Our Yiddish Club’s Return to the U.S.—Nar Proposes A Plan

Our Yiddish Club (OYC) from Yenemsville went to Chelm to connect with their ancestor’s hometown. They also learned a little about Chelm. On the journey back to America plans were laid to fulfill Rokhl di Raykhes wish to spend part of her massive fortune that her late husband Khayem der Karger left her. It would be to establish an ultra modern Yeshiva in the caves below Chelm.

**Nar the Narrator** assumed the role of Project manager. After all he had a Ph.D. (a Phishl Degree) in science and an MBA (an Emese Barimter Advocat). With such credentials, his many successes, and his ability to convince anyone of his narishkayt—he was everyone’s natural choice.

Rokhl had had complete faith in Nar, but raised some concerns about him when Nar laid out his plan and the steps he would take. Nar stood in the aisle of the plane on the way home and gave the outline of the following general plan.

“There will be no problem,” said Nar “After all didn’t 20,000 Jews make aliyah to the frozen wasteland of Birobidjan?” Nar summarized his plan and laid the groundwork for the resettlement of Jews in Chelm. He explained that Birobidjan was a failure because they didn’t start from the ground up. “What we need to do is start a kheyder far kleyne kinder. We would have the CCC—the Chaim Chelm Cheder.”

**The Plan**

Nar proceeded to explain. “It will be the forerunner of an ultra-modern, internationally famous Yeshiva where students from all over the world would come to study. It would be in the famous caves below the city. At one time they were mined for chalk to be used to write on blackboards.”

“While Rokhl has enough money to get the project started, we shall need much more for such a grandiose project. My plan is to approach Phishl Moishe the large tobacco company. As part of the settlement, tobacco companies have to contribute hundreds of millions of dollars to publicity and education.”

“Another source is NASA. They are interested in developing closed-system environments. Our caves are ideal for carrying out avant garde experiments and developing new techniques utilizing closed-quarters living.”

“Yet another source of assistance is the Technion in Israel. Everyone knows that there is no better kup than a yidishe kup, and the Technion is the premiere Israeli science institution.”

Nar continued his narration and said, “In preparation for the project, I sat up all last night and used my knowledge of grantsmanship. I typed up grants to Phishl Moishe, NASA and the Technion.

• Fishl Moishe—Supply additional financing
• NASA—Supply equipment and supplies
• Technion—Supply the technical know-how”

“In filling out the RFP (request for proposal) I used the rationale that we need to take the best of all worlds. The secularists are the realists and use the modern science and technology. The fundamentalists have the enthusiasm, joy and fervor of Judaism. Besides they are the resource for our Yiddish language. Students will learn Yiddish, Hebrew, Polish, and of course English.

After an initial outburst of clapping from everyone on the plane, suddenly gloom passed over all when Heshy asked, “From where are we going to get the students, teachers, and all of the support staff...”

Nar was caught off-guard and said, “hmm, I never thought about it. Let me think a moment.”

At this point there was an announcement over the loudspeaker. “This is your captain, we shall be landing soon. Will all personnel and passengers return to your seats. We shall be landing at JFK in about 15 minutes. There will be a short taxi time to the gate—remain belted until the plane comes to a complete stop.”

As the plane slowly landed, each club member thought how he or she could help Nar solve this problem. Soon they would be home and have many stories to tell of their trip to Chelm.

Dear readers, with financial support, and urging your children and grandchildren, with problems, to make aliyah to Chlem—we can make this a reality.

Send your letters of solution to Der Bay, and help Nar solve this seemingly unsolvable dilemma. We urge you to use a pseudonym so that you will be able to show your modesty, and others will not come flocking to your door and then you will truly be one of the Chelm Naronim.

So, dear readers, return next month, and learn how Nar solved the problem of getting students, teachers and support staff to come to the caves under Chelm and establish the Chaim Chelm Cheder.