

הת' מנחם מענדל ורינה גארדאן

RABBI MENACHEM M. SCHNEERSON
Lubavitch
770 Eastern Parkway
Brooklyn, N. Y. 11213
493-9250

מנחם מענדל שניאורסאהן
ליובאוויטש

770 איסטערן פארקוויי
ברוקלין, נ. י.

By the Grace of G-d
Erev Shabbos Mevorchim
Chodesh HaShlishi Sivan,
5744, Brooklyn, N. Y.

To All Participants in the Annual Banquet
of Chabad of the Valley
Encino, Ca. 91316

Greeting and Blessing:

I was pleased to be informed of the forthcoming Annual Event, taking place on the 13th day of the Third Month, the month of Mattan Torah.

The date of this event is thus highly significant for a cause that is directly concerned with Torah education and Torah learning, particularly since the Torah was given to our people only after our ancestors, standing at Mt. Sinai, gave the pledge to HaShem. "Our children will be our guaranty that the Torah will be kept and cherished for all times."

Indeed, the Torah schools and Yeshivos in every generation since the Torah was given to us at Mt. Sinai, kept alive and transmitted the Torah and Mitzvot from generation to generation to this day, very often under the most trying conditions and circumstances. This proved beyond the slightest doubt that the Torah and Mitzvot are indeed "our life and the length of our days."

Generally, Jews everywhere, are partners in that pledge and commitment at Sinai, and we have to make it good. Our responsibility is all the greater because of the environmental influences in the society, which, unfortunately, tend to lure away some of our boys and girls from Torah education and from the Torah way of life as an everyday experience. Here is a case where time is clearly of the essence, for the sooner a Jewish child is brought back to Torah education, the stronger is the certainty that "also in old age he will not depart from it."

Since this year's Annual Event is taking place immediately after the Festival of Mattan Torah and its days of Tashlumin, the inspiration of the Festival will still be fresh in everyone's heart and mind. I hope and trust it will find full expression in the generous response on the part of all who appreciate what Torah means to our Jewish people, and respond also in terms of personal involvement in the vital work of Chabad of the Valley in a consistently growing measure.

With prayerful wishes for Hatzlocho in all above, and

With esteem and
blessing,

