

בס"ד. שלהי מנחם אב תשע"ו

To the families of Ana"sh 'ש' of the community at the EU – Brussels
And virtual community at Sichoacademy.org

Reminders for the Family - Elul 5776 –Year of Hakhel

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Wishing everyone a *Ksivo Vachasimo Toivo, Leshono Toivo Umesuko* - May we merit this year to hear the “Shofar Godol”, that will be heard at the arrival of Moshiach!

Rabbi Levi Yitzchok Garelik
Rabbigarelik@sichosonline.org

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Throughout the month of Elul:

1. **Ledovid Hashem Ori:** From the first day of *Rosh Chodesh*, we add this chapter of *Tehillim*, every day, in *Shacharis* and *Mincha*.
2. **Shofar:** During the first day of *Rosh Chodesh* we blow the *Shofar* to “practice”. See a *shiur* on our website <http://theonlinerabbi.com/sichosonline/elul/> based on *Likutei Sichos* Volume 34 that explains the concept of this “practice” and what happens this year that the first day of *Rosh Chodesh* is *Shabbos*.....
From the second day of *Rosh Chodesh*, we blow *Shofar* every day (besides for *Shabbos* and *Erev Rosh Hashono*) after *Shacharis*. If, for whatever reason, it was not done after *Shacharis* – it can be done later (when there was a “Rally” etc. they would (also) blow the shofar after *Mincha*). The Rebbe encouraged that when going on *Mivtzoim*, one should see to it that as many people as possible hear *Tkiyas Shofar*.
3. **Three Chapters of Tehillim:** The *Baal Shem Tov* instituted that every day of *Elul* we say 3 additional chapters of *Tehillim*: On the first day of *Elul* (second day of *Rosh Chodesh*) we say chapters 1-3, on the second day, chapters 4-6, etc. If someone missed it, one should say today’s chapters first and then complete what they missed.
4. **Pirkei Avos:** When two chapters are recited, the *Mishnayos* of “*Kol Yisroel...*” and “*Rabbi Chananya*” are recited only once.
5. **Checking Tefillin and Mezuzos:** If they weren’t checked within the last 12 months, the *Tefillin* and the *Mezuzos* should be checked.

6. ***Ksivo Vachasimo Toivo***: we wish everyone (even when finishing a letter or email), men to men, women to women, and children (boys to boys and girls to girls) a *Ksivo V'chasimo Toivo Leshono Toivo Umesuko*.
7. ***Tshuva and Cheshbon HaNefesh***: We do *Teshuva* and a *Cheshbon Hanefesh* for the whole year.
8. ***Tzedoko***: We add in the giving of *Tzedoko*, especially to give for the needy for *YomTov* (Just like *Maos Chitim* for *Pesach*).
9. ***Der Oibershter tells the Yiden – I am giving you 29-30 days***: See the famous *sicha* of the *Rebbe* in *Likutei Sichos, Chelek Bais*, page 626, [you can see a video on this *sicha* at: <http://theonlinerabbi.com/sichosonline/mitzvah-believe-moshiach-part-2/>] and the many *Sichos* that discuss the famous *Moshol* (parable) of “*Melech Basode*” (the King in the field).
10. **11 Elul**: *Chasuna* of the *Rebbe Rashab*.
11. **13 Elul**: *Chasuna* of the *Frierdiker Rebbe*.
12. **15 Elul**: Establishment of *Yeshivas Tomchei Tmimim*.
13. **18 Elul – Chai Elul**: Birthday of the *Baal Shem Tov* and the *Alter Rebbe*. On this day the *Rabeyim* would say “*Gut Yom Tov*”. *Chassidim* have the custom to *farbreng*, tell stories of *Tzadikim* and undertake *Hachlotois* in strengthening *Ahavas Yisroel* and setting aside time for learning *Nigle* and *Chasidus*.
14. **12 days**: Each of the 12 days from *Chai Elul* to *Rosh Hashono*, represent one of the previous 12 months. So *Chai Elul* is the day of *Cheshbon Hanefesh* for the previous *Tishrei* etc.
15. ***Motzoei Shabbos Parshas Ki-Sovo***: After midnight we go to *Slichos* and continue to do so every morning until *Erev Rosh Hashono*.
16. **23 Elul**: *Yahrzeit* of *Reb Meir Shlomo Yanovsky* – the *Rebbetzin Chana's* father. The *Rebbe* would say *Kadish*.
17. **25 Elul**: The *Rebbe* used to say *Kadish*.
18. **29 Elul**: Birthday of the *Tzemach Tzedek*.

The “Reminders” for *Rosh Hashono* will be available IY”H mid-Elul.

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Rabbi levi Y. Garelik
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