

SICHA STORY

PROJECT LIKKUTEI SICHOS | 5783 - YEAR OF HAKHEL



Likkutei Sichos, Volume 15

Chanukah, Sicha 2 (Second Sicha of the week)

- Rabbi Yossi Nemes, Metairie, Louisiana

The Sicha explains the Rambam in Hilchos Chanukah! that Shabbos candles come before Chanukah candles (if there are only enough resources for one). It is because Shabbos candles bring Shalom Bayis and bringing Shalom to the world is the purpose of the entire Torah, and especially Chanukah. We bring here stories, with the Rebbe, connected to Shalom Bayis and Shalom from Machlokes.

Working out Machlokes is the best news to share with the Rebbe

Rabbi Shaul Moshe Elituv from Israel related the following: We began our Shlichus in the year 1988 (5748). I had the privilege of participating in the first international Kinus shortly after I became a Shliach. There was another Shliach who I felt acted inappropriately towards me at the beginning of my Shlichus, I was quite offended, and we were not really communicating.

As the Rebbe then, being Shnas Hakhel, stressed repeatedly the importance of coming together and of adding in Ahavas Yisroel, I, therefore, despite it being difficult, decided to do something. I approached this Shliach and we started communicating and dealing with each other in a friendly positive manner as if nothing had happened.

At some point, I wrote a letter to the Rebbe describing the pain I originally had from the situation but I decided to work with this shliach and strengthen our relationship. I concluded that hopefully, this is bringing a Nachas Ruach to the Rebbe.

The Rebbe responded, (content) "I received your letter and it brought Nachas. You should continue to give good news like this in the future, with an increase, etc." The Rebbe sent two dollars together with the answer.

This answer was quite unique for a young Shliach to receive. It reminds us just how important Achdus, especially amongst Anash and Shluchim, is to the Rebbe. (From the Hebrew 'Zoom farbrengen' book, page 51)

What affects the Rebbe's "Quality of life"?

The Rebbe once asked Reb Mendel Futerfas to try and help resolve a Machlokes amongst Anash Askonim. Unfortunately, he was unable to help the situation. When he entered yechidus the Rebbe asked him for an update about the situation. Not having any good news to report he remained silent.

The Rebbe commented to Reb Mendel **קצתי בחיי מפני המחלוקת** (I am dismayed with my life because of Machlokes!)

Let us at least be honest about what the issues are!

The Rebbe once sent a couple, having Shalom Bayis issues, to my mother, Mrs. Zelda Nemes A"H, for help. Rabbi Chadakov said that the Rebbe added that since the couple wrote that the fundamental issues between them are about Chinuch, my mother, as an educator, should try and help them work things out.

My mother met with the couple, separately and together. My mother came back to Rabbi Chadakov saying that the serious issues they are having, seem to her, to be not about educational philosophy, they are the facade, but, rather, about money and financial matters. The next day Rabbi Chadakov told my mother that the Rebbe painfully remarked "If that is the case then there is no need for her to continue being involved!"
