

"And Moshe undressed Aharon of his garments, and put them upon Elazar, his son." (20:28)

Chazal describe the uniqueness of this undressing of Aharon. Normally, Aharon would first have to remove all of his garments, so that Elazar could don his undergarments first. As Aharon removed his outer garment, however, Elazar immediately put it on. This became Elazar's undergarment. As Aharon continued by removing this undergarment, it, in turn, became Elazar's outergarments. There is a profound homiletic lesson to be derived herein. Aharon's inner "garments" or essence, the way he acted in the privacy of his own home, was reflected externally by his children. Children invariably reveal the actual values and outlook presented in their home.

How fortunate are the parents whose deep inner sense of Jewish values is revealed in the constructive activities of their children. One may be able to build an external facade of piety for the world. This sham, however, will eventually be exposed through the negative life activities of his children. We must forever be vigilant to keep the inner character of our lives in order, so that the next generation will be bequeathed a heritage which is pure and unimpeachable.