

## Moshe assembled the entire assembly of the Bnei Yisrael. (35:1)

Moshe *Rabbeinu* gathered together the entire nation for the specific purpose of instructing them regarding the building of the *Mishkan*. **Horav Baruch Sorotzkin, zl**, observes that the power of certain *mitzvos* is catalyzed by their acceptance and performance by the *tzibbur*, entire community. There are other *mitzvos* that attain validity even if only one person observes and fulfills them. The *mitzvah* of building the *Mishkan*, the place where the *Shechinah* will repose, the source of *Klal Yisrael's kedushah* and *taharah*, holiness and purity, is one that must involve the entire Jewish People. No individual, regardless of his ability to achieve even the loftiest degree of sanctity, can alone create a place of *hashroas ha'Shechinah*, a place in which the *Shechinah* rests. It must be a communal endeavor in which every individual takes part, each adding his own component of *kedushah*.

*Horav Sorotzkin* supplements this with the notion that in order for all of *Klal Yisrael* to receive spiritual influence from the *Mishkan*, each individual must sense that he has a share in it. He must believe that he is one of its builders and that he is as much a participant in the building of the *Mishkan* as is everybody else. Hence, even the poorest Jew was instructed to contribute towards the building of the *Mishkan*. This act engendered within him the feeling that the *Mishkan* was the source of Divine light for all people.