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מנחם מענדל שניאורסאהן
ליובאוויטש

770 איסטערן פארקוויי
ברוקלין, נ.י.

By the Grace of G-d
3rd day ("twice blessed with good")
of the Week of Yisro, 18th Shevat,
5746. Brooklyn, N.Y.

To All Participants in the
24th Annual Mid-Winter
N'Shei uBnos Chabad Conference
Milwaukee, Wisc.

Blessing and Greeting:

This year's Conference, convened for the weekend of Parshas
Yisro, will surely be inspired by the highlight of the Parsha,
namely, Mattan-Torah.

As has often been emphasized, the Jewish women had a paramount
role in the Mattan-Torah event in that Moshe Rabbeinu was in-
structed by HaShem to address them first, before the men, as
it is written, "Thus shall you speak to the house of Jacob (the
women) and tell the sons of Israel (the men)."

In placing the women in the forefront of Kabbolas haTorah, the
Torah tells us that the Jewish woman has a vital role in the
preservation of the Torah and the Torah-way of life from gener-
ation to generation.

This also means, clearly, that the Jewish woman has been en-
dowed by the Creator with special capacities to carry out this
Divinely given role. Indeed, throughout the ages Jewish women
have amply justified their title of Akeres haBayis, and have
been pillars of strength and faith for the entire family and
for our Jewish people as a whole.

The message of Mattan-Torah, like all teachings of the Torah,
is eternal. It is particularly relevant in this day and age.
Every Jewish mother and daughter should understand, and be
deeply aware of, the extraordinary privilege and responsibility
that HaShem has bestowed on them, and - most importantly -
should translate this awareness in terms of appropriate action.
To help achieve this - is the purpose of every annual conference
of N'Shei uBnos Chabad.

The present Conference has an added significance in that it is
taking place in an Ibbur-Year, a Leap Year. This calls for
expanded activities to spread Torah Yiddishkeit, permeated with
an extra measure of devotion and dedication.

With prayerful wishes for increased Hatzlocho and good tidings
in all above,

With esteem and blessing,

M. Schneerson