

# **The Lubavitcher Rebbe and the World Noahide Movement: Past, Present and Future**


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## Depth & Breadth of the Rebbe's 7-Mitzvot Campaign:

**“It is now the time** for **Jewish people** to fulfill their **Torah obligation** to **reach out to Gentiles**, to **encourage them** to follow the **Seven Mitzvot**.”\*

1. It is now the time – **Why now?**
2. Jewish people – **Who should be involved?**
3. Torah obligation – **On what basis? What is required?**
4. Reach out to Gentiles – **How, in general?**
5. Encourage them – **How, specifically?**
6. Seven Mitzvot – **What should be observed / learned?**

*\*Hisva'aduyos 5744 v. 2, p. 964-965.*



**Torah teaches, especially in Chassidic teachings, that the revelations and miracles in the future Messianic Era will be the result of the efforts we invest in our Divine service during this time of spiritual exile : the exile of G-d's Presence from being revealed to us.**

The Rebbe held that this is an essential point of the campaign for learning and observance of the Noahide Code by all Gentiles.



## From the Jewish Perspective:



- The Jewish prayers established by the Talmudic Sages include many fervent prayers for all the Gentile nations to unify in serving the One G-d, as the Prophets foretold. Observant Jews should seize the opportunity to help make it happen, if that opportunity becomes available to us...
- *And this commanded to us*, as stated by Rambam in Laws of Kings, ch. 8: G-d commanded Moses at Mt. Sinai to influence all Gentiles to observe their 7 Noahide Mitzvot.
- This is Rambam's lead-up to the Torah Laws of Moshiach's coming at the end of his main work, the Mishneh Torah!

# The Rebbe's campaign has clear objectives:

- Elevate the world spiritually to prepare for the immanent Messianic Era
- Fulfill the mission to the Jews from G-d at Mt. Sinai
- To bring this to Gentiles in the way that will benefit *them* the most, with the greatest spiritual reward
- As a practical matter: To counter the world's trend into atheism, lawlessness, hedonism, and anarchy
- To bring true unity and brotherhood to mankind "under the wings of the Divine Presence"

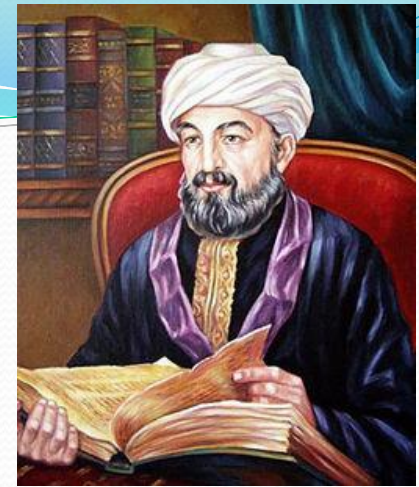




# The Rebbe Instructed How it Should be Done:

- *Rambam* introduces a Torah Law: when Moses was commanded about the 7 *Mitzvot*, this included an **additional** condition and duty:  
*Any Gentile ... will merit a share in the World to Come ... when he accepts them and fulfills them because G-d commanded them in the Torah and informed us through Moses... - Laws of Kings 8:11*
- We should stress the **reason** why the 7 Laws should be kept, and why it is the Jews' duty to promote them: because they're **commanded by G-d**, and not because they are dictated by common sense.
- We should explicitly connect this to the revelation at Mount Sinai and the giving of the 10 Commandments. This guarantees that the Noahide Laws will be kept because they are Divine commands.

# Depth and Breadth of the Rebbe's 7-Mitzvot Campaign:



“Rambam” – Rabbi  
Moshe Maimonides

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# The Sheva-Mitzvot Campaign

## 1. It is now the time – Why now?

a) In our time, not only does this activity not pose any danger; it shows Gentiles that the Jewish people have concern for all mankind.

- *Hisva'aduyos*: 5747 v.3, p.67; 5746 v.3, p.62. *L.S.* v.32, p.82-83

b) We are so close to the Messianic Era, that now is the most appropriate time to prepare the world and make it fitting for Moshaich's coming through Gentiles following their 7 Mitzvot.

- *Hisva'aduyos*: 5747 v. 2, p. 613-626; 5744 v. 2, p. 964-965.it



# The Sheva-Mitzvot Campaign

## 2. Jewish people: Who should be involved?

- a) *On one hand*: Torah's Jewish mitzvot were commanded to all Jews, eternally, including the mitzvah to influence Gentiles to observe their 7 Laws, as Rambam rules in *Laws of Kings* 8:10.  
- *Hisva'aduyos*: 5746 v. 2, p. 43; 5743 v. 3, p. 1335.
- b) *On the other hand*: A Jew should set an example of higher moral conduct, joyfully bringing holiness into worldly matters, with honesty in business dealings.  
- *Sefer Ha'Sichos* 5746 v. 3, p. 151-153; *Hisv.* 5750 v. 3, p. 126.
- c) As Rabbis, scholars, businessmen, etc., Jews were dispersed among Gentiles to teach them about One G-d & the 7 Mitzvot.  
- *Hisv.* 5745 v.2, p.849-851; 5742 v.1, p.227; 5747 v.1, p.490,544

# The Sheva-Mitzvot Campaign

## 3. Torah obligation: On what basis? What is required?

a) Moses was commanded by G-d at Mt. Sinai to compel all inhabitants of the world to accept their Seven Mitzvot.

- Rambam *Laws of Kings* 8:10; *Hisva'aduyos*: 5746 v.2, p.43-44.

b) Every Jew has a mission to influence the Gentiles to behave in a manner consistent with Isaiah 45:18: *G-d formed the world to be settled*. This is through observing their 7 Mitzvot and all the offshoots that follow from them...

- *Hisva'aduyos* 5744 v. 3, p. 1538; 5745 v. 3, p. 1450-1451.

c) A Jew travels to a place “to establish His Name there” by bringing Gentiles to express G-d’s glory: accepting His kingship willingly, and learning about the Noahide Code.

- *Hisva'aduyos*: 5748 v. 1, p. 298-299; 5749 v. 1, p. 60.



# The Sheva-Mitzvot Campaign

## 4. Jews reaching out to Gentiles – How, in general?

- a) With truth and peace. From the heart. Tremendous efforts. Refined approach. Never tire of teaching the authentic Noahide Code for the wellbeing of others.  
- *Hisva'aduyos*: 5745 v. 5, p. 2723; 5745 v. 2, p. 956-958.
- b) *However*, the Jew who reaches out must be connected and permeated with authentic traditional Torah Judaism, so his outreach to Gentiles won't weaken his Judaism, and instead will strengthen it.  
- *Hisva'aduyos* 5750 v. 2, p. 18-19.
- c) Getting more people to be involved in this way, either directly or indirectly, brings more success.  
- *Hisva'aduyos*: 5746 v. 2, p. 452-453; 5742 v. 2, p. 523-524

# The Sheva-Mitzvot Campaign

## 5. There are “7 Mitzvot” – What to observe / learn?

- a) The first obligation is to encourage Gentiles to believe in G-d and His unity, and to accept His kingship.
  - *L.S.* v. 26, p.138-139,141, fn.67; *Sichos Kodesh* 5741 v.3, p.120
- b) Learning the correct details of the broader Noahide Code: this is not just a preparation, but a mitzvah in its own right.
  - *Hisva'aduyos* 5749 v. 2, p. 447; *Likkutei Sichos* v. 14, p. 38-39.
- c) Prayer and repentance to G-d, and trust in G-d, are binding on all mankind, and this fulfills the command to reject idolatry.
  - *Hisva'aduyos* 5745 v. 5, p. 2721-2722; 5744 v. 4, p. 2167-2168.
- d) Relevant Chassidic teachings must reach to the Gentiles also. They should also learn and follow Torah's ethics from Sinai.
  - *Hisva'aduyos* 5743 v. 2, p. 628; 5744 v. 4, p. 2168-2169.



# The Sheva-Mitzvot Campaign

## 6. Encourage Gentiles – How, specifically?

- a) When a Gentile observes the 7 Laws, he is not required to base this on G-d's command to Moses at Mt. Sinai. But Jews are to *try* to instill this belief and intention. It can be explained to secularists that the 7 Laws are needed for civilized society.  
- *L.S.* v. 26, p.136-137, & fn.35. *Hisva'aduyos* 5743, v. 2, p. 1096.
- b) We must also teach Gentiles about the Messianic Era, and to observe the 7 Laws in order to emulate that time. This will give them spiritual strength to overcome their challenges.  
- *Sefer Ha'Sichos* 5746 v. 3, p. 293-295; *Hisv.* 5746 v.3, p. 184.
- c) Answer sincere questions re. Jewish faith and observance, to show the truth and beauty of Torah. Publicize miracle stories.  
- *Sichos Kodesh* 5738, v.3, p.37-41; *Hisv.* 5745 v.4, p.2276-2277.

## The Rebbe's Call to Reach Gentiles Globally

In order to make a dwelling place for G-d in the *entire* world, it is necessary to influence the **Gentiles** who are the vast majority of mankind... Even if we could influence *all Jews*, in *quantity* this would influence only a small fraction of the Gentiles. This cannot be compared to the world population. Hence, Jews **alone** cannot achieve a dwelling place for G-d on a truly global scale... If any place lacks proper civilization, it is not completely fit to be a dwelling place for G-d. This is one reason why Jews were commanded “to compel all the inhabitants of the world to accept the *mitzvot* given to the Bnai Noach” ... (which includes the *mitzvah* of charity)... An emissary's task is to influence *the entire world* and make it a dwelling place for G-d.

From the Rebbe's Address to the International Conf. of Chabad Emissaries, 5750.



## ***G-d gives Gentiles the ability to spread the Noahide Code:***

The Noahide Code ought to be promoted to Gentiles in a way that **they in turn** influence their friends in their environment in this spirit. G-d commands the Gentile to adhere to the Noahide Code and influence those in his environment to abide by it, so G-d has surely endowed him with the ability to accomplish this. It only depends upon the Gentile's willpower, and upon his feeling a desire to make use of his position of influence to the maximum.

The true task, mission, and source of happiness of Gentiles on this earth – although, officially, they may have various other defined roles – is that they use their positions of influence wherever possible to influence others to adhere to the Noahide Code. This civilizes society, and thus ensures peace in the city, the state, *and the entire world.*

Thus, even now, peace can already be accomplished in the world, one in which Gentiles assist one another in all areas related to maintaining civilized society.

- Quoted in *To Perfect the World*, p. 209-210.

## Educating people in the Noahide Code is part of *Dinim* (Establishing Justice)



The obligation for Gentiles to promote justice is related to the notion of education. *Rambam* writes about promoting justice, “[Gentiles] must set up judges and magistrates in every major city to render judgment concerning these six commandments, and to admonish the people [regarding their observance].” Thus, one of the Noahide precepts is to appoint “judges” [leaders] whose role is to **educate** the people in the Noahide Code.

This is comparable to the Midrashic statement concerning the Jewish *Sanhedrin*: “They were obligated to go, tie iron garters around their loins, lift their robes above their ankles, ... and travel throughout the villages of Israel ... **teaching** the people.”

- Quoted in “*To Perfect the World*,” p. 214.



## In this context, the Rebbe launched an international Education Campaign:

Emphasizing education of Gentile children, especially Noahide children

I pray that **educational efforts** throughout the world, including among Gentiles – especially Pious Gentiles [who are observant of the Noahide Code], whom *Rambam* rules have a portion in the World to Come – will prepare the world for the fulfillment of the prophecies to “perfect the world under the sovereignty of the Al-mighty,” and “For then I [G-d] will turn the peoples to pure language, so that all will call upon the Name of G-d to serve Him with one purpose.”

- Quoted in “*To Perfect the World*,” p. 203.

# Proclamations by U.S. Presidents and Congress

## National Day of Reflection

*By the President of the United States of America*

### A Proclamation

Amid the distractions and concerns of our daily existence, it is appropriate that Americans pause to reflect upon the ancient ethical principles and moral values which are the foundation of our character as a nation.

We seek, and steadfastly pursue, the benefits of education. But education must be more than factual enlightenment—it must enrich the character as well as the mind.

One shining example for people of all faiths of what education ought to be is that provided by the Lubavitch movement, headed by Rabbi Menachem Schneerson, a worldwide spiritual leader who will celebrate his 80th birthday on April 4, 1982. The Lubavitcher Rebbe's work stands as a reminder that knowledge is an unworthy goal unless it is accompanied by moral and spiritual wisdom and understanding. He has provided a vivid example of the eternal validity of the Seven Noahide Laws, a moral code for all of us regardless of religious faith. May he go from strength to strength.

In recognition of the Lubavitcher Rebbe's 80th birthday, the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled have issued House Joint Resolution 447 to set aside April 4, 1982, as a "National Day of Reflection."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim April 4, 1982, as National Day of Reflection.



## The Rebbe urged Noahides to initiate speaking campaigns:

When this is heard directly from a Gentile, it is accepted more quickly. This is especially true of an **influential** Gentile famous for disseminating justice and righteousness not for personal profit, but for the benefit of society. His words will be more accepted, and he will see even greater success in his activities.

One should not suffice with speaking in his own place. He should go to other places and say: “Physically, I live and perform my Divine service elsewhere. But since I know of people here whom I can assist – by providing significant help in the fundamental area of civilizing the world – I spared no effort and time ... in order to come and spread **observance** of the 7 Noahide Commandments.”

- Quoted in *To Perfect the World*, p. 211-212

**Major works have been compiled for teaching and study of the Noahide Code:**

***Sheva Mitzvot HaShem v.1-3 (Hebrew):*** *authorized “Shulchan Aruch” for the Noahide Code w/ approbation from the great Rabbi Z. N. Goldberg & Israel’s Chief Rabbis.*

***The Divine Code:*** translations and expositions of “*Sheva Mitzvot HaShem*”

Pocket-size booklet, ***Prayers, Blessings, Principles of Faith, and Divine Service for Noahides.*** (well over 5000 copies sold or distributed)

Expanded booklet of **community prayer services** for Noahide congregations.

***To Perfect the World: The Lubavitcher Rebbe’s Call to Teach the Noahide Code***

***Seven Gates of Righteous Knowledge:*** Faith, character refinement, inner dimensions of Torah, spiritual reward and punishment, and teachings about the Messianic Era



# *The Noahide Code e-Learning Institute*



- A few years ago, Rabbi Moshe Perets launched a Noahide Center in Haifa, recognized by the Israeli government as an official program for Gentile tourists.
- Rabbi Perets then worked with Rabbi Moshe Weiner to establish the NCLI Noahide outreach organization, based in Jerusalem.
- Producing video classes on the Noahide Code and related subjects for Noahides, in several languages.
- **Annual Worldwide Noahide Convention in Jerusalem!**

## ***For the Future: As Noahides, be involved in uplifting yourselves and the world around you***

- Don't be indifferent to what's around you. Make a clear distinction for yourselves and your families between good and bad, based on **Torah** values. Try to promote good for your society, and discourage the trends into bad areas.
- The Rebbe held that giving proper **charity** is an integral part of the Noahide Code, that applies for businesses as well as individuals. It helps in bringing Moshiach sooner!
- Bring yourself and those around you under G-d's **kingship**, always aware of "the Eye that sees and the Ear that hears." G-d is trustworthy to reward your good efforts!



## The Rebbe's directives are far-reaching!

- “When Jews take on their mission to influence Gentiles to follow the Noahide Code, **G-d will assist them** in making the world more civilized, and even to bring **world peace** as much as possible and prepare the world for Moshiach.”
- “By bringing goodwill between Jews and Gentiles in a way consistent with Torah, we bring **peace to the world** and prevent any concern of war and upheaval.”
- *To the Clerk of the Knesset in 19'92:* “Bring all Jews under the wings of the Shechinah ... including the members of the Knesset. Even the Non-Jewish members there are obligated in the 7 Noahide Laws, so you much educate them!”