motivate each other, and accomplish so much. I am sure I speak for all the parents.

I told people there if this maamad didn't bring the aibershter nachas ruach to bring the geula then I don't know what will. I was by three siyumei hashas - nothing gave me the hergeishim that seeing those bachurim saying the hadran, gave me.



Candid shot taken  
by a waiting customer

*A picture is worth a  
thousand words...*



*חזרה*  
chazara,  
chazara,  
chazara,  
and then?  
**CHAZARA!**

For more information contact Rabbi Dovid Newman  
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