



Congregation Ohr Torah

Weekly Announcements

<http://www.ohrtorah.net>

48 Edgemount Road Edison, NJ 08817

Rabbi Yaakov Luban – Rabbi

Jeff Klein - President

Rabbi Sarel Malitzky – Assistant Rabbi

Parshat Ki Tisa

16 Adar 5778

March 3, 2018

Candlelighting:	5:32 PM
Mincha:	5:40 PM
Shacharis:	7:45, 9:00 & 9:15AM
<i>Rabbi Hoffman's Halacha B'iyun Shiur after Hashkama</i>	
Sof Z'man Krias Shma (GR"A):	9:19AM
<i>Rabbi Luban's Moed Katan Shiur – 4:35 PM</i>	
<i>Rabbi Malitzky's Mishna Shiur – cancelled this week</i>	
Mincha:	1:45 PM & 5:25PM
<i>Shalosh Seudos speaker: Josh Rapps</i>	
Maariv:	6:35PM
Shabbos Ends:	6:41PM
Weekday Shacharis	
Sun.	7:15, 8 & 9 AM
Mon & Thu	6:20, 7:05 & 8 AM
Tue,, Wed & Fri	6:30, 7:10 & 8AM
Early Mincha Sun. -Thurs.	1:00 PM
Early Mincha Fri.	12:45 PM
Mincha/Maariv:	5:40 PM
Late Maariv:	7:30 and 10:10 PM
<i>-no 7:30 minyan on Sunday</i>	

upstairs hallway waiting to be installed by a locksmith. Two of them are missing. If you inadvertently took them, please return them to the Shul as soon as possible.

charge. The Orthodox Forum gladly accepts season sponsorships, as well as program sponsorships. For more info go online to www.orthodoxjewishforum.org

BONE MARROW REGISTRY

A young man, a nephew of a couple in our community, is battling a life threatening illness and is in Urgent need of a Bone Marrow transplant. People between the ages of 18-44 are asked to join the Online Bone Marrow Registry and be tested to see if they might be suitable as a bone marrow donor. Please go to WWW.BeTheMatch.Org and register to receive a "cheek swab kit". Please use the swab and return kit. If you are a match for someone who needs a bone marrow donation, a donation of cells from your bone marrow could save a life. This is a very easy process! They send you a package with cotton swabs; swab your cheek and return it in the self stamped package. 1-2-3, it's done! It can save a loved ones life! However, please note that if you have already been swabbed or otherwise tested, there's no need to do it again. You are already part of the national registry. Also note that it is very important to keep contact info updated so you can be reached if you have been signed up and are found to be a match for someone in need of a bone marrow donation. *** They are also looking into cord blood as a potential match. But whatever your age please daven for a Refuah Sheleimah for Yosef Betzalel ben Rus.

NORPAC MISSION TO WASHINGTON

NORPAC's Mission to Washington is an annual event where we bring close to a thousand citizen activists to Washington, DC, in order to advocate for a stronger U.S.-Israel relationship with Members of Congress. Join us Wednesday, April 25th. On a single-day trip you will meet with Members of Congress and their staff, and share your concerns with them about foreign aid to Israel, Iran sanctions, security cooperation, and more. Help us make a difference once again! Buses leave for Washington from our area at 6:30AM and return between 9-10PM. There will be briefings on the bus. All meals will be provided. Register now for early bird discount (ends March 4) www.norpac.net or call (201) 788-5133 Adults - \$125, young adults under 30-\$75 Students - \$75 (must be over 12. Those under 18 must be accompanied by Parent or legal guardian) contact Marc Hanfling docdad@aol.com, Barry Wolf, Yosef Schreiber, Neer Evan-Hen for more info.

ACTT

The ACTT (Achieving Change Through Torah) program helps individuals succeed in making meaningful and lasting changes in their lives. Source book: "Artsroll's "Living Simchah: Finding the joy in everything" by Rabbi Hadar Margolin. "Serve Hashem with Joy: Can we work on being happier?", speaker Rabbi Moshe Tzvi Weinberg, can be downloaded/listened to from Audio page of ACTT website www.actt613.org/6.html. For info, email info@actt613.org or call Phil Rosen (732) 572-8762.

MAZEL TOV

... to Miriam and Mark Goldblatt on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Jonah. Mazel Tov to the siblings Eliana and Yossi Cohen, Avital and Sammy, to the grandparents Dr. Irwin and Mildred Goldblatt and Rabbi Sherwin Baim and to the aunts and uncles and all of the cousins. ... to Mel Barenholtz on the Bat Mitzvah of his granddaughter, Tova, this past weekend in Boca Raton.

SHAIMOS COLLECTION

Congregation Ohr Torah will hold this year's community Shaimos Collection on Sunday, March 4th from 9:30AM to 5PM. The cost is \$20 per large garbage sized bags. Please make all checks out to Congregation Ohr Torah. (Coordinator/questions) Barry Siegel, siegedad@gmail.net Seforim sale: There will also be a used Seforim sale at this time, Great Bargains!!! Come find your hard-to-find and/or out-of-print books and stock up your home libraries.

NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome new members:
-Mechal and Zalmi Levine

SEFORIM

Thanks to the following for their generous Seforim donations:
-Robert & Riki Kreitman in memory of Aviva Wein Shimoni's father Moshe Wein Z"L
-Robert & Riki Kreitman in memory of Neal Auman's father George Auman Z"L
-Honey & Max Wisotsky in memory of Neal Auman's father George Auman Z"L

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

RPRY S.O.S. MISHMAR

Parents and students of all grades are invited to join RPRY in their Beit Midrash every Motzei Shabbat from 7:30PM-8:30PM for S.O.S. (Save our Saturday Nights) Mishmar. Bring yourself, your Chevrua and your Sefarim and enjoy pizza, refreshments, raffle prizes and quality time. To sponsor an S.O.S. Mishmar, contact Rabbi Einzig at 732-572-5052 ext. 203.

THE YESHIVA TUITION CRISIS: IS THERE A SOLUTION IN SIGHT?

The Orthodox Forum of Edison/HP presents a panel discussion with leading educators and innovators in day school sustainability and affordability solutions on Saturday night, March 3, 8pm at Cong Etz Ahaim. The panel includes Rabbi Tomer Ronen, Head of School, Yeshivat He'Atid; Rabbi Dr. Wallace Greene, Former Yeshiva Principal, Founder Sinai Schools and Josh Caplan, Executive Dir, Teach NJS. The program is free of

SHIURIM

- Rabbi Akiva Sauer's Shiur on Daf Yomi Be'Iyun – cancelled this week
- Rabbi Luban's Monday night Shiur on Sh'eilos Uteshuvos – 9:10PM.
-- Rabbi Malitzky's Chafetz Chaim Shiur – Weds. 8:30 PM
[Daf Yomi Schedule](#)
Monday-Thursday-after 7:30 PM Maariv
Friday -after Maariv
Shabbos 8:15 AM
Sun-after 8 AM Shacharis.

KIDDUSH

Kiddush is sponsored by Miriam and Mark Goldblatt in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Jonah. Everyone is invited to the Kiddush in RPRY. Kiddush sponsorship is available for March 10 and April 21st.

SHALOSH SEUDOS

Shalosh Seudos is sponsored by Dr. Ted Stahl in memory of the Yahrtzeit of his wife Dr. Eva Stahl, Chava bas Binyomin A"H.

CONG. OHR TORAH ANNUAL DINNER

Cong. Ohr Torah is pleased to announce the honorees for its upcoming annual dinner: *Gershon and Deena Klavan & Srulee and Alisa Hercman*

Please join us on Sunday, April 29 as we honor these two very special couples.

OHR TORAH YOUTH PROGRAM

PRACTICE FIRE DRILL

The youth program will participate in our first fire drill on Shabbat March 3rd at 10:50AM sharp. It is expected that this drill will end at 11AM. A Fire drill is planned for the adult Minyanim after Pesach. Details will be forthcoming.

PLEASE RETURN

There were several red "Lockdown Panic Bar Straps" on the table in the back of the

REMINDER: Emergency Defibrillators are located on the upstairs wall hallway & the entry hallway downstairs. Please note the location of the new First Aid Kits mounted on the wall below/above each Defibrillator.

CHEVRA HATZOLAH OF MIDDLESEX COUNTY 732-456-6666

EDISON/HP CHAI LIFELINE SHABBATON

The Edison/HP Chai Lifeline Shabbaton is scheduled for March 16-17. There will be approx 25 boys who are battling cancer attending this event. They are looking for high school boys and girls to volunteer. Please contact barbaraedery@gmail.com if you are able to volunteer. To donate, please write a check to Chai Lifeline and mail to: David Waizer, 53 North 7th Ave, Highland Park, NJ.

LARGE PRINT HAGGADAHS

For over 87 years, the JBI Library has enabled visually impaired people all over the world to participate in the most treasured of Jewish rituals, the Passover Seder, by providing FREE Large Print Haggadot. If you or someone you know needs a Large Print Haggadah this year, please call JBI toll-free 1-800-999-6476 before March 22 and they will be happy to send you a Large Print Haggadah, completely free of charge. Enjoy the Seder! JBI is the largest library of Jewish interest in the world for the visually impaired with over 13,000 Talking Book titles. All JBI services are free to the user and delivered to the individual at his/her home. If you have questions or need any more info don't hesitate to contact me at 1-800-433-1531 ext. 127. Arlene Porath-Arfe JBI Librarian

EMPLOYMENT NETWORK OF RARITAN VALLEY

www.ENRV.org or contact Bob Lansley at ENRVInfo@gmail.com. We post over 100 jobs each month, and help people with their resume and search strategies.

Please help: If you know of any professional, part-time, or temporary job openings, please e-mail the info to ENRVInfo@gmail.com.

SKILLS LEARNING OPPORTUNITY

Women in the community are invited to the 2nd annual Genius Bar, a "reverse mentorship" program jointly sponsored by Project Ezra and Ma'ayanot Yeshiva High School for Girls. Women eager to learn technology skills will be paired with Ma'ayanot student mentors who will work one-on-one to help the women achieve their goals. The Genius Bar, which is free of charge, has several menu options to choose from, including Google apps, Microsoft Office, graphic design, iMovie, social media and general computing. A pre-session will also be given by an HR professional and Ma'ayanot's Technology staff about LinkedIn, Personal Branding, Google Apps, & Advanced internet resourcefulness

What: Genius Bar Technology Mentorship for Women Dates: Monday, March 5, 12, 19, and 26 Time: 11:15AM-12:20PM Place: Ma'ayanot, 1650 Palisade Ave., Teaneck, NJ

Sponsored by: Project Ezra & Ma'ayanot Sign up: <https://goo.gl/66UQUJ> More info: <https://www.maayanot.org/event/genius-bar/> or contact rachelbook@gmail.com.

MA'AYANOT YESHIVA HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Ma'ayanot Yeshiva High School for Girls invites the community to our Annual Scholarship Dinner Saturday night, March 10, 8:30PM Cong Keter Torah, Teaneck, NJ Please join us in expressing Hakarat Hatov to our honorees:

Mr. Saul & Mrs. Deena Kaszovitz - Keter Shem Tov Award, Rabbi Elie & Dr. Miriam Berman-Amudei Ma'ayanot Honorees, Dr. Neer & Mrs. Lynn Even-Hen- Parents of the Year, Ms. Samantha Kur - Teacher of the Year To make a pledge and reservation, please visit:

<https://www.maayanot.org/annual-dinner/> contact Pam Ennis, Dir of Development 201-833-4307x. 265 ennisp@maayanot.org

MOVING TO ISRAEL?

There will be an informative presentation on packing and shipping your household belongings to Israel for those planning Aliyah, given by one of the premier shippers in business for 30+years Tue, March 6 at 7:30PM at the Himmel's house, 409 Grant Ave., HP. Bring your own chair (folding chair, if possible.) Questions? Rivka 732-247-0621

NEFESH B'NEFESH ALIYAH EVENT

Join Nefesh B'Nefesh for the Aliyah event of the year! Sun, March 11th, John Jay College Manhattan Hear from professionals about employment, communities, education, taxes, budgeting and retirement in Israel, and featuring a vendor fair running throughout the day. This is a great opportunity to meet and network with other people planning Aliyah. Check-in & Registration Times: Empty Nesters & Retirees: 10am Medical Professionals: 10am General Programming: 11:30am Students & Young Professionals: 1pm For more info: www.nbn.org.il/nyc2018

NETIVOT PRE-PESACH SPECTACULAR

Netivot is hosting a Pre-Pesach Spectacular on March 11. Featuring the acrobatics of the French Twins from France and Alex's Bubble Show. Doors open at 1:30. Show 2:00-3:30. Bartle School in Highland Park. \$18 per ticket (early bird). Order tickets at netivot.booktix.com.

AA PRACTICAL HALACHA SERIES

The community is invited to a weekly learning opportunity at Ahavas Achim Tuesday evenings 8:45PM -9:30PM in the Beit Midrash on the Laws of Shabbat with a focus on Amira L'Akum: The laws of instructing a non-Jew to perform Melacha on Shabbat. Instructor is Rabbi Yehoshua Lewis, the Dir of Mesorah NJ. The shiur follows the structure of Kitzur Shulchan Aruch. This learning opportunity is sponsored in memory of Joel Cohen, z"l and is free and open to the public.

- The Ahavas Achim youth dept has an easy and convenient way for you to bring joy to your family, friends, and Israeli soldiers. All you need to do is log on to www.gilisgoodies.com and use the code "AA 2018" or 1-866-721-7292 mention AA The AA youth dept receives 10% of all orders placed

SADD

Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) is a national organization that aims to create a safer environment for all by advocating for thoughtful and positive decision making. In particular, SADD focuses on traffic safety and educating teenagers about the dangers of driving. RKYHS has teamed up with SADD to raise awareness and help prevent motor vehicle accidents. By bringing in speakers, assembling facts, and running campaigns RKYHS is helping to prevent destructive decisions. Visit the SADD official website to learn more about the organization and how you can get involved. In the meantime, stay safe by driving safe.

MODEST NECESSITIES

This Monday evening, March 5, Modest Necessities is coming to Edison, NJ. They will be selling children's and women's clothing for yom tov. The sale will take place at the home of Chani Wiesel, 16 Harrison St, from 5-9 pm.

AY CLOTHING GIVEAWAY

The AY annual clothing giveaway will be on Sunday March 11 from 10AM -3PM at 1587 Rt 27, Edison, NJ. Come "shop" for the entire family for new to you clothing. Donations are optional (but welcome). Clothing donations (in EXCELLENT condition only) can be dropped off at 238 Harrison Ave., Highland Park, NJ. For more info regarding donating clothing to the giveaway, please contact Ida Scheiner at (917) 439-6163. For more information about the clothing giveaway, please contact Rivka Jaffe at (732) 762-0490.

TOMCHEI SHABBOS PESACH CAMPAIGN

With Pesach only one month away, there are families in our community for whom purchasing even the basic necessities for the holiday is a crushing financial burden. Tomchei Shabbos helps ease this burden, and provide peace of mind, by ensuring that these families' basic needs are met. For Tomchei Shabbos, this is our largest campaign of the year. Families in our community are counting on this food but we need your support to make it happen. Donations can be made through website www.tomcheimc.org. Checks can also be sent to Tomchei Shabbos of Middlesex County, c/o Cong. Ohr Torah,

WEB: RABBI YISROEL WEISS SHIUR

Rabbi Yisroel Weiss shiur, "Living with Parsha", for men and women: Wednesday evenings 8:30PM at the Eiserman's home, 154 North 10th Ave, HP. For info, call Marsha at 732-503-8675.

TIFERES

DVD for women Motzai Shabbos, March 10 at 9PM at the Siegel house: Speaker - Rabbi Daniel Glatstein and Mrs. Miryam Swerdlov. Topic: "Simcha: How to Find it?" Weekly teleconferences with topics such as shalom bayis and parenting are available to Tiferes members. Current teleconference: "Raising Happy Children - The Myths, The Reality" Speaker: Mrs. Debbie Selengut. For info/to become a member, contact Aviva at sieglmom@gmail.com. The HP/Edison group of Tiferes is zecher l'nishmas Malka bas Shalom.

FOR WOMEN

-Sundays 10AM - Rabbi Bassous Class on 13 Principles of Faith for Women at Etz Ahaim.
-Sun 11AM-Rebbetzin Eichenstein's Tefillah class for women at the Agudah. Check class status with Aviva 732-572-4408 or sieglmom@gmail.com
-Mon 8PM Rebbetzin Eichenstein's Parsha class at OT. Check class status with Aviva 732-572-4408 or sieglmom@gmail.com
-Mrs. Leah Drillman's Shimiras Haloshon class resumes after Pesach.
-Tues Mrs. Miri Cohen's Parsha Class For class status call/text Leah 917-763-1848
-Women's AMEN Group meets monthly on Sundays following the Shabbos in which one benches Rosh Chodesh, 9:30AM in a downstairs classroom at Cong Ohr Torah. The group meets in the zechur of a refuah shelaimah for Menachem Mordechai ben Ophira and other community Cholim

GEMACHS

-Diaper Gemach HP/Edison: Diapers, pullups, wipes needed Email diapergemach@gmail.com.
-The Edison/HP Gown Gemach, L'iluy Nishmas R' Yitzchok Ben Binyomin Gemach Gowns for children thru adult. Donations of good condition gowns sought. Tax deduct given/pick up of gowns arranged. Info/appt Sara Scott 516-526-0941.

PARK MIKVAH

Amazon. Use the following link: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7037953>. A donation will be made to Park Mikvah.

-Hours: Sun-Thu hours are 8PM-10:30PM. Fri night by appt only-leave a message at 732-249-2411 or via website or call/text 732-221-8155

All Motzai Shabbos in Feb: 7:45-10:15PM Feb 28 (Megillas Esther) by appt only; March 3 March 10: 8PM-10:30PM. March 10: 8PM-10:30PM; March 17, 24: 9:15-11:15; March 30-31 (Pesach) by appt only. Check for updates at www.parkmikvah.org and 732-249-2411
-Have you participated in this incredible mitzvah campaign yet? Go to www.parkmikvah.org/donate to help raise the remaining funds!

OHR TORAH NEWSLETTER: To subscribe to Announcements, go to www.ohrtorah.net
E-MAIL LIST: To join OT email list, contact Gene Wasserman at genew@compugene.com.

KIDDUSH SPONSORSHIP: To sponsor Kiddush or reserve Kiddush room contact Russell Adler or Elie Wiesel at reservations@ohrtorah.net

SHALOSH SEUDOS SPONSORSHIP: To sponsor Shalosh Seudos, contact Moshe Wiesel.

BUILDING DEDICATION OPPORTUNITIES
Contact Moshe Schneider at 732-618-4702.

TREE OF LIFE / YAHRZEIT PLAQUES: To dedicate a Yahrzeit Plaque or Leaf for the Lobby Eitz Chayim Tree, contact Moish Nat by sending detailed fax with all dedicatory wording to 732-759-8558. For more info, call Moish at 732-759-807 work days or 732-572-4132 in the evening.

SEFORIM DEDICATIONS: Book/Seforim Dedications of all types are available contact Barry Siegel siegeldad@optonline.net.

HOUSEKEEPING: For housekeeping issues and inquiries contact Lou Smith at ludeeju@gmail.com or 732-572-5633.

KEILIM MIKVAH HOURS :Ohr Torah Keilim Mikvah hours are officially Sundays from 7AM-10AM. If you need special access during non-open hours, contact Barry Siegel 732- 572-4408 or siegeldad@optonline.net.

OHR TORAH YOUTH PROGRAM EVENTS: Children can register for events on OT's website "ohrtorah.net" or call Mayer Berg at 732-572-3429.

REFUAH SHLEIMAH LEARNING: See the OT website, www.ohrtorah.net, for various schedules of learning as a Z'chus for a Refuah Shleimah

FUNERAL/ SHIVA ANNOUNCEMENTS: For funeral and Shiva email and phone mail announcements contact Reena Greenspan 732-828-5642 (home) 732-678-8848 (cell), reenagreenspan@yahoo.com or Gene Wasserman 732-397-0130 or genew@compugene.com

YAHRZEIT DATABASE: To register a family member in the Yahrzeit database, go to ohrtorah.net and click "Register for OT Yahrzeit Notification" or speak with Ralph Dessau or Gene Wasserman.

LOCAL ERUV: If you depend on the eruv for carrying on Shabbat you are responsible to check the status of the eruv before Shabbat starts. We now have *six* different ways you can check the eruv's status:
-Twitter: You can get a free Twitter account and follow the user [@hp_eruv](https://twitter.com/hp_eruv).

-Text Messaging: You can get text message updates of the eruv's status on your cell phone. You need a Twitter account Twitter accounts are free. Follow [hp_eruv](https://twitter.com/hp_eruv) to 40404. Go to the Eruv webpage for complete directions on [setting up text messaging](#) the Highland Park Eruv website.

-Facebook: Follow the [@hperuv](https://www.facebook.com/hperuv) Facebook group. Webpage: The Highland Park Eruv webpage displays the Twitter updates on the [Home](#) page and on the [News](#) page.

-Phone Hotline: The Phone hotline at 732-247---ERUV is updated before Shabbat.

-Email Alerts: Go to the [Highland Park Eruv](#) webpage, and sign up.

Parshas Vayakhel-Pekudei

Candlelighting:	5:40PM
Mincha	5:45 PM

Ohr Torah can be found at <http://www.ohrtorah.net>. Join the email list for Weekly Announcements. Announcements should be sent to announcements@ohrtorah.net by 7PM Wed. Please make sure to leave a contact/callback name and phone number.

Sof Davar

by Moshe Sherman

R. Yisroel Zev Gustman (1908-1991)

Last time in *Sof Davar*, we discussed the story of R. Shlomo Heiman, rosh yeshiva of the Ramailes Yeshiva in Vilna, who came to Brooklyn to serve as Rosh Yeshiva of Mesivta Torah Vodaath, from 1935 until his untimely death in 1944. Following R. Shlomo Heiman's departure from the Ramailes Yeshiva, he was succeeded by R. Yisroel Zev Gustman.

Yisroel Zev Gustman was born in 1908 in a small town near Bialystok, the son of a petty merchant. With clear signs of aptitude and passion for Torah learning, Yisroel Zev was not yet 12 years old, when he left home to study at the yeshiva in Grodno, where the distinguished R. Shimon Shkop served as rosh yeshiva. Among the outstanding older boys at Grodno, at that time, was R. Chaim Shmulevitz, who later became rosh yeshiva of the Mir Yeshiva. Following a long day of learning, after midnight, during the early hours of the morning, the young Yisroel Zev Gustman studied with the older bochur, Chaim Shmulevitz, at a nearby shul beis midrash. As word became known regarding the brilliance of the young boy, R. Elchanan Wasserman traveled to Grodno to arrange that his son, R. Naphtali Wasserman study together with Yisroel Gustman.

In 1930, Rav Chaim Ozer Grodzenski, the celebrated Rav of Vilna, sent word to a number of *roshei yeshiva* that the daughter of R. Meir Bassin, one of the *dayanim* of the Vilna beis din, was of marriageable age, and in need of a *shidduch*. R. Shimon Shkop sent his son-in-law to R. Chaim Ozer recommending that he meet Yisroel Gustman, whom he felt was proficient in *Shas* and had potential for greatness. R. Chaim Ozer requested that R. Shlomo Heiman travel to Grodno to test Yisroel Gustman, who agreed that this was a worthy *shidduch* to pursue. Sadly, following R. Gustman's engagement to the daughter of R. Meir Basin, the great Vilna dayan died, prior the wedding. R. Chaim Ozer assumed responsibility for the wedding arrangements and served as *mesader kiddushin*.

Remarkably, R. Gustman was not yet 22 years old, when R. Chaim Ozer appointed him as a Vilna *dayyan*, in place of his departed father-in-law. That same year, he was also appointed *maggid shiur* at the Ramailles Yeshiva, now led by R. Shlomo Heiman. In 1935, when R. Shlomo Heiman left the Ramailes Yeshiva for Mesivta Torah Vodaath in Brooklyn, R. Chaim Ozer asked R. Yisroel Gustman, who was then only 27 years old, and still serving as one of the Vilna dayyaim, to become *rosh yeshiva* of the Ramailes Yeshiva.

In June 1941, the Germans invaded Lithuania and captured the city of Vilna. Eager to apprehend Jewish leaders, the Nazis burst into R. Gustman's home. Though they beat and bloodied him, he remarkably escaped, shaving his beard and hiding his identity. This began a lengthy period of enormous suffering. While living in the Vilna ghetto, his only son, Meir, was murdered before his eyes. Shortly before the total liquidation of the Vilna ghetto, he escaped with his wife and daughter, and took refuge on the farm of a kind non-Jew. For months, they hid in a filthy pit, with little to eat. When it became necessary to leave the farm, they escaped to the forest, joining a group of partisans. R. Gustman often said that during the war, he was witness to all of the atrocities mentioned in the *Kinnos* of *Tisha b'Av*.

When the Russians regained control of Lithuania in the summer of 1944, the Gustman family returned to Vilna to find almost of the shuls and the community destroyed. He remained for a while in Vilna trying to help the remnants of those who survived. Before Pesach 1945, a high ranking Jewish communist warned R. Gustman that Soviet authorities wanted him exiled to Siberia. R. Gustman wished to remain in Vilna through Pesach but the Jewish communist strongly advised that he leave immediately. Following the second seder, while still yom tov, the Gustman family clandestinely escaped from the city of Vilna, slowly making their way to Prague. From Prague, they fled to Paris, where they remained for more than six months. With the assistance of the Vaad Hatzalah, R. Gustman and family obtained entry visas to the United States, and in the summer of 1946, they made their to America.

^ Next week, we will continue the story of R. Gustman, as he rebuilds his life in America, and then later in Israel.