

A Life of Torah

Outside of Eretz Yisrael, every Yom Tou so great,
Has a second day that is connected to it which we celebrate.
But the second day of Shemini Atzeres is not the same,
It is called Simchas Torah, it has its own special name.

The Rema says that Simchas Torah is celebrated,
Because the Torah is completed.
The previous Rebbe said that the Brocha of "Shehecheyanu" we make,
Not just because it is Yom Tou but for the Torah's sake.

How is the Brocha of "Shehecheyanu" connected,
To Simchas Torah when the Torah is completed?
"Shehecheyanu" is said for something new,
For beginning the Torah it would be more appropriate to say
"Shehecheyanu."

The truth is that the Torah that we are beginning is the same thing,
As the Torah that we just finished learning,
So what is new on Simchas Torah,
That would require one to make the "Shehecheyanu" Brocha?

Since the Torah is the wisdom of Hashem,
And "its measure is longer than the earth and deeper than the ocean,"
When we begin to learn it again,
We are excited to add a new dimension!

We need to begin learning in a way that can't compare,
To the way we learned it in the previous year.
After Yom Kippur every Jew is a new entity,
To study Torah in a completely new way we all have the ability.

Just like Moshe Rabeinu, who reached the 50th gate of understanding,
In Parshas V'zos Habrocha, on the day of his passing.
This teaches us that we should always aspire,
In our Torah learning we should always reach higher.

On Simchas Torah, how can the joy of the working people compare,
To the scholars who learn Torah all year?

If the completion of Torah is what we are celebrating,
Then why isn't our joy expressed through learning?

Why is it that we show our joy through the physical action of dancing,
With the Torah closed and wrapped in its covering?
The Brocha of Shehecheyanu holds the key,
To how we can all dance together and be equally happy!

"You have given us life," is Shehecheyanu's meaning,
It is a life that fills our entire being.
Just like our head and feet are equally alive,
In every part of our lives, living a Torah life, makes us thrive.

Then to Hashem we give an additional praise,
"Vikiyemanu," thank you for sustaining our bodies throughout our days,
The joy of the soul can't compare,
To the joy it shares when it works together with its body down here.

Torah makes life worth living,
It puts purpose and meaning,
Into the mundane tasks that we are doing,
Like eating, drinking, working and sleeping.

"Vihyegyanu," comes from the word Yegiyah which means to toil,
To Hashem we are so loyal.
When we work hard to do our parts,
We feel complete joy in our hearts!

The Torah was given as an inheritance to every Jew,
It impacts everything that we do!
We say Shehecheyanu, because a new light of Torah shines through,
Which each person, on their level, can tap into.

We all dance together with our feet,
Because a life of Torah can't be beat!
Since the Torah belongs to every Jew, we don't stay the same,
From Simchas Torah we all have so much to gain!

