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ברוקלין, נ. י.

By the Grace of G-d
19th of Cheshvan, 5734
Brooklyn, N. Y.

Dr. Arye Leib Harris
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Greeting and Blessing:

Your letter of the 4th of Tishrei reached me with some delay, and my reply was further delayed on account of the intervening festivals.

In reply to your question about the suggestion which has been made to you to give a course in Chasidus or, as you define it, "The Philosophy of Chasidism in the Modern World" - you surely know the principle which is basic to Chasidus, namely the need to disseminate and spread its fountains abroad. Thus, principally, it is a good and commendable thing.

In this connection, you also surely know the emphasis of our Sages of blessed memory on the practical aspects of Judaism, as they formulate it, "The essential thing is the deed," namely the observance of the Mitzvoth in actual practice. It is true that sometimes it is necessary to approach this intellectually, especially when one deals with academic youth. However, one must never lose sight of the fact that the goal is actual commitment to the Jewish way of life in the daily life.

In light of the above, I would suggest that you consult with leading Anash in your community, as it is written, "Help comes with the abundance of counsel," so as to work out together the best way of handling this course and assure its maximum efficiency.

I shall look forward to hearing good news from you, including also good news about your own advancement in Torah and Mitzvoth, all the more so since your personal advancement in this area is bound to be reflected and multiplied in all those who come under your influence.

With blessing,

M. Schneerson