

RABBI MENACHEM M. SCHNEERSON

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מנחם מענדל שניאורסאהן
ליובאוויטש

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ברוקלין, נ. י.

By the Grace of G-d
8th of Tishrei, 5722
Brooklyn, N. Y.

I received your letter, in which you write about the various problems relating to the arrangement of your wedding in a happy and auspicious hour.

Generally speaking, and as I have written to you before, and to others in similar circumstances, it is necessary to bear in mind that a marriage is not only the beginning of a partnership, but the beginning of a union, where both parties truly become one, and united for life, in order to set up an "everlasting edifice," as mentioned in the text of the sacred blessings. Therefore, it is clear that everything should be done in order to assure the maximum degree of compliance with the will of G-d, the Creator and Master of the Universe and of man, Whose Providence extends to everyone individually. Even if it is a question of Hiddur, or even an extra measure of Hiddur, and even if there are some difficulties to overcome in this connection, no effort should be spared to do even that, because it is all for the added benefit of the "everlasting edifice."

Incidentally, even among non-Jews, tremendous importance is attached to the marriage ceremony, which is attended by all sorts of customs and practices designed to bring good luck and good fortune to the newlyweds, with all sorts of symbols, good omens, etc.

As for the question of the actual problems, it is necessary to consult an Orthodox Rov in your vicinity, to whom you could personally and orally explain all the details. It is also essential to remember that the ways of the Torah are ways of pleasantness and peace, and nothing is more hateful than dissention and strife, while nothing is more praiseworthy than peace, which is the "vessel" for all blessings. It is in this spirit that the various problems and differences should be settled.

These are the auspicious days between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, about which our Sages say that this is the time to which the Prophet alluded when he said "Seek G-d at the time when He can be found." For although "G-d is near to all who call upon Him" all year round, this is the time when He is particularly near to us. It is, therefore an auspicious time to make good resolutions.

Wishing you a Chasimo ugmar Chasimo Toivo,

With blessing

M. Schneerson