

נפתלי קראוס באריכטעט פון ישראל

העצבע אין בני ברק קען
הרב שטיינאַלע

צורך ששללן או ארכטולונג דרי טנג פאר תשען צב
דאך כען זין גאניסטר דיזטיפס דז' נאטה חיב. וואז איז
אוריגינאלרבאך דז' גאניסטר או דאסט דאסט דאסט דאסט
עד שטן אללי. קאנט דז' גאנט גאנט גאנט גאנט גאנט
כבי ביך. וווערט אנטומטן מיט פראטידטן ליטן האטן קען
אארם. האס הוב טיטיאן באלאן זו שערין און זין פה ד
טיטיאן זונגעס וווערט דצלט. טיטיאן רודטן ואיזט מיטטטן. אפלוי
זינגע זונגעס און גאנזער מיטאָטַעַטְשֶׁר שודזין. או אלן וואס דז
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ירדןישער זעלנער דערשאָפּן
און קיבוץ לוטן

יוסף גענערמאן, סאזוועטיש אידישער שדריבער, געשטארבו

"שומרי הדת טשאפל" און גראָ פארָק.

טַעֲרָאִים טִישָׁר סָבָאַטָּאֹשׁ אַזְיַנְדֵּלְשְׁפִיטָאָלוֹן

זען ישראלי שפיטאלו

טעראריסטישער פאנאטאוש
אין ישראַל שפיטאָלן

שיטות זורקזונגען דספירים. וזה יפיעוד שרייבער האבן בעשט אַז גאט אין זו: ער אין גויט זורקזונגען זאָס געלט אין דאנעט דרבינט פון דער ענדה ההודית פאר דער פֿרְתִּילְפֶּכֶר דערוואָס. אוֹ הרב שטיינאָלֵץ האָס נאַגענט פֿאָרְבִּידְמְנָגָעַן מיט

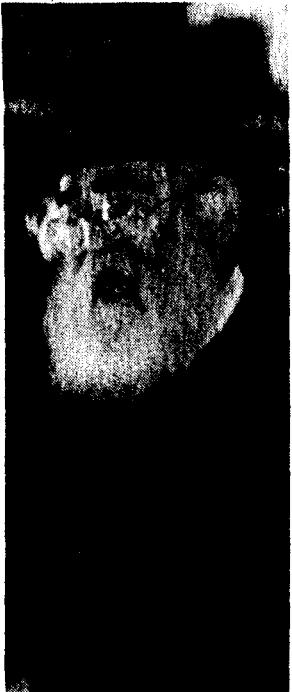
Envy Seen Behind Attacks on Steinsaltz in Bnei Brak

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the Bible and The Talmud for Everybody (a guide for beginners), and in showing disrespect in writing about the Patriarchs, the *Tanaim* and *Amoroim* (Sages).

There were rumors several months ago that the Ponenvizher Rosh Yeshiva, Rabbi Eliezer Shach, was preparing to publish a boycott-letter against Steinsaltz's works. It was understood that his

association with the Lubavitch movement antagonized certain circles in Bnei Brak. The issue seemed to be put to rest several weeks ago, when the Institute of Talmudic Publications (the publishers of Dr. Steinsaltz's works), apologized to the Bnei Brak "Bnei Torah." The *Badatz* (Beis Din Tzedek) of the *Eida Hachareidit* (the ultra-Orthodox Rabbinical Court in Jerusalem) was unrepentant, say-



RABBI ELIEZER SHACH
The Rosh Yeshiva of the
Ponenvizher Yeshiva in Bnei Brak.

ing that some of the expressions in his books were offensive and "the Sages would not be satisfied with them," and, therefore, the books should never have been published.

One newspaper in Israel wrote that Rabbi Eliezer Shach, together with Rabbis Chaim Kreiswirth and Nissim Karlitz, ordered all the works of Steinsaltz to be burned.

Adin Steinsaltz, defensive about the allegations, said it was quite possible that in the editing of his works someone may have misinterpreted some of his explanations and offered to refund the money to anyone who was not pleased with his books.

Shortly after this announcement appeared in *Hamodia*, the Agudath Israel newspaper, *Yated Neeman*, came out with a vitriolic attack against Steinsaltz, calling him an *apikorus* (blasphemer) and declaring a boycott on all his works, in-

cluding the Talmud, which till now had been left out of the dispute.

On the same day the *Badatz* of the Gerer Chassidim published an ad in *Hamodia*, in which they call Steinsaltz *Horav Hagaon* and encourage him to continue his great work, his commentary on Talmud Bavli and Yerushalmi, on which the great decider (*posek*) of this generation, the late Rabbi Moses Feinstein, had already given his approval and had expressed great admiration for his works. They blessed him with "continuous success and to go on with your great work till Moshiach comes," signed by the Rabbis Shlomo Silberstein, Menachem Mendel Hakohen Safran and Yehuda Frankel.

Two of the three booklets — *Women in the Bible* and *Characters in the Bible*, were based on lectures Rabbi Steinsaltz had given on Gale Zahal, the army radio-station and later published by the defense ministry publication center for soldiers. The first edition was published six years ago, and has taken all this time in reaching Bnei Brak and caused this "dance of the devil."

At the end of the week there were speculations as to why *Yated Neeman* so viciously attacked Steinsaltz. Steinsaltz kept silent except for a brief comment in which he said that "the second Temple was destroyed by unfounded hatred (*Sinas Chinom*), and that's why there is no reason before Tisha B'Av to deal with such things."

People who know him and his work well, are speculating that the reasons for the hate campaign, may be manifold; envy of his success, fanaticism and hatred of Chassidim in general and to Lubavitch in particular; jealousy of his work and success in Russia; and last but not least, the main instigator may be a particular person who was interested in setting up a business for an English translation of the Talmud, and felt threatened by the popular Steinsaltz Talmud now being translated into English.

Envy Seen Behind Attacks on Steinsaltz in Bnei Brak

• by Naftali Kraus, Tel Aviv
Correspondent of "Algemeiner Journal" in Tel Aviv

The religious Jews here were shocked early this week, when a concentrated and well-planned attack on Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz, the

famous Talmud-commentator and author, was published in *Yated Neeman*, the newspaper of extreme zealous *Litvish* circles in Bnei Brak.

The newspaper accused Steinsaltz in including blasphemous passages in his popular booklets, *Women in the Bible*, *Characters in*

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York State manuscripts

were presented to the University sselson, well-known philanthropist. Jesselson serves as chairman of Trustees. Mrs. Jesselson is of Governors of the Yeshiva

filming project was designed to ongoing rabbinic manuscripts by Joy Ungerleider Mayerson, a

filmed will also be included in a by the library.

Manuscripts Collection is housed library at the University's Main

Avenue in the Washington iutan. The Gottesman Library ections, including 39 Hebrew 500, more than 1,000 manu collections of Jewish interest. s total more than 900,000 vol iocionals in the arts, sciences and



RABBI ADIN STEINSALTZ