

בס"ד

CertifiedMehel



BRIS MILAH GUIDE

ברית מילה

Compiled by Rabbi Sholom D. Langsam

Certified Mehel

The Rebbe's Letter

LUBAVITCHER CHASSIDIM HAVE THE CUSTOM TO READ THE LETTER FROM THE REBBE:

B"H, Brooklyn, NY

ב"ה, ברוקלין, נ.י.

To the Rav and Chossid,
a man who fears G-d,
honorable and esteemed, etc.,

הרב הקהסיד,
איש ירא אלקים,
נכבד ונעלה, וכו'

Greetings and Blessings.

שלום וברכה!

In response to your notification that
a son was born to them in an auspicious hour,
may it be G-d's will that you bring
him into the Covenant of Abraham our father,
and just as you bring him
into the Covenant, so may
you bring him up to Torah, to marriage,
and to good deeds, and may you raise him,
together with your wife, may she be well,
in prosperity.

במענה על הודעתו אשר
נולד להם בן למזל טוב,
הנה יהי רצון מהשם
יתברך שיכניסוהו לבריתו
של אברהם אבינו, וכשם
שיכניסוהו לברית בן
יכניסוהו לתורה ולחופה
ולמעשים טובים, ויגדלו
ביחד עם זוגתו תחיה
מתוך הרחבה.

With blessings of Mazel-Tov,
(The Rebbe's Signature)

בברכת מזל טוב
(חתימת יד קדשו)

List of Honorees

TO BE FILLED OUT PRIOR TO THE BRIS

Family Name: _____

Kvatterin ¹	_____	קוואטעריין ¹
Kvatter ¹	_____	קוואטער ¹
Onto the Throne of Elijah	_____	כסא שטאל אליה הנביא
From the Throne of Elijah	_____	מעטל הכסא (שטאל אליה הנביא)
Sandek	_____	סנדק
Read the Rebbe's Letter	_____	מכתב הרבי
Priestly Blessing	_____	ברכת כהנים
From the Sandek's lap	_____	מעטל ברכה סנדק
Standing Sandek	_____	סנדק מעומד
Reader of the Blessing ²	_____	ברכות ²
Giving the Name ²	_____	קריאה השם ²

¹ It's a custom to give a couple (*non-pregnant*) ie. Husband and wife, or brother and sister. It is a segulah for children.

² There are those that have the custom to give it to the same person.

Father's full Hebrew name: _____

Mother's full Hebrew name: _____

Name Given: _____

Honorees Explained

KVATTERIN

קוואטערין

Carries the baby from mother to the Bris room and after the Bris, back to the mother. This is the one formal honor bestowed upon a woman at a Bris. Often, the Kvatterin and Kvatter are a couple seeking to have a child, as this honor is deemed propitious for this purpose.

In some communities the baby is passed from woman to woman, each bringing him closer to the Bris room.

KVATTER

קוואטער

Carries the baby from Kvatterin to Bris area and after the Bris, back to the Kvatterin.

In some communities the baby is passed from man to man, each bringing the baby closer to the Bris area. The people being honored to do so (called **הגשה**) are announced.

THRONE OF ELIJAH

כסא שטאליה הנביא

Place the baby on the chair designated as Throne of Elijah.

Great emphasis is placed on this honor.

FROM THE THRONE

מעטא הכסא (שטאליה הנביא)

Takes the baby from the Throne of Elijah and gives him to the father who places him on the sandek's lap.

SANDEK

סנדק

Holds the baby during the Bris. This is the highest honor at the Bris. The sandek is equated to the Kohen burning the incense offering in the Beis HaMikdash.

Many single out the Rabbi or the Grandfather for this honor.

FROM THE SANDEK'S LAP

מעטא ברכה סנדק

Takes the baby from the sandek at the conclusion of the circumcision and gives him to the standing sandek.

STANDING SANDEK

סנדק מעומד

Holds the baby while the blessings and prayer are recited, during which the baby is given his Hebrew name.

Arizal considered this an important honor.

READER OF THE BLESSINGS

ברכות

Recites the two blessings said following the Bris.

This honor is often bestowed on a Rabbi, Mohel or Sandek.

GIVING THE NAME

קריאת השם

Recites the Prayer during which the baby is given his Hebrew name.

This honor is often bestowed on a Rabbi, Mohel or Sandek.

This honor is often combined with that of the blessings.

LEADER OF PRIESTLY BLESSINGS

ברכת כהנים

A Kohen is honored to lead the Priestly Blessings. They are bestowed upon the baby right before the Bris.

Step by Step

The mother gives the child to the Kvatterin, who passes him to the Kvatter, who then passes him to the person who will place him on the Chair of Elijah. He is then taken from the chair and given to the father, who places the child in the lap of the Sandek. The Mohel then performs the Bris, as the father recites the appropriate blessing. Afterwards, the child is taken from the Sandek's lap and given to the standing Sandek, the blessings are recited, and the name is given. The child is then returned to the mother through the Kvatter and Kvatterin.

For detailed information visit www.certifiedmohel.com

BRIS CHECKLIST

- ☐ שיטת המעלות
(will be provided in high resolution by the mohel, see back page)
- ☐ כיסוי ראש (head covering/hat) for the baby
- ☐ A Tallis (*prayer shawl*)
To be worn by all those receiving honors
- ☐ A Bottle of Wine
(sweet wine, room temperature, mevushal)
- ☐ Kiddush cup
- ☐ Pillow
- ☐ Pillowcase (*usually white*)
- ☐ Blankets for child
- ☐ Diapers (*at least 4*)
- ☐ Pacifier (*recommended*)
- ☐ Printed list of honorees (*see page 3*)
- ☐ Feed the baby up to one and a half hours prior to the Bris

NEEDED FOR POST BRIS, NOT REQUIRED AT TIME OF BRIS:

- ☐ Antibiotic ointment (*Neosporin or Bacitracin, etc.*)
- ☐ Gauze (*sterile pack of 24 3"x3" individually wrapped*)

Testimonials

"I used Rabbi Sholom Langsam for my son's Bris. The Rabbi was patient, understanding, and attentive and has exceptional bedside manner. I recommended him to all my friends and family even those that live across the Atlantic"

Michael and Samantha
Worcester, MA

"We were extremely impressed with the professionalism and the quality of Rabbi Sholom Langsam's work, compassion, and understanding of the parents"

Josh and Debbi
Playa Vista, CA

"We had the honor of using Rabbi Langsam for our son's circumcision. We were nervous and anxious as first time parents and as much as anyone could he eased our worries and handled the entire process with calm confidence. The fact that he took the time to visit us before, after and take all our calls in between was a huge help. The actual circumcision was done so quickly and our son was priority number 1 the entire time. My wife and I give Rabbi Langsam the highest recommendation"

Adam and Laura
Marina del Rey, CA

"We have used Rabbi Langsam, both for our own son's Bris and for members of our S. Barbara community.

His equal emphasis on professionalism and genuine care is unique. Before the Bris, we received a nice brochure explaining the whole process so we could be ready. The actual Brissim were all performed with great skill, and the follow-up calls/texts to make sure everything is ok, are there any questions, kept my wife and I at ease that we were under the best care. I would (and do) recommend Rabbi Langsam to my friends and community members"

Rabbi Zalmy & Shterna Kudan
S. Barbara, CA

"On May 9th, 2013 my beautiful baby boy Gabriel was circumcised in the comfort of my home by an amazing Mohel. Sholom Langsam was not only professional, he was charismatic, kept the procedure quick, thorough and clean, and brought a wonderful energy into my home. I will definitely have him perform all my sons circumcisions, when there will be any more.

Highly recommended and memorable!

My son is almost 1 now and he has healed beautifully and I am so happy with the results"

Beatrice Byata
Los Angeles, CA

Certified and Endorsed by:

הרבנות הראשית לישראל

הרה"ג הרב מרדכי אליהו
ראשון לציון לשעבר

הרה"ג הרב אליהו אברג'יל
אב בית דין ירושלים

כולל ומכון גבוה להכשרת מוהלים

הרה"ג הרב שלמה מחפוד
רבה של שכונת נוה אליעזר בני ברק

הרב אליהו אסולין
רבה של בית אליעזר וחבר לשכת הרבנות חדרה

הרה"ח הרב"ג הרב יצחק יהודה ירוסלבסקי
חבר ועד רבני חב"ד

הרה"ח הרב מנחם פליישמן
מורשה הרבנות הראשית ומשרד הבריאות



The Chief Rabbinate of Israel





CertifiedMohel Rabbi Sholom D. Langsam (216) FOR-BRIS

מוהל מומחה ומוסמך

CertifiedMohel
Traditional Ritual Circumcision

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