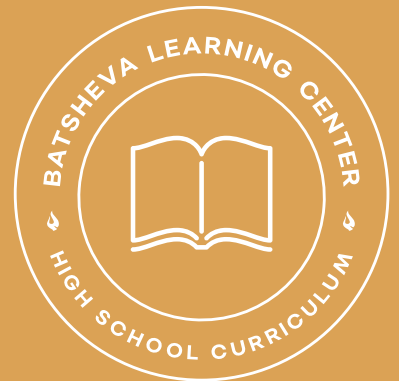


קונטרס

ענינה של תורת החסידות

EXPLORING THE ESSENCE



STUDENT WORKBOOK

HOW TO USE THE SECTIONS IN THIS WORKBOOK:

Synopsis

Read before learning a given section of the קונטרס. This will help you follow the flow from one סעיף to the next.

Background Information

This section contains relevant background information and explains concepts that are referenced in the קונטרס.

Key Words and Phrases

Here you'll find translations and basic explanations for words, quotes, and phrases that come up in the text.

Summary

Use these prompts as you learn to self-check for comprehension. This is the place for you to summarize what you've learned so that you can organize your thoughts into words and ensure that you've understood the material properly.

Points to Ponder

Use these questions when you've finished learning each section. They are designed to make you stop and think; to analyze the text on a deeper level than your initial reading. The רבי wrote extensive footnotes to this קונטרס, so these questions will sometimes point you to a specific footnote that will broaden or deepen your understanding of the text.

Stop & Review

At a few points throughout this workbook, these charts will help you reflect on how the ideas in this קונטרס come together in the big picture.

סעיף ג

Synopsis

Now that we know what חסידות is at its core, how is it distinct from תורה in general? Just as חסידות is an essential point that transcends its various manifestations (as explained in the last סעיף), the same is true of תורה in general.

Key Words and Phrases

לעיל	above
בנוגע	concerning
בכללות	generally speaking
חלקי	parts of
כוללת	encompasses
מיני שלמות ומעלות	various kinds of perfection and positive qualities
מוחין	intellect
בהנהגת	behaviors
מוסריות	moral
וכדומה	and the like
תכלית	absolute
שיטות	systems (perspectives)
שבדו	which they have contrived
מעורבות	they are mixed together
מקורם	their source
מנסיעותיו	of his journeys
התווכחו	they debated
והביעו	and they expressed
אודות	regarding
יחס	the relationship

שיטות המדיניות	political systems
מסכמת	agrees
הראה	showed
חוות דעת	opinion
ענה	answered
תכלית	the ultimate
ענינים	matters
היותר נעלית	the loftiest
השפעת	flow of
תלוי'ה	dependent on
דקדוק קל	minute detail
אמנם	however
מיוחדת	united
המלוכש	which is encloded
בתכלית היחוד	in absolute unity
כלא ממש	as though they do not (exist)
לשבחה	to praise it
בתהלת	with a praise of
דלא ממש חשיבי	they are not considered anything (significant)
במילא	automatically
אכן	indeed
בכל זה	notwithstanding
מתבטא	it is expressed
בחינת	aspect
ציור	form
המגדיר	that defines
מעלים	conceals
פשיטות	lit., simplicity; abstractness, transcending description or definition
להחליפו	to change it
כדלהלן	as will be explained

Background Information

עולם קטן הוא האדם

The מדרש תנחומא explains that whatever transpires in the world at large is also reflected within a person. Thus a person is referred to as a “small world”. Here too, the תורה’s perfection is revealed in a person’s emotions and intellect.

כי היא חכמתכם ובינתכם לעיני העמים (דברים ד:ו)

In this פסוק, we are told to be careful in fulfilling מצות תורה and מצות when entering ארץ ישראל, because the תורה is a symbol of wisdom in the eyes of the other nations. This פסוק conveys the idea that תורה contains the greatest wisdom in the world.

כלבוש תחליפם ויחלופו (תהילים קכ:ז)

This פסוק describes how ה' will renew heaven and earth like a person changes his clothes. The רבי borrows this phrase to explain that while אור אין סוף is limited in תורה by the form of פרד"ס, which can be compared to skin that cannot be changed, חסידות does not have a form and therefore אור אין סוף is able to be fully expressed within it, like an outfit one change according to how he want to express himself.

פרד"ס

This stands for the four levels of interpretation of the תורה:

פשוט - the simple meaning of the text

רמז - the allusions found in the text

דרוש - interpretations of the text derived through textual analysis

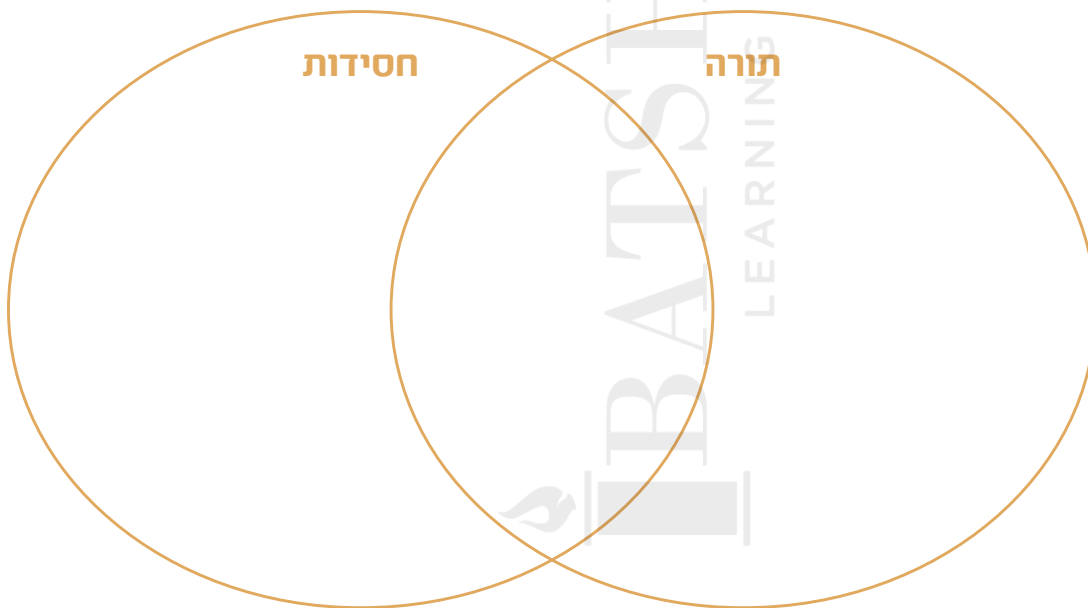
סוד - the mystical dimension, otherwise known as קבלה

Summary

Fill in the chart below:

The moral מעלה of תורה:	
The intellectual מעלה of תורה:	
The מעלה of תורה relative to the worlds:	
The essential מעלה of תורה:	

Fill in this Venn diagram to illustrate how חסידות and תורה are the same and how they are different:



Points to Ponder

- Can you think of a specific example where the תורה incorporates the advantages of every moral system?

