

# Errata to corrections for *The Rebbe*<sup>1</sup>

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1. P. xix please add “Eliezer Witztum” after “Emanuel Sommer”
2. In place of the envelope in figure 14, please insert the attached reproduction of the 1939 Paris phone directory in which the 7<sup>th</sup> listing in the left column is Schneerson (M) ing. électr. mécan. The caption should read: in a display of pride, Mendel Schneerson had himself listed in the phone directory not as a rabbi but as an electrical and mechanical engineer.
3. P. 32 6<sup>th</sup> line. After Shmaryahu Gourary, add “, the only one of the Schneersohn sons-in-law who was genetically unrelated to the family,”
4. P. 37 just before note 25, replace “said” with “wrote”
5. P. 40 before note 33 add: ; she “could not reconcile herself to becoming a rebbetzin.” And add to footnote 33 “Barry S. Gourary *From Lubavitch to 770*, (1986, unpublished), p. III-7.”
6. P. 41 footnote, second line “Baruch” should be changed to “Dovber.” Also add after “Lyady” “Israel Noah in Nezhin (Ukraine)” And at the end of the footnote add, “(the last did not function as a ChaBaD rebbe).”
7. P. 57 change “forty-nine-year old Menachem...” to “forty-eight-year-old Menachem....”
8. P. 76 after “for his headquarters” add “, a move urged on him by the police who believed they could watch him more easily there.” Add the footnote Yosef Yitzchak Schneersohn *Igros Kodesh* [letters] vol. 13 (Brooklyn: Kehot, 1983) p. 281
9. P. 78 fn. Change “...brother-in-law, Felix...” to “son-in-law, Felix....”
10. P. 81, replace “Malakhovka in the Zhitomir district of Ukraine” with “Malakhovka, on the outskirts of Moscow.”
11. P. 81. Add before the sentence beginning “Afterward he returned to Leningrad...”
  - a. While in Malakhovka, Yosef Yitzchak requested visits from his family. The first to arrive was Shmaryahu Gourary. Writing to Moussia on August 11, 1927 and requesting her to visit too, her father suggested, “now that R’ Shmaryahu {wiyh whom he had originally suggested she travel}, may he live, has come and Mr. Schneerson, may he live, is coming here, perhaps it is not acceptable [for you] to travel with him, in which case, do as you decide.” Why she might find it “not acceptable” to travel with Mendel, we can only guess. The Lubavitcher editors of the letters suggest it was because they would not want to travel as “groom and bride” But of course they were not yet engaged, even though Mendel had spent much time with her. So was it because it would appear to make them appear as a couple (they certainly had been around together in public as recently as the night of the arrest) or was it because there was tension now between them? In any

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<sup>1</sup> Not all of these corrections can be made in the new paperback edition because this would necessitate repagination and reindexing. This constitutes fuller version of the corrections. Some of these are the result of a volume of letters between Rabbi Yosef Yitzchak and Mendel and Moussia that was published subsequent to the publication of *The Rebbe*. Others come from our receipt of an unpublished memoir by Barry Gourary that only came into our possession after the publication of our book.

event, it was clear to Moussia's father that the relationship between his daughter and Mendel was not completely settled. {add footnote Yosef Yitzchak Schneersohn, *Igros Kodesh* [letters] vol. 15, (New York: Kehot, 2010), p. 42 and Interview Barry Gourary with MF Sept. 1, 1991}

12. P. 85, replace "head" with "director" of the seminary.
13. P. 87 in footnote \*\* in third line *add* the word "documentary" before the word "evidence."
14. P. 88, after the note number 62, insert this paragraph: According to an unpublished memoir by Barry Gourary, "throughout the year I spent in Berlin, I never remember either Mendel or Liova [his brother Leibel] studying seriously, but I recall many fun-filled days." He describes his uncle taking "me to the Berlin Zoo, where I admired the lions and the tigers while he doffed his hat to the passing ladies" as well as "Moussia, Mendel and Mother [Chana, who] would often take a cab from theater to theater to make sure not to miss a movie." Add footnote: Barry S. Gourary *From Lubavitch to 770* (1986, unpublished, pp. II-8,9.
15. P. 91 insert after "legal standing." In fact, it was used only in September 1928, just before the High Holidays. Mendel had arrived in Riga and apparently the decision to marry was finally made. We infer this from the fact that for the first time Yosef Yitzchak addresses him in a letter with the designation: "to the honorable and eminent one intended to be the groom." This title was however used in a personal letter by Yosef Yitzchak about a month before the wedding; it was not meant as public designation and not used before that. {Add footnote Yosef Yitzchak Schneersohn *Igros Kodesh* [letters] vol. 15, pp. 48-9, 50-51.}
16. P. 92 The sentence that begins "Mendel had stayed at the Schneersohn residence in Leningrad," the comma after Leningrad should be replaced by a period. The rest of the sentence should be replaced. Based on a new book of letters that has just been published (which we shall footnote). Insert here: "Mendel had first come to visit the family into which he would marry when they were living in Rostov. In January and again July of 1923, he came perhaps to present himself as a suitor to Moussia (and some have suggested perhaps to Sheina). Based on a letter of Yosef Yitzchak to Moussia after the July visit, it would seem the January meeting was not a great success; only after the summer visit was the atmosphere warmer. Even so, nothing formal in the way of an engagement came of it." Insert here a footnote: Yosef Yitzchak Schneersohn, *Igros Kodesh* [letters] vol. 15, (New York: Kehot, 2010), pp. 30-32.
17. P. 115. Sentence should read: Among those relatives was Edmea Schneerson, granddaughter of the Fourth Lubavitcher Rebbe.
18. P. 119 add at bottom of page after "pass." Perhaps emboldened by the fact that the 1934-5 year had been one in which Mendel remained out of school, his father-in-law on July 15, 1935 wrote him of a letter he received that suggested that perhaps he "would be interested" in a rabbinic post in Paris. We find no record of a positive reply to this inquiry from his son-in-law. {Insert footnote "Schneersohn *Igros Kodesh* 15:211. In fact, a cousin, Zalman Schneersohn appears to have taken the post.}
19. Pp. 121-122. The last sentence on page 121 and continued on 122 should read as follows: His pride in his new status could be seen in the fact that in the 1939 Paris phone directory he listed himself not as rabbi but as "Schneerson (M) ing. électr. mécan." The entry for

endnote 90 should be changed to: See figure 14 (or whatever the final number for the figure will be).

20. P. 127. "Israel Jacobson, the head of the Lubavitchers..." should read "Israel Jacobson, a prominent leader of the Lubavitchers...."
21. P. 128 insert after "vital": (Yosef Yitzchak had offered a similar wish on the eve of Yom Kippur 1929 when he wrote letters to Mendel and Moussia wishing them that God "gladden their hearts with a healthy son, with great abilities.") {add footnote Schneersohn *Igros Kodesh* 15:65-6. Yosef Yitzchak repeated these wishes in letters of December 15, 1929 and March 25, 1930, but in time they disappeared, presumably when he gave up hope.}
22. P. 137 add after the words "English language skills" "In his unpublished memoir, his nephew Barry claims his uncle "found a position at a shop that repaired electrical motors."
23. P. 285 n. 28, delete the words "especially Rabi Yisrael Jacobson" 283 Ch1 fn 1. After "*shluchim*" add "a Yiddish variant,"
24. P. 285 n. 33. Add the following: While a pidyen represents a spiritual bond between a Hasid and a rebbe, among some Hasidim (particularly those originating in Poland) it is also accompanied by a sum of money.
25. P. 298. Add the following sentence at the end of note 54: According to an unpublished memoir by Barry Gourary, "at that time relations between Mendel and the Rayyatz [Rabbi Yosef Yitzchak] were strained. Mendel had gone to the University in Berlin against Grandfather's wishes." (p. II-7A).
26. P. 300 add to the end of footnote 12. See also *Igros Kodesh* 15: 41-5.
27. P. 303 footnote 70, delete "pt." and add "also 15: 168-9"
28. P. 303 add to footnote 83. Mendel's visits with Yosef Yitzchak are documented in Schneersohn *Igros Kodesh* 15: 1119-208.
29. P. 303 add to note 84: See Schneersohn *Igros Kodesh* 15:208, where the Sixth Rebbe notes his son-in-law's contribution to the publication.
30. P. 305 add to fn 117. Yosef Yitzchak had already written to Mendel about this practice in 1933 and again in 136. See *Igros Kodesh* 15:165, 226.
31. P. 311 note 3. Add to note: "According to Barry Gourary, his uncle Menachem Mendel had used this argument also to challenge the notion that the ChaBaD library was a family legacy: "Uncle declared," Barry wrote in a 1986 unpublished memoir, "that Grandfather lives on, and that there can be no inheritance when the person is still alive," (p. I-4).