



SHOLOM BAYIS AND MAINTAINING A FULL BEARD — A STORY ABOUT THE *BABA SALI*

One who guards his beard is like one who guards his *bris*. To touch [i.e., trim the beard], even [only] with scissors, is forbidden.

(Rav Yisrael Abuchatzira zt'l, the *Baba Sali*, in *Sefer Hadras Panim Zokon*, p. 41).



Baba Sali...was very disturbed by the removal of the beard... He saw the beard as “the image of G-d” which should not be removed....

He would frequently say that a person who resolves to leave his beard intact will have half his sins forgiven....

Once a young man came to him and told him that he wished to let his beard grow because he had heard about the promise that half his sins would be forgiven, but his wife was opposed.

Baba Sali replied that he should tell his wife that half her sins will also be forgiven if she allows him to grow his beard

(*Meor Yisrael [biography of the Baba Sali]*, pp. 88-90).

For a comprehensive treatment of this subject, see:

Sefer Hadras Ponim Zokon / by Rabbi Moshe Wiener / *The Cutting and Growth of the Beard in Halachic Perspective* /
Published with the Endorsements of the Leading Halachic Authorities of our Times / 1024 pages (in expanded third edition)