Eulogy for Dr. Israel Miller—ביום זיכרון —April 22, 2002

Introd: IM was nt a symbol of an age/philosophy; of 1 genration or anothr; not a phenomenon or emblem. IM was, t put it simply, a שנועטה, a persnlty, a noble humn being of flesh & blood who livd/breathd decency/integrty/sweetness/politenss/frndshp

- 1. I knew IM f most my lf--& most of hs. In my stdnt dys he=young/rising star Rbbt; As cong'l Rbbi—ws belovd/admird; sophstctd in wys comm'l poltcs Was man grt warmth/heart; father figure to many; gr-f figure t others; write to many; gr-f figure to thers; father figure to many; gr-f figure to the start with the start warmth/heart; father figure to many; gr-f figure to the start warmth/heart; father figure to many; gr-f figure to the start warmth/heart; father figure to many; gr-f figure to the start warmth/heart; father figure to many; gr-f figure to the start warmth/heart; father figure to many; gr-f figure to the start warmth/heart; father figure to many; gr-f figure to the start warmth/heart; father figure to many; gr-f figure to the start warmth/heart; father figure to many; gr-f figure to the start warmth/heart; father figure to many; gr-f figure to the start warmth/heart; father figure to many; gr-f figure to the start warmth/heart; father figure to many; gr-f figure to many
- 2. Got t know hm best since I-Pres, h=Sr VP: Stdnts/קינדערקאר.—I adord hm
- 3. Allow m focus on 3 aspects his illustrious career in wys tht I knew hm best
- 4. 1st: Hs comml lp well-knwn. Headd proby mr orgs>I know./foundd mny thm. But wht was very special—did so NOT ONLY f ORTH Js, bt f כלל ישראל.

 Therby—ws מקדש השם ברבים: Orth Rabbi nt narrow, bt love tht embracd evry J

 This=kind of broad lp that manifstd מריצוק אלחנן, נצי״ב, אדמו״רים...

 H=our role model J ldr/our eldr-statsman/one mst eminnt alumni/glory t Y-U as a בלל ישראל איד.
- 5. **2nd: At Y.U**., h meant mny thngs f me: H=my <u>colleag/collabortr/confdant</u>. . Was f m—both בעל עצה ובר טמכא—advisor/authrty—someone t *lean on*
- 6. **But mostly**—he=my **conscnc**/ נביא Let me <u>elaborate</u> a bit on this role. Oftn, <u>in positon lp</u>, face <u>conundrum</u> of prncpl vs practclty; not cyncal bt real.

Thus, דתב"ם quoted רמב"ם reads: כל מי שהצבור ממנה אותו פרנס מלמטה, נקרא רשע Similar Zohar: On אשר נשיא יחטא, Zohar adds 2 words: חוטא. תוטא פרנס מי יחטא יחטא סי מי חוטא סי חוטא סי חוטא סי חוטא מי סי חוטא סי חוטא. A fact of lf!

Strnge thng t sy--esp by רמב"ם who=ldr hs ציבור. Bt wht mns: Lp~hard decsons -- bettr: dirty ones: choosng betw alternativs neither of whch=perfct/clean/ pure /desirable/even acceptable, but selecting the one which is the *least* harmful.

<u>"Clean decisions"=risk-free</u>, don't reqr lp. A ldr must embrace risk רשע למטה of <u>being <perfect/ideal/accused of ideolgcl error/moral truancy</u>--if by so doing h carries out mission of <u>protectg ציבור מלמטה</u>, commty in real world, <u>sparing</u> thm <u>greater hurt/ mr serious injury/worse morl blemish</u>. Lp not easy task, but that=what lp is all about. אשר נשיא יחטא, ודאי יחטא, there is <u>no way out</u>.

Oftn, faced w such crushg decisions, in/out of Y.U., <u>I felt pulld</u> by th contradctry tugs of my respnbties. Whn decide Princpl/whn welfare Commy? <u>Each decision=new</u>, no <u>precdnt</u>. So I <u>consult collgs</u>: & here, <u>IM=usually my CONSCNCE</u>—usually tiltd t princpl, bt w a mature understanding of practilty. Which leads me to 3rd, last point:

7. 3rd: Wise! Hs <u>keen analyss</u> kpt m fr slf-delusn, hs ebullnt sprt—fr paralyss of pessmsm Hs imp'ce t m md itslf felt in hs <u>combntn realsm/optmsm</u>. Expln:

Gamara דף כ"ח חל הבחים these days דף כ"ח חל ופתר הבחים learn Hal of real estate. Talm seeks prove ירמי' הנביא וירמי' הנביא וירמי' הנביא Jerm proclaims (32:44) destructn Jer, exile inhabitnts, YET—instructs thm write/certify deeds: שָׁדוֹת בַּפֶּטֶף יִקנוּ וְכָתוֹב בַּטֶּכֶר וְחָתוֹם וְהָעֵד עָדִים בְּאֶרֶץ בְּנִימֵן וּבְסְבִיבֵי יְרוּשָׁלֵם וּבְעֵרֵי יְהוּדָה בַּכֶּטֶף יִקנוּ וְכָתוֹב בַּטֶּכֶר וְחָתוֹם וְהָעֵד עָדִים בְּאֶרֶץ בְּנִימֵן וּבְסְבִיבֵי יְרוּשַׁלֵם וּבְעֵרֵי יְהוּדָה

יהָהָר וּבְעָרֵי הָשָּׁבֵלָה וּבְעָרֵי הַנֶּגֶב כִּי אָשִׁיב אֶת שְׁבּוּתָם נְאֵם ה' Gloomy propht: >exl, y wll return, s keep deeds. Fr ths learn: 3 yrs posssn=legl proof ownrshp.

Capcty see thru prsnt catstrphe t ftr rdmptn=peculrly Jsh; srce J optmsm Tht, for m=distngshg charctrstc IM: How often I discuss issues w him: I thought: simpl. IM: אוֹם לאַ פּשׁוֹט acknwldgd hard realties If/ ambiguities/pardxs/ inconsstncs/ ambvlncies. He=intellctly mature/wise/truthfl. Ddn't dismss bad news, possblty failure. YET—confdnt tht, as ני לה אָמֵר ה' בָּאָשֶׁר הַבָּאתִי אָל הָעָם הַּזָּה אַת כָּל הָרָעָה הַגְּדוֹלֶה הַזֹּאת כֵּן אָנְכִי מֵבִיא Erry בָּי לֹה אָמֶר ה' בָּאָשֶׁר הַבָּאתִי אָל הָעָם הַזָּה אַת כָּל הָרָעָה הַגְּדוֹלֶה הָזֹּאת בֶּן אָנְכִי דְּבֵּר עָלֵיהֶם בָּי לֹה אָשֶׁר אָנִכִי דֹבֶר עָלֵיהֶם עַּלִיהָם pdlyansh, w-o foolg slf.

In a way, then, in discuss w IM communal or unvrsty problms, I felt as if talkg t Jeremiah—depress in his clear and unimpeded view & analysis of current sit'n, Yet ult'y hope/light/confdnc--optmsm

- 8. If I had to sum up hs lf/prsnlty/essenc one word: BEAUTFL: שיינער איד שיינער איד רבי: איזו היא דרך ישרה שיבור לו האדם. כל שהיא תפארת לעושיה ותפארת לו מן האדם רבי: איזו היא דרך ישרה שיבור לו האדם. כל
- 9. So I knew hm in mny guises/functions/aspcts. For he left a multi-facetd legacy. I shll miss hm in all of his aspects.

His demise affects each us in so mny diffrt ways--& thrfr s hard t say goodbye. Poet: "F h tht lives mr lives thn one/More deaths thn one must die".

For me, Is Miller died many deaths. I mourn him f all of them.