



**Historic Convocation
Tefilas Hashlah**

Erev Rosh Chodesh Sivan 5772

***The Gedolei Hador Shlita
Join Together
in Tiberias***

For The Sake Of Your Children

Historic Prayer Session

At The Tomb Of The Shlah, For Our Children's Sake

No one remembers a prayer gathering as moving as last year at this time at the gravesite of the Shlah Hakadosh in Tiberias. A multitude of people gathered there on Erev Rosh Chodesh Sivan, a time for which the Shlah composed a *tefillah* with a special *segulah* for the success and spiritual welfare of our children. Countless thousands of Jewish children, many who became *gedolim*, were raised with the Shlah's *tefilla*.

Emotions soared as the crowd beheld the presence of *Gedolei Torah* including: Hagaon Harav **Shmuel Auerbach** shlita, the **Vizhnitzer Rebbe** shlita, the **Biala Rebbe** shlita, the **Chernobyler Rebbe** shlita, Hagaon Harav **Yaakov Edelstein** shlita, Hagaon Harav **Shmuel Yaakov Borenstein** shlita,

Hagaon Harav **Dov Yaffe** shlita, Hagaon Harav **David Abuhazeira** shlita, and Hagaon Harav **Ezriel Auerbach** shlita chairman of Vaad Harabanim.

The assembly began with the **Biala Rebbe's** *divrei hisorerus*, highlighting the greatness of the day and the key role it plays in insuring that we receive *nachas* from our children. Hagaon Harav **Shmuel Yaakov Borenstein** shlita then led the thousands in the recital of Tehillim, beseeching Hashem that we merit raising our children in the path of Torah.

The climax was when the *Gedolim* led the emotional and teary-eyed multitude in reciting the actual *tefilla* of the Shlah – word for word, in unison. We pray to

Hashem to answer our *tefilla* and help us raise our children blessed with health, steeped in Torah, and of fine character!

Immediately thereafter, the *Rabbanim shlita* spent an extended period of time reading out the names of all the donors to Vaad Harabanim.

At the same time, Vaad Harabanim's messengers made their way to the homes of other *Gedolim*, who were unable to participate in this momentous gathering. Posek Hador Hagaon Harav **Yosef Shalom Eliyashiv** shlita, Posek Hador Hagaon Harav **Shmuel Halevi Wozhner** shlita, the Rosh Hayeshiva Hagaon Harav **Aharon Leib Steinman** shlita, Hagaon Harav **Michel Yehuda Lefkowitz** shlita, Hagaon Harav **Nissim Karelitz** shlita, Hagaon Harav **Chaim Kanievsky** shlita, the **Rachmestrivka Rebbe** shlita, Hagaon Harav **Yaakov Hillel** shlita – they all prayed where they were, on behalf of the children of Vaad Harabanim's donors, that they should merit growing in Torah and *yiras Shamayim*.

This historic *tefilla* surely pierced the heavens and

will bring great *zechus* to those whose names were mentioned at the Shlah's gravesite!!

As we know, the *Gedolei Hador* are surely the busiest people around. In addition to their many hours in Torah learning, they carry the burden of guiding the generation, and are the address for multitudes seeking their counsel.

But incredible as it may sound, they are soon planning to take time off from their strenuous schedules, this year again, and travel to Tiberias, on Erev Rosh Chodesh Sivan.

You might wonder about the purpose behind such the excursion. The answer is very simple:

They are doing it for you. In fact, for the sake of your children!!

Shouldn't you take advantage of the opportunity??



What Don't We Do For Them?

We expend endless energy raising our children. We send them to the finest schools and then to the most appropriate yeshiva or seminary. We run to the doctor for every earache, we sacrifice our own needs to make sure they are healthy and happy and well-nourished.

The older they are, the more there is to worry about. Do they understand the Gemara? Do they have the right friends? Can they withstand the challenges that stalk our youth?

And we know that matters are not really in our hands. Only *siyata d'shmaya* brings true success.

Where can a Jew get the *siyata d'shmaya* he needs??

Tzedaka:

No mitzvah bears so many promises as *tzedaka* –

"Test Me, if you will", "*Tzedaka* rescues from death", "Give *maaser* so you will become wealthy", and many many more.

A donation to Vaad Harabanim means *tzedaka* in the best and most *mehudar* fashion. Every case is thoroughly investigated, the local rabbi who knows the facts is involved, the recipient is known to be truly needy.

This is a recipe for *siyata d'shmaya*!

Tefilla:

We pray so much over our children because we know there is no better way to success than this.

The Shlah writes that Erev Rosh Chodesh Sivan, the month in which the Torah was given, when we became Hashem's children, has a special *segula*



Harav Hagaon Shmuel Yaakov Borenstein and Harav Hagaon David Yaffe at the reading of the names of the children



The Rebbe of Vizhnitz and the Rebbe of Tchernobyl at the reading of all the names

for praying on behalf of one's children. The Shlah composed a unique *tefilla* expressing the yearning of every Jew:

"I have come to appeal and plead before You, that my offspring and their descendants be proper, May they be people of peace, truth, goodness and integrity in the eyes of G-d and man. Help them to become practiced in Torah, accomplished in Scriptures, Mishnah, Talmud, Kabbalah, mitzvos, kindness, and good attributes, and to serve You with an inner love and reverence, not merely outwardly."

For the fifth consecutive year, you are given a golden opportunity to guarantee the future of your children. On Erev Rosh Chodesh Sivan, *talmidei chachamim* will pray on behalf of your children at *kivrei tzaddikim* throughout the world. Can you imagine what takes place in the Heavens when so many *tefillas* are said at the same moment? Shouldn't you take advantage of this moment??

Wait! We didn't tell you yet the most incredible part: the *Gedolei Hador* will gather at the gravesite of the Shlah and recite in unison the *tefilla* of the Shlah, for the future of your children. Your names and the names of each of your children will be mentioned



Harav Hagaon Yaakov Edelstein at the prayer assembly



Harav Hagaon Shmuel Auerbach at the prayer assembly



Harav Hagaon David Abuhazeira

Historic Prayer Session



The Rebbe of Biale speaking heartfelt words at the prayer assembly for the merit of the children

individually! This prayer assembly was instituted by the great *mekubal*, Hagaon Hatzaddik Harav Yisrael Eliyahu Weintraub zt"l.

This year too, in addition to the many representatives of Vaad Harabanim who will be praying at the various *kivrei tzaddikim*, the *Gedolei Hador* will be leading the great *tefilla*-assembly at the gravesite of the Shlah in Tiberias. Those *Gedolim* who are unable to make the trip will participate from their homes. In this manner, the *Gedolei Hador* in unison will be praying on behalf of your children: "Provide every one of them with their needs with honor, and give them health, honor and strength, good bearing and appearance, grace and loving-kindness. May love and brotherhood reign among them."

At the conclusion, the names of each of your children will be mentioned individually, along with a prayer that they should succeed in the particular



challenges they are facing.

This combination of the loftiest *tzedakah*, along with the *tefilla* of our Torah leaders and luminaries, added to which is the great *zechus* of the *Shlah* himself who is buried there, will surely protect your



children and shower you with an abundance of true *siyata d'shmaya*.

Think back to the joy you felt at every stage of your child's development – "Look, he's walking! He covers his eyes for Shema, he holds a book and sways back

and forth. You are beaming with *nachas*. You have such hopes for this child to continue in this path – that he should love to daven, love to learn, and love to give to others.

But if you think it is easy, just speak to parents having difficulty with their children. Such a father is not hard to find...

The challenges involved with raising our youth in the path of Torah and *kedushah* are only growing day by day. Is it not better to nip a problem in the bud, to guarantee success? Why not do something to ensure things will go right?

Pick up the phone – right now! – and add their names to the list. Yes, you know, the list to be read out at the gravesite of the Shlah on Erev Rosh Chodesh Sivan.

It is such a worthwhile investment!!!



Harav Hagaon Yosef Shalom Elyashiv



Harav Hagaon Nissim Karelitz

The Other Gedolei Hador Joining From Their Homes In The Prayer Assembly Of The Shlah For The Donors Of Vaad Harabanim



Harav Hagaon Aharon Yehuda Leib Steinman



Harav Hagaon Yaakov Hillel



The Rebbe of Rachmestrivka



Harav Hagaon Chaim Pinchas Scheinberg zatzal

Thousands of Cries From All Around Eretz Yisrael



"That's not the way it works," the community organizer stated in a firm tone. People entering the home, wishing to comfort the widow and her six children, are greeted by a tzedaka box marked by the note: "please donate generously."

The community organizer continued: "The only solution is Vaad Harabanim!"

"Vaad Harabanim? They're in Jerusalem! How can they possibly help us here?"

"Of course they can help, they care for the needy throughout Eretz Yisrael. They will not rest until little Yehuda is standing under the *chuppah*."

Many of the cases presented to Vaad Harabanim are "ordinary" difficulties that require relatively little effort to get the home back on its feet. Some are not.

There are also serious cases that seem nearly insurmountable. And the financial element accompanying the tragedy tends to multiply the suffering many times over.

Twelve years later:

"Yehuda was not accepted to the yeshiva he wanted, and he is truly shattered." The widow on the other end continued, "His father z"l learned in that yeshiva and it would mean so much to him if he too

could learn there." The righteous father died over a decade ago and there is no one to speak to the yeshiva administration – except for Vaad Harabanim. They persisted until Yehuda was accepted. Can one expect an orphan to fight it on his own? Doesn't he have enough to deal with?

Just listen to the following stories!!

How Long Can A Person Sleep?

"Mommy, is it true that Abba died?"

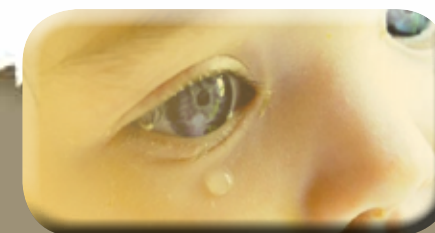
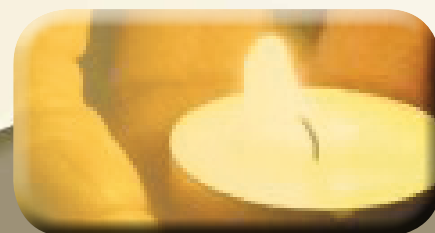
"What??" *Sometimes children can be so insensitive!* she thinks to herself.

"So why doesn't he come home? Doesn't he want to come to my class party for beginning *Chumash*?"

Abba would surely want to come, if only he was conscious. How can a mother explain to her seven-year-old what it means to be a "vegetable"?

Undercurrent

A child was swimming near the shore and was suddenly swept out by a strong undercurrent. Rabbi N. who was a strong swimmer in his youth made



Thousands of Cries From All Around Eretz Yisrael

a valiant effort to save the child. But the child was sighted too late to be saved from drowning, and now Rabbi N. too was swept away in the current. He was eventually rescued but never recovered from his coma.

His wife for all intents and purposes is a widow. She is breaking under the burden of running the household alone. The state of the children is deteriorating drastically.

What should be done to help them?

After The Operation

Sari is ready for first grade. She's excited about her beautiful new schoolbag and notebooks. But in truth, not long after the school year begins, she will be flying abroad for a heart operation.

Her parents were speechless when they were told. "Why are you dismayed? The chances of curing her condition are extremely high. There is a 98% success rate! But only if you do it now. The longer you wait, the less chance there is for success."

Indeed, why are they dismayed? Because the \$120,000 they don't have is standing between the girl with a heart condition and her chance to be cured.

What should be done to help her?

It's So Cold In Here

"I can't sleep, it's so cold!"

She is indeed shivering. The chattering of her teeth can be heard from under her blankets.

"Enough, be quiet already! I'm trying to sleep!" says the other girl.

In the morning Shoshy wakes up with a cough and a headache. Mother takes her temperature. "Today you need to stay home," she sighs. The following morning, Miriam too needs to stay home, and the next day, Yossi joins the sick ward. This is a typical winter situation in their home.

The schools turned to Vaad Harabanim. They noted the frequent absences, and when a teacher came to pay a sick call, he was shocked by the frightening state of the home. He found that they lived in a leaky, unheated attic!

What should be done to help them?

Vaad Harabanim is the address, as always. This is where Jews turn when they are in need. With your help, tens of thousands of fellow Jews facing desperate situations like these will be rescued from their suffering!!!



Vaad Harabanim's Children

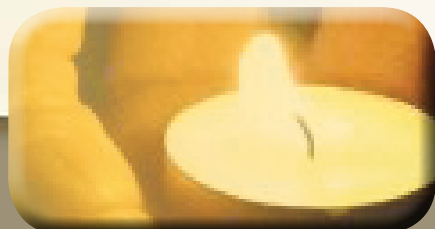
The Vaad Harabanim family includes many thousands of children, each carrying on his fragile back a sack of various problems and issues.

Let's take Zviki, for example – an orphan – he has many friends, he is happy and very talented. Yet in the past three months his school performance plummeted. Luckily, his problem was not so serious. He was suffering from such a toothache that he was unable to concentrate. In your merit, Vaad Harabanim donors, his widowed mother received sufficient money to cover the dental costs and Zviki was able to get back on track.

You helped an orphaned boy succeed in school; He Who grants knowledge will grant your children success in their learning!

Yossi's rebbe noticed that he "forgot" his sandwich on a regular basis. After checking with the other rebbes he discovered that his four brothers also "forgot" their sandwiches at home. The rebbe found out there was simply no food in the home and asked Vaad Harabanim to take care of this family. They provided the family with support for an entire year, until they were able to get back on their feet, which they did!

The idea is simple. You bring happiness to the children of Vaad Harabanim, who are Hashem's children, and He will bring joy to yours!!



The Donors Of Vaad Harabanim And Their Offspring Are Promised

"They Will See Success In Torah And Yiras Shamayim"

Leil Shavu'os – there is not an empty seat in shul. From babes in arms to the elderly, all eagerly await *Matan Torah*. The young children's eyes sparkle with holiness. One cannot help but observe them, wondering where they will be in twenty years – how much *nachas* will they give their parents, how much of their innocence will they retain? It is too early to tell, yet one already notes those who are spellbound by the *sefer* in front of them while others are more interested in the refreshments.

Your mind wanders to your own children as you wonder what will become of them. You were once certain that in the crib lay a future *gadol hador*. Things may have changed... but you still hold tightly on to your hopes and tearfully beseech Hashem for the child's success.

To your left – a group of *bochurim* enthusiastically engrossed in a *sugya*, their words spilling over each other in their youthful energy for Torah.

At the edge of the group stands a young man looking on with yearning to belong. Suddenly he loses his focus, gives up, and goes to make himself a coffee.

Your glance now turns to the fathers. Do you see a face beaming with *nachas* from his children or is it covered with the sadness of suffering and tormented by the question: "Where did we go wrong?"

Shavu'os is the Day of Judgment for Ruchniyus

On Shavu'os, the day of *Matan Torah*, every Jew is judged, and his portion of *ruchniyus* for the following year is meted out. How much peace of mind will he have to serve Hashem? How much *kavana* in *tefilla*, how much clarity in his learning?

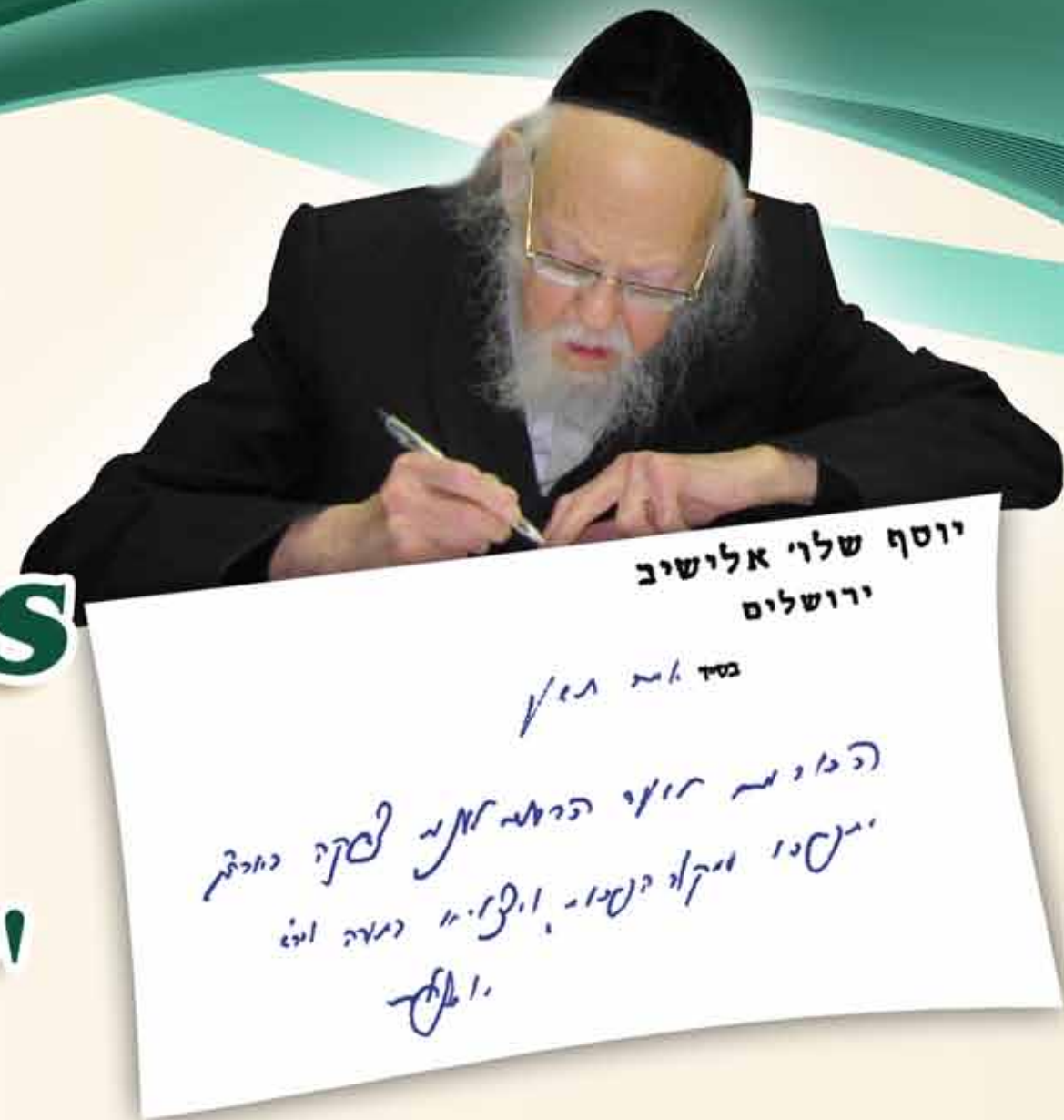
This is the moment of truth. It is the day when all this is determined. On Shavu'os is repeated the Divine influx that came down to the world at

Har Sinai. Every one of us – young or old, *talmid chacham* or simple Jew – receives the Torah anew. The amount you receive is how much you make yourself a vessel to receive it.

The spiritual lot of the coming year depends on the Torah received on Shavu'os 5772! This is the time to amass merits, to ensure that we and our children will be granted an abundance of *ruchniyus*, purity, fear of Heaven and closeness to *Hakadosh Baruch Hu*.

You have the opportunity to guarantee your own *Kabbalas Hatorah*, to guarantee your success and spiritual growth. By donating to Vaad Harabanim you are given a signed guarantee by the Posek and pillar of Torah – Moreinu Hagaon HaRav Yosef Shalom Eliyashiv shlita.

Everyone knows how careful Rav Eliyashiv is with the written word. Nonetheless, He took a



pen and wrote the words that contain the ultimate yearning of every Jewish heart:

"Those who donate to Vaad Harabanim L'inyanei Tzedaka B'erez Hakodesh will be blessed by the Source of Blessings and will merit success in Torah and Yiras Shamayim."

To which the Rav added his saintly signature!

In this manner, donors to Vaad Harabanim become recipients of a rare and generous gift, one we cannot even fathom. A signed promise that encompasses our prayers from when we rise in the morning until we retire at night – success in Torah and *yiras Shamayim*!!!

The choice is yours. With one donation, you too can merit this, for it is our lifeblood. When we have this, we have everything!

104

Vaad Harabanim



52 Times 104

**The Gedolei Hador
Donating 104
To Vaad Harabanim
On Erev Shavu'os**



**Harav Hatazaddik Yaakov Meir
Shechter**



The Rebbe Of Rachmestrivka

Shul-goers crowded around the small sign affixed to the notice board, announcing a *bris*. It was signed with the name of an *avreich* well known to all as someone who had been childless for twenty-three years.

His appearance would arouse a twinge of guilt in those blessed with children. Your house does not have one corner unsullied by inquisitive little fingerprints, and china pieces last about two weeks, while in his house a crystal vase stands proudly intact since his wedding.

On Shabbos you walk to shul flanked by children, their sticky hands filled with bags of treats. There he stands tall waiting to welcome the Shabbos ... alone.

Leil Shavu'os – you have to deal with fights over who gets to learn first with Tatty. You feel like apologizing for bringing children to shul.

Now! Suddenly! A seemingly ordinary note on a bulletin board, but whoever sees it cannot contain his joy.

For so many years we felt bad for him.

His suffering touched not only his friends and acquaintances but his warm and loving family – his siblings, his wife's siblings, nephews, nieces, cousins, and many other close and distant relatives. They tried everything. *Tzedaka*, *segulos*, and forty days of *Perek Shira*. Was he destined to live out his life without any offspring?

When his youngest sister celebrated the Bar Mitzvah of her oldest child, his siblings declared – enough! We have to find a way to bring light and life into their silent home. And they found it:

Twice the *gematria* of כ (104).

Harav Chaim Palagi, who lived 150 years ago in Turkey, had great *ruach hakodesh*, he understood that Erev Shavu'os is an auspicious time for *yeshu'os*, particularly for having children. He instructed to donate to *tzedakah* twice the numerical value of כ. In other words, 104 *prutos*. This is a *segula* for having children.

Though by no means wealthy, the above-mentioned family decided to give it their best effort. Each member of the family did their part. They collected a total of 5,408 shekels (52 x 104. This is כ times the value of twice כ).

And they forwarded their collection to Vaad Harabanim. Twelve months later the little notice

appeared in the shul! Vaad Harabanim received a letter describing the anguished years the couple went through until the final *yeshu'a*.

Each of us probably has a relative or acquaintance not yet blessed with children.

What are you willing to do for them?

Show that you care – that you feel their pain!

You may just provide the missing *zechus* to fill their home with the wails of a newborn.

104 – twice the value of כ – one for you, one for them.



**Harav Hagaon Aharon Yehuda
Leib Steinman**

VAAD HARABBANIM

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- ☐ Tefilas Hashlah in Teveria 72 \$
- ☐ Segulah of Rav Chaim Palagi, for a donation of..... 104 \$
- ☐ Tefilas Hatzaddikim on Erev Chag Matan Torah 5771 18 \$
- ☐ "All The Sick Were Healed"
for tefilah at aliyah on Shavu'os 180 \$

1**Historic Prayer-Gathering**

of the Gedolei Hador to Recite

Tefilas Hashlahat the Gravesite of the Shlah
in Teveria For the Sake of Your Children**2****Segulah Of Rav Chaim Palagi**

Donation of 104

3**The Special Segula****"All The Sick
Were Healed"**

Harav Eliyashiv said that just
as at Matan Torah there was
a refuah sheleima,
so today at the time of the
Mi Shebeirach of the aliyah
of Aseres Hadibros on
Shavu'os, one can merit a
refuah sheleima

**Tefilas Hatzaddikim
Erev Chag Matan Torah 5772****To the
Vaad Harabbanim**

We herewith are contributing
Erev Rosh Chodesh Sivan and Erev Shavu'os

To be distributed by you on our behalf

Please pass our names to the *Gedolei Hador* So they will daven
for us during this special *eis ratzon*

Name _____ Mother's name _____

- ☐ success ☐ parnassah ☐ refuah sheleimah ☐ shidduch ☐ to have
children ☐ protection from illness ☐ nachas from the children ☐ special
request _____

Name _____ Mother's name _____

- ☐ success ☐ parnassah ☐ refuah sheleimah ☐ shidduch ☐ to have
children ☐ protection from illness ☐ nachas from the children ☐ special
request _____



ועד הרבנים לעניי צדקה באר"ק

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