

Dear readers, as you know, this year the newsletter ran a deficit in its expenses totaling \$10,500. Thank you to Hashem and to the generous people who helped close this deficit, and may they be blessed. Mi Shebarach Abotenu Hakedoshim Hu Yebarech:

Mr. Joey Mordechai Allaham Hacohen and his family, in the amount of \$4,000

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Mr. Albert Mordechai Guindi Hacohen and his family, in the amount of \$500

This brings the total to \$10,200, and we are still short \$300. May Hashem bless them spiritually and physically, with health and parnasa. Amen and Amen.

Congregation

★ ★ ★ ★ **"Beth Yosef"** ★ ★ ★ ★

*** 2108 Ocean Parkway Brooklyn, N.Y. 11223 **

Rabbi Aharon Farhi

Parashat Noah

6th Heshvan 5787

Maqam Siga

Issue #1176

Mr. Eliyahu Levy, *President*

Haftarat Roni Akara

October 17th 2026

***Candle Lighting 5:56pm * Shekiah 6:14pm * Shir Hashirim 5:45pm followed by Minha Friday Night
Shaharit Shabbat 8:15am * Minha Shabbat 5:35pm * Shabbat Ends 6:54pm & Rabbenu Tam 7:24pm
Time for Talit 6:06am * Seasonal Hour 64 * Alot Hashahar 5:55am * Netz Hachama 7:10am
Weekday Minha 5:50pm * Earliest Time for Arbit 5:29pm * Tzet Hacocharim 6:49pm * Chatzot 12:41
Latest Time for Morning Keriat Shema 9:05am * Latest Time for Morning Amidah 10:09am***

Those who wish to contact Rabbi Aharon Farhi can call (646) 552-3412

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Vaad Tehilim Torah c/o R' A. Farhi

2415 Ocean Parkway, Brooklyn NY 11235

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The Shloshim of

Hacham Leon Eliyahu Gindi A"H

This week marks thirty days since the passing of the *Saddik* and great *Hacham* *Leon Eliyahu Gindi Daknish Hacohen Ben Frieda a"H*, may his merit protect us, Amen. On *Shabbat Kodesh*, *Parashat Haazinu*, inside *Shaare Zion*, the *Aron Hakodesh* was taken and snatched away from us. He was engaged in the work of Heaven, his mouth bringing forth pearls of wisdom, immersed in the pure service of *Hashem* during the *Aseret Yeme Teshuba* (Ten Days of Repentance), delivering words of *mussar*

and encouragement in preparation for *Yom Kippur*. Suddenly, before everyone's eyes, he fell to the ground, and the *pasuk* was fulfilled in him completely, as it says, "A prince and a great man has fallen this day in Israel." (Shmuel Bet 3:38) He was not actually ill, he did not cry out, and he felt no pain. He simply fell, in the full meaning of the word. The *pasuk* in *Shir Hashirim* that says "I went down to the garden of nuts... to gather the roses" was fulfilled in him. The *Midrash* says that *Hashem* said, "I went down into the congregation of the Jewish people to search for which *Saddik* was

worthy and suitable to atone for all of Israel on *Yom Kippur*. I found none better and more pleasing than *Hacham Leon Hacohen*, so I made him a vessel of atonement for all of Israel, and he was the rose suited for this.” Why specifically a garden of nuts, and not a garden of other fruits such as apples, figs and so on? Because when all other fruits fall from the tree, they make no sound. But when a nut falls from the tree, the sound of its fall is heard from one end of the world to the other. That is why *Hacham Leon* was the suitable one, and the sound of his passing was heard from one end of the world to the other. He fell with his eyes open, which befits true *Saddikim*. He passed away on *Shabbat Kodesh* at an *Et Rason* (time of Divine favor), just as three great *Saddikim* of the world passed away on *Shabbat Kodesh*. They are *Yosef Hasaddik*, *Moshe Rabenu* and *David Hamelech*, may their merit protect us, Amen.

On *Ereb Yom Kippur* the funeral began, and many *Chachamim* here and in *Eretz Yisrael* paid him their final respects until the third day, when he came to his resting place in *Eretz Yisrael*. He was buried next to his father-in-law and *Rabo Mubhak*, *Morenu V'Rabbenu Hacham Yom Tob Yedid Halevi a"h*, may they rest in honor. These are the accounts of everything that happened from the day of his passing until the final hour when he was laid to rest at *Har Hamenuhot*, in a great place of the Torah world where they are buried. תהי נשמתם צרורה בצרור החיים, אמן

Now that thirty days have arrived since his passing, he himself begins to tell what happened to him from the moment he fell until his thirtieth day. It is known and well established that on the thirtieth day the *Neshama* is brought before the *Bet Din Shel Ma'ala* (Heavenly Court), and there it receives its final judgment. Three paths lie before every soul judged on the thirtieth day: first, to enter *Gan Eden*; second, to return through *gilgul* (reincarnation) as a

new soul in this world; or third, to enter its punishment, Heaven forbid, in the place of punishments. Now *Hacham Leon* comes and tells us what happened to him throughout these thirty days. He began by saying, “I was speaking words of *mussar* and encouragement before a holy congregation. Suddenly I saw the *Malach Hamavet* standing in front of me. He pushed me, and I fell to the ground with my eyes open. Immediately the entire congregation of *Shaare Zion*, from the youngest to the oldest, rushed to ask about my welfare, and many expert doctors surrounded me and tried to wake me and revive me with all kinds of treatments suited to such a situation. But Heaven did not want to change the situation or the decree that had been decreed upon me. On *Ereb Yom Kippur* a holy congregation gathered in the *Magen David* synagogue. I did not know what had happened to me. Immediately the *hazzanim* began to pray over me, saying, ‘Send the angels of mercy and bring him to Your *Gan Eden*.’ I heard it, but I did not know whom they were talking about. I thought they were singing ‘*Lecha Eli Teshukati*’ (To You, my God, is my longing), and I said to myself that *Yom Kippur* was beginning to arrive. Afterwards I heard great *Chachamim* speaking praises of some *Saddik*, and I did not know whom they were talking about. But when my dear only son, *Nissim Nemo*, stood crying, calling out and wailing, saying to me, ‘*Abba, Abba*, forgive me,’ and repeating these words dozens of times, I was deeply moved and began to cry, crying even more than my son was crying. I wanted to get up from my place and tell him, ‘Enough, my son! Enough, my son! You did nothing to me! Why are you asking for forgiveness and pardon? You were as dear to me as the apple of my eye. I take pride in you, in your good *middot* and in the straight path you walk. Everyone says about you, fortunate is the father who fathered him, fortunate is the mother who brought this child. You have a good heart, you are a *Ba'al Hesed* (man of

kindness) and a giver of *Sedakah*, beloved Above and pleasant below.

After the funeral they took me to a place of darkness and gloom, an extremely cold place, and the pasuk was fulfilled in me that says, 'He will revive us after two days, on the third day He will raise us up.' (Hoshea 6:2) How? Listen to this new story that happened to me about forty years ago. I was in *Halab*, and my wife and children were in Brooklyn. I wanted to come to them, but the police prevented me. I immediately said to myself, I have no choice but to escape. And so it was, but in the middle of the escape the police caught me, arrested me and put me in a deep pit, in darkness. Suddenly, on the night of *Yom Kippur* at 11:00 PM, the prison guard came in, called my name and said to me, 'The general wants to speak with you.' I came out of my place trembling and afraid. I entered the general's office and saw two Jews waiting for me there, *Hacham Aharon Farhi* and Mr. *Tofik Kassab*. He said to me, 'They brought you a *Mahzor Yom Kippur* so that you can pray from it.' I took the *mahzor*, went back into the pit where I was imprisoned, and began reciting *Kal Nidre*. Immediately the officer came in, pushed me on the head and took the *mahzor* from my hand, and I remained the entire *Yom Kippur* like the eternally dead. So it turned out that twice in my whole life I was unable to pray with the congregation on *Yom Kippur*, as it says, 'He will revive us after two days,' and on the *Yom Shlishi* (third day of the week) which was Tuesday after *Yom Kippur* I merited to come to my rest.

Today I stood before the Heavenly Court. And who sits on this court? *Hacham Obadia Yosef a"h* at the head, our master and teacher, my father-in-law *Hacham Yom Tob Yedid a"h*, on the right, and *Rabbi Zecharia a"h* on the left. They asked me, 'What did you do in the world?' Immediately the defending angels came in carrying a large chest, and they took out these *Masechtot*: *Hullin*, *Ketubot*, *Baba Mesia*, *Nidda* and

Zebachim, along with more *sefarim*, *Hoshen Mishpat*, *Yoreh De'ah*, *Orah Hayim*, the commentary of the Malbim, *Hobot Halebabot* (Duties of the Heart), more *Mishnayot* and so on.

Now I conclude my words and speak to my dear wife. I ask her forgiveness and pardon for the hardship she endured with me. She worked every day, and when she came home from work I was not at home. I did not return home until 10:30pm every night, and in the morning I left the house very early at dawn. For this I ask her forgiveness. But she is my partner, and she will share in my portion equally. When *Hacham Obadia Yosef* came to marry *Rabbanit Margalit*, at first she refused and did not want to marry him because he was so occupied with Torah study. He told her at that moment, 'If you marry me, all the Torah that I learn and teach will be half mine and half yours.' *Baruch Hashem*, *Hashem* gave me one son, *Nemo*, but I merited to have dozens of students who are my children, my spiritual children, as *Hazal* said, 'Whoever teaches his friend's son Torah, it is as if he fathered him.' Thank you to all the rabbis who spoke in my honor, especially the *Chachamim* of *Eretz Yisrael*, the great sages of the generation, led by the *Rishon Lesion*, and to all the *Rashe Yeshivot*. May *Hashem* repay their deeds. Many thanks to Jack Avital, who placed my picture in his magnificent *sukkah* alongside the other *Chachamim* and gave me the merit of fulfilling the *mitzvah* of sitting in the *sukkah*. And thank you to the whole community who accompanied me until my final day. I stand to pray for all of you, for long life, good health and good *parnasa*, for the Torah and for the *Aboda*, Amen. And I will walk before *Hashem* in the lands of the living, the life of the World to Come, Amen and Amen."

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