



Is Morashia coming?

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פרשת ואתחנן  
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# News of the Week

## TISHA B'AV MOOD SET IN STAFF PROGRAM

In one of the most moving programs in Camp Morasha history, Morasha Staff and Machon witnessed a Tisha B'Av mood setting event Tuesday night in the Pargod.

Coordinated by Rabbi Tully Besser, the program included a vignette based on a true life Holocaust experience presented by Rochle Winkler, Older Shtetl Division Head. A film clip from "War and Remembrance", dramatic readings based on Sparks of Glory, memorial tributes to European towns destroyed in the Holocaust, and slow songs with no musical accompaniment rounded out the presentation.

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## MORASHANIKS ENJOY SEUDOT SHEL MITZVAH BNEI TORAH CONDUCT SIYUMIM

Morashaniks were able to enjoy Seudot shel Mitzvah with special dinners and divrei Torah twice in the Nine Days. Through the efforts of capable Bnei Torah Siyumim were conducted and the entire camp was invited to participate.

Yeyasher Koachachem to Counselor Benjamin Waltuch and Kollel members Gavriel Shapiro, Kevin Taragin, Yaacov Genack, Yonah Reiss, David Pahmer, and Daniel Feldman.

The Siyumim took place in both the Main and Machon Dining Rooms and at the overnight site.

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## MORASHIA IS COMING, BUT WHEN ???

Is MORASHIA coming? Probably, but when? Only the Coordinating Committee (and a few others) know for sure. Already hard at work are Rabbi Joel Cohn, chairman, and Moshe Adler, Sheeba Beitler, Sharon Fisher, and Jeff Kobrin.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETS AT MORASHA

The Board of Directors, a group of men and women very important to the running of Camp Morasha, met for two days last week here at camp.

Major emphasis for next season, according to Zvi Reich, our Camp Director, will be on improving present facilities including athletic fields, the water supply, and the distribution of electricity throughout camp, especially the Kollel campus.

A prominent member of the Board, Dr. Edith Bondi, proudly presented three young men from Alufim with their prize medals during the Elitzur Awards ceremony on the playing field.

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## MORASHA DAY CAMP IN MIDST OF INTENSE MITZVAH CAMPAIGN

Victory in Shiriah impelled the Morasha Day Camp, directed by Sharon Richter and Geula Twersky, on to bigger and better things. Now they're in the midst of an intense Mitzvah campaign specializing in Bikur Cholim and Hachnosas Orchim.

The children, ranging in age from 3-8, designed cards for the Infirmary patients and each Shabbat afternoon bring cheer to the patients by singing outside their windows.

To demonstrate Hachnosas Orchim, the Daycampers painted a Welcome Sign for the Guest House and made flower pots for the guests.

Counselors are Karen, Aviva, Aviva, Nechama, Yudi, Zevi, Natan, Ruth, and Machoniks.

MAZEL TOV TO STACEY LEBOVITS AND  
FAMILY ON HER BAT MITZVAH



# TORAH THOUGHTS



OUR FACULTY WRITES. . .

A D' VAR TORAH ON

## A THOUGHT FOR SHABBAT NACHAMU

## PARSHAT V'ETCHANAN

By Rabbi B.Z. Scheinfeld

By Pini Rapp, YP Kollel

This Shabbat is deemed Shabbat Nachamu and is generally celebrated with much joy and jubilation throughout Morasha, the Catskills, and of course the rest of K'lal Yisroel. It seems a bit strange that immediately after Tisha B'Av, our most intense day of mourning for the Bais Hamikdash, suddenly we are happy. Did anything happen to warrant such happiness? Isn't the Bais Hamikdash still not rebuilt?

Perhaps we can understand the joy if we analyze our past mourning. Isn't it strange to continue the mourning after so many years? In regard to the loss of a relative the Talmud in Moed Katan criticizes mourning more than the prescribed 7 or 30 days or 12 month period. Why for the Bais Hamikdash do we still mourn?

The answer is that in regard to relatives their loss is forever and we slowly have to learn to live our lives without them. The mourning period is like a final goodbye, to ease the pain and permanently adjust our lives.

For Tisha B'Av the mourning is to remind us that we are not to forget the Bais Hamikdash, to reopen the wound so that the pain of the destruction is felt. As Rav Soloveichik explained for this reason the degree of mourning gets more intense as the Three Weeks go on, not gradually less intense as during the mourning period for the death of a relative.

Tisha B'Av mourning reminds us that we must not forget the Bais Hamikdash—that in fact, it will be rebuilt. Therefore immediately after the mourning we can rejoice for our constant mourning is a symbol of the ultimate rebuilding.

In this week's Parsha, we find the first of the three paragraphs of Shema. In this paragraph, which we say every day and night, we find the Mitzvah to love Hashem. However, it is not as simple as it sounds. How do you love Hashem?

The Rambam suggests that if we were to think of all the greatness of Hashem, and of all the wonderful things Hashem does, then one will immediately begin to love Hashem. But even this is not so easy. What about the seemingly bad things that Hashem does?

What we must realize is that everything Hashem does is for our good. There are so many stories where people miss their plane, something that seems bad, and then the plane crashes. What is really hard to understand is what is good about the people who got on to the plane. But Chazal tell us that there is good in everything, even if we don't see it. If we try to see it many times we will, and when we see it in these things, it should make it easier to believe that they are in the rest.

The Midrash says that there was even some good in one of the greatest catastrophes to happen to the Jewish people, the destruction of the Bais Hamikdash. We are told that the Jewish people deserved to be destroyed, but Hashem destroyed the Bais Hamikdash instead.

I hope that we will all be able to love Hashem fully, and to be Zocheh to see the rebuilding of the Bais Hamikdash.

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## PARSHA QUIZ ? ? ? ?

From which Parsha is the Laining for Tisha B'Av taken ? ? ?

# עמוד עברי



המורה: מי שרף את בית המקדש?  
משה (מבוהל) לא אני, אדוני המורה...

דוד: משרתי אבי גבוהה מאד.  
משה: מה הוא עושה?  
דוד: הוא מנקה ארבותי.

האם נתנה לבתה הקטנה שני מטבעות ואמרה לה  
ללכת לחנות המפלח ולקנות במטבע אחד סקר  
ובשני מלח.

בצבור רנע שבה הילדה בקבי.  
מדוע את בוכה, בת? שאלה אמה.  
אמרה הילדה:

שבתמי, אמא, באינה מטבע עלי לקנות סקר  
ובאינה מלח.

