



Marcel Lindenbaum
145 Central Park West
New York 10023

August 10, 1976

Dear Rabbi Lamm,

I have controlled my urge to call you by phone since I know you must have been flooded with congratulatory calls. The one thing you do not need is an additional drain on your time.

I have kept abreast of the long search for a suitable person to follow in the footsteps of the sainted Dr. Belkin. From the very first your name was amongst the prime candidates. I watched my father torn between his loyalty to Yeshiva, his love for the Jewish Center and his respect and friendship for you as a Rabbi and a person.

You have served as the Rabbi of the Jewish Center for seventeen years and have gained the respect of all those who know you. Belda and I always admired your ability to set a goal and proceed to achieve it. We considered you as a potential head of Yeshiva University for many years. You always seemed most fulfilled and, therefore, most fulfilling in the role of a teacher.

Belda and I would like to add our congratulatory wishes for your continued success. You have been elected to the highest position American Orthodoxy has to offer. The responsibility is awesome --the challenge is breathtaking.

The seventeen years of our association have given us good reason to believe that you will rise to both the challenge and the responsibility. Dr. Belkin's strength was foremost in his vision and his ability to weld together the idea, the need, and the tools to bring them about.

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May your continued success and achievement be a source of pride to your loved ones, respect by your friends, and gratitude by the Jewish community.

Congratulations to Mindy and the children who deserve some of the credit, since I am sure they have suffered some of the pain.

With great personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Marcel".

Rabbi Norman Lamm
27 West 86 Street
New York, New York