

Garments of the Soul

In addition, every divine soul (nefesh elokit) possesses three garments, viz., thought, speech and action [expressing themselves] in the 613 commandments of the Torah



Chabad at
Fashion Institute
of Technology
State University of New York

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Rosh Hashanah ~ The New Year

September 16-18, 2012

In Hebrew, Rosh Hashanah means “Head of the Year,” and as its name indicates, it is the beginning of the Jewish year. The anniversary of the creation of Adam and Eve, it is the birthday of mankind, highlighting the special relationship between G-d and humanity. G-d not only wants to have a world with people in it, G-d also wants an intimate relationship with each one of us.

After spending a month morally and spiritually preparing for this day, it’s time to express the new you in the utmost way possible—by recognizing G-d as the ultimate King of the Universe. Right and wrong or good and evil have no foundation if there is no Founder—which is exactly what Rosh Hashanah is all about: beginning the New Year in the right frame of mind. On this day, we declare what our attitude and philosophy will be for the coming year.

The Shofar

Your Personal Wake-Up Call

Both days of Rosh Hashanah, one hundred sounds are blown from the *shofar* (ram’s horn), the oldest and most primitive of wind instruments. Its sound is simple and plaintive—a cry from the heart, like a lost child wailing for its parent, and its call strikes the innermost chords of the soul.

The *shofar* coronates G-d as King of the Universe, and it also evokes key Jewish historical events that involve a ram’s horn. After the Binding of Isaac, Abraham sacrificed a ram in place of his son. According to ancient Midrashic writings, one of its horns was blown 363 years later when the Jewish People gathered at Sinai to receive the Torah. The same Midrash states that the second horn will herald the coming of *Moshiach*, the true Messiah, and the final redemption of the Jewish People.



Festive Meals

On each night and day of Rosh Hashanah we enjoy a festive meal. On the first night, at the beginning of the meal, we symbolically ask G-d for a sweet New Year by eating a slice of apple dipped in honey. On the second night of Rosh Hashanah, we enjoy a seasonal fruit which we haven’t yet eaten since its season began (e.g. pomegranates or fresh figs)—another new symbol for a New Year.

Tashlich—Cast Away

On the first day of Rosh Hashanah (Sept. 17, 2012) before sunset, we do the *Tashlich* (cast away) prayer ceremony

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Rosh Hashanah Continued

We visit a riverbank, lake, pond (or any body of water containing live fish) to symbolically cast away our misdeeds. The words recited at *Tashlich* include these: "...[G-d] will cast our transgressions into the depths of the sea" (*Micah*). Kabbalah teaches that water symbolizes kindness, and fish, which have no eyelids, remind us of G-d's ever-watchful providence. We pray that He judges us mercifully and lovingly at this time. *If one is unable to perform this ceremony on Rosh Hashanah, one may do so until the last day of Sukkot (October 8, 2012).*

Ten Days of Teshuvah (Return)

Rosh Hashanah arrives, and the future is now. Along with your New Year and new attitude, G-d gives you the chance to rectify the past year too.

During the Ten Days of Teshuvah—the two days of Rosh Hashanah, the one day of Yom Kippur and the seven days between—you can spiritually correct every Monday, Tuesday or whatever day by living in a spiritually sensitive way on its corresponding day of the Ten Days of Return. It's your annual chance to wipe the slate clean and start anew.

For more information, contact Chabad—Jewish Life at FIT, Malka Werde—212.217.4148
Malka_Werde@fitnyc.edu

Upcoming Events

- 9/21 Shabbaton (6:30, Location: TBA)
- 9/27 Club Fair (12-2, Breezeway)
- 9/28 Shabbaton (6:15, Location: TBA)
- 10/4 Sukkot Party (Time/Date: TBA)
- 10/16 Successful Women Entrepreneurs (1-2, Location: TBA)

Learn with Malka—Every Tuesday,
2-3 PM in Room A707A

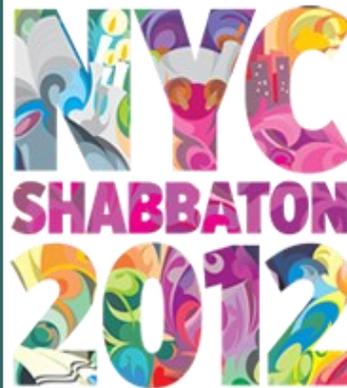
Please feel free to drop-in to the Chabad office (A707A) Monday—Thursday

Shofar—A Call to Action

In the Bible, Rosh Hashanah is called "The Day of the Shofar Blast." That's the mitzvah of the day: to hear the blasts of the *shofar*. Since Rosh Hashanah is two days long, we need to hear the *shofar* blown during the daytime hours of both of those days—unless the first day falls on Shabbat, in which case we blow the *shofar* only on the second day. This year, 2012, we blow the *shofar* on September 17th and 18th. Basically, because it's a mitzvah. But the blasts of the *shofar* are also wake-up calls. Rosh Hashanah is the time to shake out of our spiritual slumber, reconnect to our source, and recommit to our divine mission in this world.



NYC SHABBATON 2012 "The Jewish Mega Event of the Year"



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Join hundreds of students from universities worldwide for a weekend of inspiration and fun at Chabad's world headquarters for a uniquely memorable cultural and religious experience.

The weekend includes Spirited Shabbat dinners, tours of Jewish sites, the chance to meet Jewish personalities, musical entertainment and much more. Students participate in interactive workshops on student leadership, women's issues, social activism and campus anti-Semitism.

Application is available online. For more information, and to register online, go to: www.jewishweekend.org.



Are you interested in adventure and learning? **IsraelLinks** is a three-week educational adventure offering an in-depth exploration of your Jewish heritage. This is the trip for Jewish students currently enrolled in university. Extensive guided tours of the country will be accompanied by stimulating lectures and discussions with academic and rabbinic experts. For more information, go to: www.israelinks.org.

Winter Dates: December 24, 2012 - January 11, 2013

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**Club Meetings are
held every Tuesday,
1:00-2:00 PM in
Room A320**

**We hope to see
you there!**

Congratulations 2012 Graduates

We celebrate your accomplishment and wish you the best!



...little does human wisdom grasp of the working of the Divine Providence. They are impenetrable mysteries, far out of the reach of human perception. Man will never approach the great role the Divine hand plays in that which appears to our limited vision to be merely chance occurrences, or natural events...Out of the Depths by Dr. M. Lehman