

By the Grace of G-d
Rosh Chodesh Elul, 5746
Brooklyn, N.Y.

To All Participants in the
Shenkman Tribute Dinner
Lubavitch Foundation of Michigan
Oak Park, Mich. 48237

Greeting and Blessing:

I was pleased to be informed of the forthcoming event, taking place on the 19th of Elul. May it be blessed with Hatzlocho in every respect, especially as it is taking place in this month of special Divine Grace and Mercy.

The significance of the month of Elul, the last month of the outgoing year, is explained by the Alter Rebbe, Founder of Chabad (whose birthday is on the 18th of Elul), by the parable of "A King in the Field." The point of it is that at certain times the king goes out to meet the ordinary people working in the field and gives them a unique opportunity to greet their king personally and present their petitions. At such a time the king is particularly gracious and benevolent and is pleased to grant their requests.

The parable, meaningful in all its details, calls attention not only to the "King in the Field," but also to the "Man in the Field." Here is a humble person engaged in the vital activity of planting seeds, with the fullest confidence - Bitochon, we call it - in the Creator that He will make the seeds grow into a rich harvest.

The Lubavitch Foundation of Michigan - as a part of the Lubavitch movement worldwide - is dedicated to helping fellow Jews become ^{even} more fully and intimately aware of the "King in the Field" concept and translate it into concrete actions in terms of Torah and Mitzvos in the everyday experience. All who are involved in this vital activity are the "Men in the field," planting seeds of Torah and Mitzvos in the hearts of fellow Jews.

I feel confident that all of you who actively support the various programs of the Foundation consider it a privilege as well as an obligation to be partners in this vital cause. A "partner" is, of course, more than a "supporter."

With prayerful wishes to each and all of you, and the Guests of Honor in particular, ^{for} l'ksivo vachasimo toivo for a good and sweet year, both materially and spiritually, and

With esteem and blessing

My. Schwartz