

Baruch Dayan Ha'Emes! The Rosh Hayeshiva, Horav Hagoan, Rav Chaim Yisroel Halevi Belsky ZT"L

The Rosh Hayeshiva is gone. I got the word around 7:40 Thursday night while I was in middle of making MM calls for Torah Vodaath, and I was numb. I couldn't go on, and so I sat down to send pictures around of the multi-faceted Rosh Hayeshiva. Rav Belsky was involved in everything. There were pictures of him in Georgia Russia being *mekarev yidden* to *Yiddeshkeit*. I saw pictures of Rav Belsky dissecting an animal after *shechting* it to show talmidim *hilchos shchita & treifos*. There was picture with him as a younger man with the Bluzever Rebbe ZT"L in Camp Aguda. I saw him with HoRav Ruderman ZT"L, HoRav Pam ZT"L, with HoRav Yitzchok Scheiner shlita, with HoRav Yeruchem Olshen shlita. I cried when I saw what we had lost. We lost a Goan, a Tzaddik, A Posek Hador, a tremendous Talmid Chacham who was a *Baki* and a *lamdan in Kol Hatorah Kulo; Shas, Poskim, Torah Sh'bksav & Torah Sh'baal peh-daled chelkei Shulchan Orech, Tnach, Chumash, Shisha Sidrei Mishnah*. He was a *mechaber seforim on Shaylos & Teshuvos Shulchan Halevi* and a *Mechaber seforim on Chumash B'Einei Yisroel*. You were able to ask Rav Belsky anything and everything. There was nothing that he didn't know. Horav Elyashav ZT"L called him the Pe'er Hador, and told him that even though he was very weak, and was not able to answer everyone *b'ksav*, but for Rav Belsky he took out the time to answer him. Rav Belsky would debate the PETA activist about *Shechita*, and the NY City health officials when it came to *Metzitzah B'peh*. I asked the Rosh Chaburas Choshen Mishpat who was close to the Rosh Hayeshiva for 40 years, if he ever stumped the Rosh Hayeshiva, Rav Belsky? And of course the answer was NO! He was an expert in all knowledge, medical, science, history, Jewish History, language, math, and the stars of the Universe! We lost our Captain of the Ship! I remember racing to the hospital in Manhattan for my own Father Z"L, and my brother asked me to call Rav Belsky to ask him about DNR? The Rosh Hayeshiva said vehemently absolutely not. You keep your father alive and keep on resuscitating him. Interesting, that that's exactly what Horav Dovid Feinstein shlita paskened for the Rosh Hayeshiva now when he was in the hospital. I went to Maimonides Hopital last night to give some chizuk to the family and to show our support. I told the daughter that; "The world needs your Father"! She answered me; "I know, that's what I told Hashem"! Hashem needed him in SHOMAYIM! He will not suffer any more pain, and he will join the other Roshei yeshivas who he was so close to such as; Harav Reuvein Gozovsky ZT"L, HaRav Pam ZT"L, Horav Yaakov ZT"L, Horav Zelik Epstein ZT"L, the Menahel, Horav Nesanel Quinn ZT"L. He will also be reunited with his Zeide who founded the Yeshiva, R' Binyomin Wilhelm Z"L, who the Rosh Hayeshiva always told over with tears in his eyes, how he went around the different shuls on Yom Kippur and making an appeal not for money, but instead gathering talmidim for Torah Vodaath without hardly davening, It was with *Meseras Nefesh* to save *neshomos of Klal Yisroel*. The Rosh Hayeshiva lived with that *Mesiras Nefesh* in his blood for his Home the Yeshiva & Mesivta Torah Vodaath. He said over this year that in his 50 years of teaching that he loved all his Talmidim. How interesting that he *was niftar Erev Shabbos parshas Matan Torah; [yud ches, chof beis] "V'shaftu Es Ha'am B'Chol Es V'hayah Kol Hadavar Hagodol Yaveu Elecha....*Rav Belsky loved to tell over how the first time that he was substituting out of Town, he told the class that Noach was 600 years at the time of the Mabul. A young kid raised his hand and asked the young substitute that it wasn't true, since he had seen the movie and Noah was only 60 years old? Rav Belsky didn't miss a beat, and answered him with *Chachmah & Siyata D'Shmaya* that really Noach was 600 years old at the time of the Mabul, however when Hollywood searched and looked around for a 600 years old actor, they couldn't find anyone that old, so they had to settle unfortunately for a 60 year old man- sorry! Rosh Hayeshiva; we will miss you very much. I was hoping that we would have been able to dance for you like 4 years ago when you recovered miraculously, but Hashem has other plans, and we'll now cry for you. **Es L'rkod V'Es L'vkos Lech B'Shalom L'yom Sh'kulo Shabbos RMS**