

B"H, 10 Tamuz, 5766

**ESSAY- THE MEANING OF HISKASHRUS  
TO THE REBBE**

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The Lubavitcher Rebbe is the Moshe Rabenu, the Nasi HaDor, the one top leader of all Jews in the world. (Although, the Rebbe was nistalik on Gimmel Tamuz, the 3rd of Tamuz in 5754, but he leads us from above.)

To summarize the meaning of Hiskashrus (Connection) to the Rebbe into one single point- it means that your soul is literally connected to the Rebbe's soul. And not only that, but you literally feel this inside of your soul, that you are totally connected to the Rebbe. And it really goes even much further- Connection implies that that are two separate things, you and the Rebbe, and that you are both connected. Hiskashrus, connection to the Rebbe, really means to be totally united and totally one with the Rebbe.

We find this same exact thing mentioned in the Chumash (the 5 Books of Moses, the Torah)- When Yehuda went to Yosef, his brother, to demand that Yosef release Benyomin (one of Yehuda and Yosef's other 10 brothers)(since Yosef was the ruler of all of Egypt), Yehuda explained to Yosef that Benyomin was connected to Yaakov, their father. To quote Yehuda exactly, Yehuda said, "va'Nafsho kashura ba'Nafsho", and his soul (Benyomin's) is connected to his soul (Yaakov our father).

This means that the soul of Benyomin is literally connected to the soul of Yaakov our father. Which this also means that the soul of every single Jew is connected to the soul of the Moshe (the top leader) of the generation, which in our generation, the Lubavitcher Rebbe is the Moshe of the generation. This means that not only are Lubavitcher Chassidim connected to the Lubavitcher Rebbe, but that every single Jew, men, women and children are connected to the Rebbe. As Rashi (the most major commentator on the Torah, the 5 Books of Moses) writes in Parshas Chukas (a section of the Torah) that "HaNosi hu ha'kol", that the Moshe, the top leader of all Jews in every generation, includes within his soul the souls of all of the Jews in the generation.

The next question that one could ask is- How can I become connected to the Rebbe, the Lubavitcher Rebbe?

First, as just mentioned, even without doing anything at all, every single Jew is ALREADY totally connected to the Rebbe. The difference is that one has to openly and outwardly reveal and bring out this connection to the Rebbe that is inside of his soul so that he can openly feel it. Then, the question is how do you do this?

First, the Rebbe himself writes in his Chassidus book, HaYom Yom, From Day to Day, that the Friediker Rebbe, the Previous Lubavitcher Rebbe said over how one can become connected to him- basically, through learning the Torah writings of the Rebbe and through getting together with other Lubavitcher Chassidim in Chassidic Farbrengens (get-togethers)..

That is all fine and well. But one could say that he greatly studies the Torah writings of the Rebbe, and very much gets together with other Lubavitcher Chassidim, and yet he doesn't feel openly any connection to the Rebbe. He will ask, how can I openly experience and feel that soul type connection to the Rebbe?

I will explain this as follows- First, according to my own personal knowledge, we older Lubavitcher Chassidim who know the Rebbe personally, and have a very maturely developed relationship with the Rebbe, and having spent so many years together with the Rebbe in 770 (the Central Lubavitch Synagogue in Crown Heights Brooklyn, New York) were able to develop that total soul-type connection to the Rebbe through not only studying the Rebbe's Torah and through getting together with other Lubavitcher Chassidim, but by personally knowing the Rebbe. We literally feel like children of the Rebbe, and we literally look and feel toward the Rebbe as our literal father.

A good example of another soul-type connection between one Jew and another Jew, that is extremely easy for everyone to understand, is your own personal soul-type connection to your Father and Mother. A lot of people don't think about it too much, and they tend to take it for granted. But, when you really think about it, you actually have that same soul-type connection to your Father and Mother. And very similar to this, yet even much more so, is the soul-type connection between every Jew and the Rebbe. The reason that I say that every Jew's connection to the Rebbe is much greater than to your Father and Mother is because your Father and Mother are in a physical sense- they physically gave birth to you, although that also means that your soul is spiritually connected to your Father and Mother's souls. Yet, as mentioned above, the Rebbe's soul is a general all-encompassing soul that includes within it the soul's of the entire Jewish people. This also means that the Rebbe's soul is the essence or inner core of the entire Jewish people. So, whereas your Father and Mother are only two individual and specific Jews, and your soul-connection to them is more specific, the Rebbe's soul includes your soul

together with the souls of all other Jew's for ALL OF THE GENERATIONS, which this, the souls of all Jews together with the soul of the Rebbe are all one thing and totally united with HaShem, the Infinite G-d.

Now, I will give you the perfect example of how you can openly feel your connection to the Rebbe even though you never personally knew the Rebbe- I was born in 5715, and the Friediker Rebbe, the Previous Lubavitcher Rebbe passed away in 5710. Yet, because I have developed, with HaShem's help, such a strong connection to this Rebbe, I personally feel a strong connection to the Friediker Rebbe. This Rebbe said after 5710 when the Friediker Rebbe passed away, that "nishmaso be", "His soul (the Friediker Rebbe's soul) is inside of me (this Rebbe)". This means that the Friediker Rebbe and this Rebbe are totally one. So because I personally know this Rebbe, when I see a picture of the Friediker Rebbe or when I study the Torah writings of the Friediker Rebbe, I literally feel that I am connected to him exactly as I am connected to this Rebbe.

The next step is- how can YOU develop this same connection to the Rebbe if you didn't know him?

The only thing that I can suggest is by developing a very strong and powerful connection to some Lubavitcher Chossid-Rabbi that himself knows and has a great connection to the Rebbe. This is for the simple reason that ALL LUBAVITCHER CHASSIDIM are literally the children of the Rebbe. And just as a child is one thing totally together with his Father and Mother, so every Chossid is one entity together with the Rebbe. As the Rebbe himself said in a Sich'a (a Torah Talk) that the Rebbe and the Chassidim are one matsius, one existence (TOTALLY).

A point that many people may not realize is that- the task of revealing your connection to the Rebbe is not only a one sided thing that you by yourself have to do. Rather, the Rebbe being such a big Tzadik, Righteous Holy Jew, already knows you and everything about you. And the Rebbe, even without you knowing it, is already sending his soul-type influence to you into your neshama, your soul. Its just that you have to tune into this connection to the Rebbe that you already have.

Another very important way to bring out your connection to the Rebbe is to write notes to the Rebbe requesting blessings and informing the Rebbe of important things going on in your life. I will explain this as follows- there is a thousands of years old Jewish tradition, going back to Mount Sinai, to go to the grave of the Tzadik, the Rebbe, and put notes by the grave. This is because we KNOW that the Rebbe is up in heaven, and can see and hear everything going on in this world. So, when the Rebbe gets your note that you put by his grave, up in heaven, the Rebbe prays to HaShem, G-d, on your behalf. Also, in response to your note, the Rebbe sends you his blessings. This means that, after you hand in your note to the Ohel, the Tent, the gravesite, of the Rebbe, if you look for it

and notice it, you can actually see that G-d gives you this thing that you want through the Rebbe's blessing. This ongoing relationship that you form with the Rebbe by writing in to him and then seeing these things come about in your life, greatly brings out your hiskashrus, connection, to the Rebbe. The Rebbe's Ohel, Tent, gravesite, is in Queens, New York City, New York. There is a Lubavitch Synagogue right there. To fax in your note, the fax number is (718) 723-4444. If you want to call in your message over the telephone, the phone number is (718) 723-4545.

Another great way to strengthen your connection to the Rebbe is to regularly see videos of the Rebbe. The reason for this is because the Rebbe has a very high and POWERFUL neshama, soul. And by regularly seeing the Rebbe's videos, you will certainly develop a feeling for the personality of the Rebbe. The World Lubavitch Communication Center, WLCC, over the 50 years of the Rebbe's leadership has kept a full file of all of the video and audio tapes of the Rebbe. There is a tremendous amount of video and audio tapes. You can get them by calling WLCC at (718) 773-7777

There is also another very powerful concept in Chassidus that explains how it is that by studying the Torah writings of the Rebbe that you can greatly bring out in the open your connection to the Rebbe- It says in Chassidus that the first word of the Aserus HaDebros, the Ten Commandments, is Anochi, I (am the L-rd your G-d). Anochi, I, is made up of four letters, Aleph, Non, Chuf and Yud. These letters are each the first letter of these four words- Ana Nafshee Kasavees Yahavees, which means (that G-d says) I gave My Soul in writing ( in the Torah). This means that G-d LITERALLY put Himself, His Infinite Essence, inside of the Torah. That is why it is so so important to study Torah. Because when you study Torah you greatly connect and unite your soul to HaShem, the Infinite G-d. Also, it says in Chassidus, that Tzadikim, Holy Righteous Jews (such as the Rebbe) are domim, similiar to G-d (although not G-d Himself). So, this means that Tzadikim, the Rebbe, literally puts his own soul into his Torah writings. And that is why the Rebbe wrote in his book HaYom Yom, (mentioned earlier in this essay), that one of the ways to connect yourself to the Rebbe is to study the Torah writings of the Rebbe.

It says in Chassidus that the Rebbe is a mamutza, an intermediary between G-d and the Jewish People. This means that one of the functions of the Rebbe is to greatly connect every single Jew with the Infinite G-d. Since the Rebbe has that general all-encompassing soul that includes within it the souls of all Jews, and the Rebbe is the inner essence of all Jews, this means that G-d sends all of his blessings for everything in every Jew's life THROUGH the soul of the Rebbe down to that individual Jew. That is why it is so so important to be greatly connected to the Rebbe.

Also, by learning ALL of Chassidus (as well as all of the

other parts of Torah) you greatly connect your soul to the Rebbe. That is because all of the Lubavitcher Rebbes are really altogether one thing. So, all of the Chassidic teachings of all of the Rebbes are connected to the Rebbe's teachings.

So PLEASE PLEASE come to the tremendously important realization of how important it is to be greatly connected to the Rebbe, which is Hiskashrus, Connection.