

A Letter from the Editor

Erev Rosh Hashanah 5767

Dear Readers,

It is my pleasure to invite you to once again read, study and enjoy Chidushei Torah @ NDS. This year, to honor our 7th volume, we have dedicated the articles to subjects connected with the number 7 – Shabbat and Shmita. I believe you will find this volume to be an outstanding collection of Chidushei Torah.

Once again, we have a cadre of fantastic authors from all walks of life – NDS employees, spouses and guests. No one can appreciate the time and effort they put into their articles as I do. It is no simple task to write for Chidushei Torah. I am a demanding Editor-in-Chief. Research, typing, editing, multiple drafts and proofs before the final production, are all part of the job. There is a dedication that the authors have that is truly exceptional. I take this opportunity to thank them all publicly.

Beyond the authors are the editors/mentors. These are NDS employees who read, re-read, edit all the articles and mentor the authors. In some cases, they never meet. Their work is carried out via e-mails and phone calls. Yet, they perform their responsibilities as if these were their own “works of art.” My appreciation to Shabtai Atlow, Reuven Gellman, David Imber, Yochay Lachish, Chaim Mayerson, and Yitzchak Zuriel for their tireless and professional efforts to Chidushei Torah @ NDS, Volume VII. May you have “*nachat*” when you see the fruits of your labor.

The growth in the number of NDS employees is reflected in the growth of our minyanim and in our tzedakah activities. We now have two new areas for minyanim with several Mincha minyanim daily. We had a recent MDA blood drive and collected over 200 pints of blood. We had campaigns for food and supplies for the residents in the north and we sent 25 cartons. We raised nearly 40,000 NIS to assist families in the north. When called upon, the employees of NDS rise to the occasion.

Just before we went to print we were informed of the death of Noam Mayerson, son of our editor/mentor Chaim Mayerson, who died in combat in Lebanon. May his memory be a blessing to his family and to all those who knew him. May they find comfort that their son died in the service of Israel, protecting us, her citizens. We pray that they know no further sorrows.

As we approach the year 5767, and we reflect on the past year, I pray to Hashem that he deliver us, to a time of Shabbat – peaceful and restful, with *oneg* and *simchah*. May we have these special “islands in time” to rejuvenate our spiritual selves. May He give the land a year of Shmita, where the land can rest from war and terror.

I cannot end without thanking my husband, friend, translator, editor – my husband, Reuven – for his unequivocal support. To Yossi Tsuria, for your faith and trust in me as your selected Editor-In-Chief, I thank you once again.

To our readers, let me wish you a Shana Tova and a *Yom She'kulo Shabbat*,

Sincerely,

Chaya B. Grodner
Editor-in-Chief

