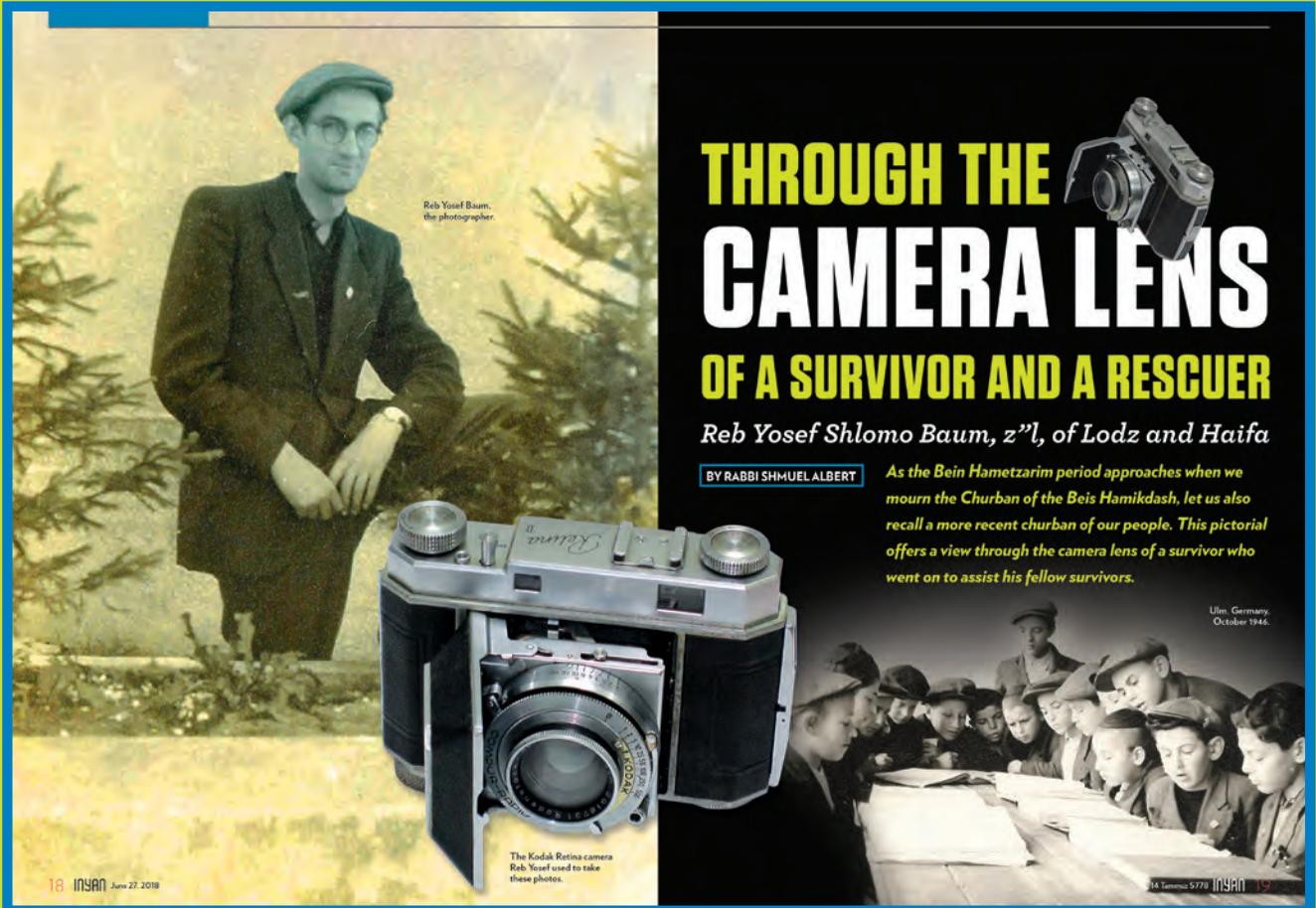


READERS RESPOND



Reb Yosef Baum, the photographer.

THROUGH THE CAMERA LENS OF A SURVIVOR AND A RESCUER

Reb Yosef Shlomo Baum, z"l, of Lodz and Haifa

BY RABBI SHMUEL ALBERT

As the Bein Hametzarim period approaches when we mourn the Churban of the Beis Hamikdash, let us also recall a more recent churban of our people. This pictorial offers a view through the camera lens of a survivor who went on to assist his fellow survivors.

Ulm, Germany, October 1946.

18 INSYAN June 27, 2018

The Kodak Retina camera Reb Yosef used to take these photos.

18 Tammuz 5778 INSYAN 19

“REB YOSEF SHLOMO BAUM, Z”L, OF LODZ AND HAIFA”

(14 Tammuz 5778 / June 27, 2018)

Mrs. Ruti Einhorn (Kiryat Shmuel, Haifa) writes: “I am the daughter of Yosef Shlomo Baum, z”l.

We were very, very moved by the article about our father. We want to thank you and Rabbi Shmuel Albert for the respectable tribute to my father and his friends involved in this holy work.

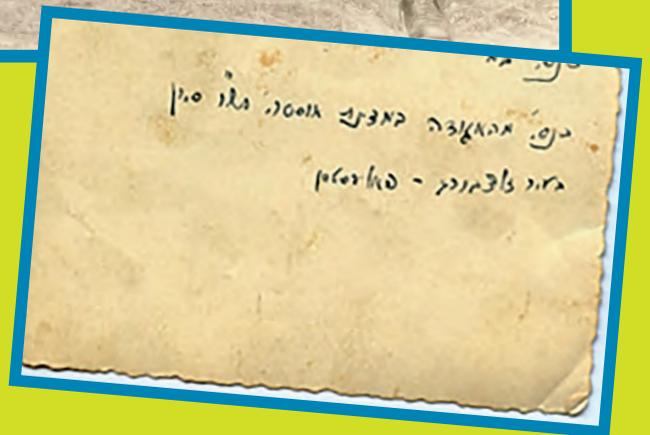
“We have hundreds of photos from that time. I never asked my father why he photographed and organized the photos. He must have realized the importance of documenting things for coming generations. He also really enjoyed his activities with the survivor children.

“We also have some items my father found in the Lodz Ghetto after the war, such as a photo of the Imrei Emes, zy”a, on canvas; a photo of his mother before the war; a *Chumash* that belonged to his brother, [Rav] Menachem Mendel; a yellow star that they had to wear; and work cards from the Lodz Ghetto belonging to his brother and uncle.

“Throughout the years, my father carefully guarded the photos and the items.

“The publication of the article at that time of year is not coincidental! My father was born on 2 Tammuz 5680 and passed away on 27 Av, *Shabbos Kodosh Parashas Re’eh*, 5764.

“I will add that a great-grandchild of my father was born on that day, on the Shabbos of his *yahrtzeit* on 27 Av, *Shabbos Parashas Re’eh*, 5770, and he was named Yosef Shlomo!”



Peri Teitelbaum and G. Kupperman have identified their father and grandfather, respectively, Rabbi Shloma Zalman Braun, *zt"l* (#1), author of the *sefer She'arim Metzuyanim B'halachah*; and their brother and uncle, Rabbi Chaim Eluzer Braun, *zt"l* (#3), who continued the editing and publishing of the *She'arim Metzuyanim B'halachah* on *Shas*. Rabbi Shloma Zalman Braun had a shul in Flatbush called Shaarey Zion on East 13th Street in Brooklyn, New York, and Rabbi Chaim Eluzer took over that position after his father passed away in 1995. Rabbi Chaim Eluzer passed away four and a half years ago, and Mrs. Kupperman's brother currently holds that position.

"Thanks for printing the photo. It definitely elicited responses from family members. [We] wish we knew more details of the photo and would be pleased to hear from anyone who does."

This picture was taken at an Agudah Conference held in Austria, in Sivan 5706/June 1946, as can be seen from their father's writing on the back of the picture. He also writes in Hebrew "In the city of Salzburg-Palestine."

Mrs Pearl Altschuler (Yerushalayim) recognizes her father, Reb Shmuel Greenbaum, *z"l* (#2), in this photo. "I have photographs with other poses of this same group of people in my possession. There were several DP camps in and around the Salzburg area in the years right after World War II that were organized by Agudas Yisroel, which helped the survivors run them.

"My father, Reb Shmuel, was one of the leaders of

the camp, in Parshe (near Salzburg) together with Reb Nesanel Radziner and Rabbi Mannes Zhitnitski.

"He also helped my mother, Mrs. Rochel Greenbaum, *a"h*, a *talmidah* of Sarah Schenirer and a Bais Yaakov teacher before the war, to organize a seminary for teenage girls who had survived and were located there. He grew up in Lodz, learned in Yeshivas Chachmei Lublin, and ended up in the Lodz Ghetto with my mother, whom he married nine months before the war broke out.

"During the war they were separated and were miraculously reunited after the war. They spent a few years in this DP camp. Eventually, all the survivors moved on and left Austria. My parents wanted very much to move to Eretz Yisrael, but after my older brother was born in 1946, it was considered too dangerous for them to do so with a young child via illegal immigration, so they ended up going to Australia in 1948."

Mrs. Goldy Fisher (Boro Park, Brooklyn) says that her father, Reb Dovid Lebovitz, *z"l* (#4), in the photo was the secretary of Agudah in Salzburg.