



KOL HANESHAMOT

קול הנשמות

כרחם אב על בנים כן תרחם ה' עלינו

Yaakov Lazar, Founder
Kol Haneshamot
Ramat Beit Shemesh, Israel

Dear Friend,

I am reaching out to you as the founder of Kol Haneshamot, a nonprofit agency providing guidance and training to Parents of at risk youth. Kol Haneshamot's goal is to help parents reform the close personal relationship with their child in a caring, inclusive, non-judgmental and accepting environment that promotes the child's best interests and reinforces personal respect. Whether through a trauma, abuse, or failures in the classroom, many young innocent souls have become hidden and appear to the outside world as disruptive, dysfunctional and destructive teenagers. As a community we cannot allow this to continue.

We say every day:

אמר רבי אלעזר אמר רבי חנינא תלמידי חכמים מרבים שלום בעולם שנאמר וכל בניך למודי ה' ורב שלום בניך אל תקרי בניך
אלא בוניך

The Talmud says, "Call them not your children; call them your builders." This simple play on words between the Hebrew word for "your sons" (בניך) and the word for "your builders" (בוניך) extends to the very essence of our existence as a people. Our task is as simple as it is critical and profound: hand our children, the tools necessary build a brighter tomorrow. "Builders" is a term compared to our children, teens, students and young adults; we should inspire and equip them with resilience to call, think, and act like builders. The institutions that will sustain themselves and the Jewish world at-large will be those that invite and challenge our young to thrust themselves into the process of building our collective house. Our task as parents is to teach our children the tools to become resilient so they can handle any problem that comes their way and fix the cracks in the walls, and tell them, "What I have done we will now do together, and you will continue to do after I am gone."

The Torah records many conversations between Hashem and Moshe. If we look closely at each conversation, the conversation is in essence a lesson on how to deal with Am Yisroel. Another place where we find something hidden is in a Sefer Torah. The Zohar Hakodesh teaches us that Am Yisroel is compared to the letters of the Sefer Torah. YiSROeL is akin to Yesh Shishim Ribo Otiot Latorah. There are 600,000 letters in a Sefer Torah, just like when Am Yisroel was counted, we equaled 600,000. Moshe learned the lessons of Hashem, and after the Sin of The Golden Calf, Hashem threatened to wipe out Am Yisroel and begin anew with Moshe himself. Learning the lessons from Hashem, Moshe said "No Thank You", either you take them all or destroy them all and wipe me from your Sefer. Hashem accepting the words of Moshe, taught him the 13 Attributes, all different levels of Rachamim, mercy. Remember, Am Yisroel still included the likes of people such as Datan VeAviram. Yet Moshe new that Am Yisroel needs all of the 600,000 souls in order to be complete. However, if one counts the actual letters of a Torah, there are only 304,805. Where are the missing letters?

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תלמוד ירושלמי שקלים כ"ה ב:א'

ר"פ בשם רשב"ל התורה שנתן לו הקב"ה למשה נתנה לו אש לבנה חרותה באש שחורה היא אש מובללת באש ...
הצובה מאש ונתונה מאש דכתיב (דברים ל"ג:ב') מימינו אש דת למו

רמב"ן על בראשית, פתיחה לפירוש התורה

והטעם לכתיבת התורה בלשון זה – מפני שקדמה לבריאת העולם, אין צריך לומר ללידתו של משה רבנו, כמו שבא לנו בקבלה, שהייתה כתובה באש שחורה על גבי אש לבנה. הנה משה כסופר המעתיק מספר קדמון וכותב, ולכן כתב סתם. אבל זה אמת וברור הוא שכל התורה מתחלת ספר בראשית עד 'לעיני כל ישראל' נאמרה מפיו של הקב"ה לאזניו של "משה, כענין שנאמר להלן: "מפיו יקרא אלי את כל הדברים האלה, ואני כותב על הספר בדיו

One answer is that a Sefer Torah has two types of letters, a Torah is written in Black Fire surrounded by White fire. The black fire represents the black letters that we see, whereas, the white fire represents the letters we do not see and are hidden. However, if a Sefer Torah is missing one letter of the 600,000 it is possul. Why are these letters hidden? Some people are represented by the inverse, white letters- they don't see with ease where they fit into life.

The Torah also mentions many times about חקתי ומשפטי, laws that we can understand as well as laws that the reasons for which are hidden. If we take the ideas above, we can see that Hashem does not want us to follow blindly, but is teaching us that just because something is hidden it does not mean we are to exclude it from our lives. On the contrary, we must make every effort to include and make those who are hidden feel as if they are included. We must be aware of the hidden challenges, accept that they too are from Hashem and use the Torah and the words of Chazal to guide us. Am Yisroel, the hidden and the apparent, are one nation, a family, even if one is missing we are not complete.

As such, Kol Haneshamot has embarked on a Sefer Torah writing campaign. This Sefer Torah will be written for the zechus of our struggling children. All funds raised will go towards helping save the lives of our children. Funds will be used to help spread awareness of what our children are facing and guidance to parents and the family of how to improve the lives of our struggling children. We are asking for 10 ILS per letter (approx \$3.00), to encompass all 600,000 letters, the hidden and transparent.

Kol Haneshamot was created by local parents of RBS over one year ago and has helped numerous families with adolescents and teenagers that have either fallen through the cracks at school or who were already entangled with disruptive, dysfunctional, and destructive behavior. Over the past few months, Kol Haneshamot has been receiving calls from parents begging for help. The organization identifies families of youths who are going through a turbulent transition to adulthood and provide for them, a positive support system and parental guidance to empower them, so they could make positive changes in the lives of their struggling children. In order to best serve the community at large we are in need of real office-space that we can call home.

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Our services include but are not limited to:

- 1- Parent Support Groups – Parents participate in a structured program of support and guidance led by the esteemed Rabbi and Mrs Shimon Russell.
- 2- Mother's Only Support group – Mothers join together to support and discuss progress and ideas led by one of our trained therapists.
- 3- Sibling Support – Bringing together siblings who are most affected by the trauma of watching their sibling struggle.
- 4- Lecture Series – Once a month Guest Lectures come to help the community understand the struggles our children are going through. Lectures are uplifting and practical.

I'm reaching out to you in request of your support in assisting our organization to provide struggling families in dire need of our services. Your charitable tax deductible gift will go directly towards paying for our support groups and expenses.

Thank you in advance for your contribution, it means so much to us to have your support.
Thank you again!

Sincerely,

Yaakov Lazar

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