

Congregation

◆◆◆"Beth Yosef"◆◆◆

*** 2108 Ocean Parkway Brooklyn, N.Y. 11223 ***

Rabbi Aharon Farhi

Mr. Eliyahu Levy, President

Parashat Tazria Tahor (Metzora) Maqam Saba Haftarat VeArbaah Anashim
5th Iyar 5781 Issue #934 April 17th 2021

*Candle Lighting 7:18pm * Shekiah 7:36pm * Shir Hashirim 7:00pm followed by Minha Friday Night
Shaharit Shabbat 8:15am * Minha Shabbat 7:00pm * Shabbat Ends 8:19pm & Rabbenu Tam 8:49pm
Time for Talit 4:57am * Seasonal Hour 77:00 * Alot Hashahar 4:42am * Netz Hachama 6:14am
Weekday Minha 7:30pm * Earliest Time for Arbit 6:38pm * Tzet Hacoachavim 8:14pm * Chatzot 12:55
Latest Time for Morning Keriat Shema 8:33am * Latest Time for Morning Amidah 9:50am*

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May Hashem bless them with physical and spiritual success, Amen.

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Please do not read this bulletin during Tefillah or Keriat Hatorah

The Pasuk says: *When a woman conceives and gives birth to a male.* Unfortunately, there are foolish husbands who act in the following manner: if the wife gives birth to a boy, he honors and loves her greatly. However, if she gives birth to a girl, he acts disappointed and neglects her during a time when celebration is in order. What did she do wrong? Had she gone to market and chose a girl instead of a boy? Our Sages teach us that a girl is conceived when the father seeds first. Also, our Sages teach us that a son is conceived from the power of the mother while a daughter is conceived from the power of the father. Many Pesukim in the Torah prove that a father brings forth the daughter, i.e. *"Betuel had a daughter Rivka" – "Dina the daughter of Yaakov" – "Lavan had two daughters"* etc. Also, many Pesukim prove that a mother brings forth the son, i.e. *"Em (mother) Habanim Semechah" – "Hagar birthed a son for Avraham" – "Sarah, your wife, birthed for you a son" – "The mother of Yaakov and Esav" – "Leah birthed a son for Yaakov" – "Rachel conceived and birthed a son"* etc. On top of these facts, many parents sometimes enjoy much more pride and pleasure from their daughters than their sons, when their daughters marry Torah scholars or wealthy and important righteous people, and bring forth grandchildren who are also righteous and study Torah. We must appreciate Hashem's gift and not be unappreciative due to foolish feelings. Who is rich? One who appreciates what he has and realizes

his true wealth. Hagaon Rav Tzvi Paysach Frank would ask Hashem for daughters, since sons require a great amount of disciplining and education, and yet there is still a doubt whether or not they will become Torah scholars. Daughters, however, can be much easier, since he could marry them off to Torah scholars.

The Pasuk says: *"You shall separate Bnei Yisrael from their contamination; and they shall not die as a result of their contamination"* Which impurity is the Torah speaking of, which can even cause death? Harav Tzvi Yosef Yashar explains: this Pasuk is referring to the Mitzvah of Family Purity, which the Torah designates a special place for within the Pasuk. Rabi Shimon Bar Yochai teaches that even if one has children as great as those of Aharon Hacoen, if he is not careful with the laws of Nidah then they are in danger. The sin is so powerful that it can even harm the children. When one is not careful with family purity he causes anger to be brought upon the world. Even if the child is righteous and holy, still he is under the influence of his parents' terrible sin. The punishment is great, but the reward for being careful is great as well. Hashem is overjoyed from those who are pure, as purity is the foundation of our nation. A Jewish woman should realize that when she properly observes the laws of family purity, she brings great holiness upon her household. May Hashem watch over us, Amen.

Insights on Pirke Avot

Why was Rav Yosef Karo worthy of authoring the Shulhan Aruch as Maran? The Chida heard from a wise sage: in the times of the holy Arizal, the heavens decreed that someone must be chosen to author the Shulhan Aruch, listing and explaining all the laws of the Torah and how they are applied. There were three Torah scholars who were candidates for such an awesome achievement, yet R' Yosef Karo was chosen, because he was very humble, and would never speak ill against others who did not agree with his Halachic rulings. Modesty and humility are one of the forty-eight prime characteristics necessary to acquire the Torah. (*R' Shmuel Zev*)

History in Brief

60 years after the Temple's destruction, in the year 128AD. Rabi Yehoshua was asked by the Caesar: I would like to make a grand feast in honor of Hashem. What should I do? Rabi Yehoshua answered that he could not possibly do so, but the Caesar persisted and insisted to be given instruction. He therefore instructed him to prepare the feast in a very wide area along the shore on the beach. For six months the Caesar's servants made preparations for the feast. After they completed their preparations, a strong storm came and swept everything into the water. The Caesar demanded an explanation. Rabi Yehoshua said: Those who honored the house of Hashem are no longer here. The Caesar then gave up. The daughter of the Caesar asked Rabi Yehoshua many questions. When he answered with wisdom, she asked: How could such beautiful wisdom be stored in such an uncomely vessel? Rabi Yehoshua was not handsome. Rabi Yehoshua asked her where her father stored his pricey wine, and she explained it was all stored in barrels of simple materials. He asked: but aren't you wealthy and prestigious? Why not store the wine in barrels made of gold and silver? At this thought, she instructed the servants to pour all the wine into gold and silver barrels, thus causing all the wine over a short period of time to spoil to vinegar. He then explained that the same is true with the Torah, which is best kept in simple looking people, and can spoil in those who are proud. The Caesar challenged: but we know of scholars and wise men who are handsome? Rabi Yehoshua explained: Yes, but had they not been handsome, they would have been able to learn and

retain so much more Torah, thus reaching even greater levels.

Health and Recovery

People make the mistake of thinking that "light" cigarettes are not as harmful as regular cigarettes. In truth, studies prove that they are not different and just as unhealthy to the body. Let us list three important health issues, in which the body is damaged through smoking: 1- A National Institute of Health study found 50% of all bladder cancer cases are in those who smoke. 2- Cigarette smoking is a leading risk factor for degenerative disc disease (DDD). The term "degenerative disc disease" has been criticized by some because all discs do degenerate naturally over time. It's a normal part of the aging process. However, in some younger adults, the discs degenerate more quickly. This causes the discs to lose fluid, become less pliable, and less protective and supportive of the vertebrae. The result is chronic and debilitating pain. 3- In addition, smoking can destroy the cilia—or tiny hairs in your airway that keep dirt and mucus out of your lungs. When these cilia are destroyed, you develop what is known as "smoker's cough," a chronic cough that is often seen in long-term or daily smokers.

Mussar: Love for Others

Each and every person is obligated to love one another. The way to develop this love is to help others, whether physically, spiritually, or monetarily. Everyone is in need of assistance from others, no matter their financial or spiritual standings. Give gifts to others and show that you care about them. Through these actions you will develop a sense of love for others. Be forgiving and easy-going. In business, be honest and courteous to others. Do not be strict with people or particular. Speak softly and kindly. Be careful not to embarrass others, and always prevent and avoid confrontations. Smile pleasantly to people, for this will enhance the love for one another. Be concerned about the welfare of another, and soften their worries. If one confides their secrets or private issues to you, do not reveal them to anyone else. If one angers you, let it pass. Do not listen to others talking about the faults or shortcomings spoken of another. Always strive to find the good in people. Follow these steps and you will begin to develop love for others, and be loved by them in turn, as

well as by Hashem, which will gain us mercy and blessings, Amen.

Rishon LeSion:

R' Avraham Chaim Gagin 1787-1848

R' Avraham authored a Sefer which he called Kedushat Yom Tov. He sent the manuscript with a trusted messenger to Salonica to be printed. When the manuscript arrived at the printing press, they placed it with the other books waiting to be printed. The messenger prayed that all would be successful and he would be able to complete his mission. When he came back the next day, the large printing building was on fire, such a powerful inferno that it was clear everything in the building would be destroyed. They worked hard to put out the flames, and when they finally succeeded, the damage was immense. With great pain, they searched through the wreckage, and to their great astonishment, they found that the handwritten manuscript of R' Avraham remained completely intact, no damage at all, not even a single letter was touched.

17th of Nissan - Holocaust Remembrance

Holocaust and Heroism Remembrance Day, known colloquially in Israel and abroad as Yom HaShoah, is observed as commemoration for the approximately six million Jews who perished in the Holocaust as a result of the actions carried out by Adolf Hitler, Nazi Germany, and its accessories, and for the Jewish resistance in that period. In Israel, it is a national memorial day. The Holocaust was a genocide in which approximately six million Jews were killed by the Nazi regime and its collaborators. From 1941 to 1945, Jews were targeted and methodically murdered in a genocide, one of the largest in history, in Europe by the Nazis. The persecution and genocide were carried out in stages. Initially the German government passed laws to exclude Jews from civil society, most prominently the Nuremberg Laws of 1935. A network of concentration camps was established starting in 1933 and ghettos were established following the outbreak of World War II in 1939. In 1941, as Germany conquered new territory in eastern Europe, specialized paramilitary units called Einsatzgruppen were used to murder around two million Jews, often in mass shootings. By the end of 1942, victims were being regularly transported by freight train to specially built extermination camps where, if they survived the journey, most were systematically killed in gas chambers. The campaign of murder continued until the end of

World War II in Europe, in April–May 1945. Jewish armed resistance to the Nazis occurred throughout the Holocaust. One notable example was the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising of 1943, when thousands of poorly armed Jewish fighters held the SS at bay for four weeks. An estimated 20,000 to 30,000 Jewish partisans actively fought the Nazis and their collaborators in Eastern Europe. French Jews were also highly active in the French Resistance, which conducted a guerilla campaign against the Nazis and Vichy French authorities. In total, there were over a hundred armed Jewish uprisings. The use of camps equipped with gas chambers for the purpose of systematic mass extermination of peoples was a unique feature of the Holocaust and unprecedented in history. Never before had there existed places with the express purpose of killing people en masse. These were established at Auschwitz, Belzec, Chełmno, Jasenovac, Majdanek, Maly Trostenets, Sobibór, and Treblinka. A distinctive feature of Nazi genocide was the extensive use of human subjects in "medical" experiments. Some carried out experiments at Auschwitz, Dachau, Buchenwald, Ravensbrück, Sachsenhausen, and Natzweiler concentration camps. On November 7 1938, Jewish minor Herschel Grünspar assassinated Nazi German diplomat Ernst vom Rath in Paris. This incident was used by the Nazis as a pretext to go beyond legal repression to large-scale physical violence against Jewish Germans. What the Nazis claimed to be spontaneous "public outrage" was in fact a wave of pogroms instigated by the Nazi Party, and carried out by SA members and affiliates throughout Nazi Germany, at the time consisting of Germany proper, Austria, and Sudetenland. These pogroms became known as Reichskristallnacht ("the Night of Broken Glass", literally "Crystal Night"), or November pogroms. Jews were attacked and Jewish property was vandalized, over 7,000 Jewish shops and more than 1,200 synagogues (roughly two-thirds of the synagogues in areas under German control) were damaged or destroyed. After invading Poland, the Nazis established ghettos in the incorporated territories and General Government to confine Jews. The ghettos were formed and closed off from the outside world at different times and for different reasons. Ghettos were intended to be temporary until the Jews were deported. But deportation never occurred. Instead, the ghettos' inhabitants were sent to extermination camps. By mid-1944, the Final Solution had largely

run its course. Those Jewish communities within easy reach of the Nazi regime had been largely exterminated, in proportions ranging from about 25 percent in France to more than 90 percent in Poland. The first major camp to be directly encountered by Allied troops, Majdanek, was discovered by the advancing Soviets on July 23, 1944. Chełmno was liberated by the Soviets on January 20, 1945. Auschwitz was liberated, also by the Soviets, on January 27, 1945; Buchenwald by the Americans on April 11; Bergen-Belsen by the British on April 15; Dachau by the Americans on April 29; Ravensbrück by the Soviets on the same day; Mauthausen by the Americans on May 5; and Theresienstadt by the Soviets on May 8. Treblinka, Sobibór, and Belżec were never liberated, but were destroyed by the Nazis in 1943. Colonel William W. Quinn of the US 7th Army said of Dachau: "There our troops found sights, sounds, and stenches horrible beyond belief, cruelties so enormous as to be incomprehensible to the normal mind." In most of the camps discovered by the Soviets, almost all the prisoners had already been removed, leaving only a few thousand alive—7,600 inmates were found in Auschwitz, including 180 children who had been experimented on by doctors. Some 60,000 prisoners were discovered at Bergen-Belsen by the British 11th Armoured Division, 13,000 corpses lay unburied, and another 10,000 died from typhus or malnutrition over the following weeks.

Laws: Shabbat

- 1 – The Torah prohibits turning electricity on or off during Shabbat, including a battery. Electricity is no different than making a fire, and it is important to publicize this so that people do not make a mistake thinking electricity is different than fire and desecrate Shabbat.
- 2 – If the light/lamp is on Friday night and people need to go to sleep, you can cover the light so as to darken the room to sleep.
- 3 – If a lamp is plugged into a timer during Shabbat, and it has turned off, one can unplug the lamp from the timer so that it does not turn on again, provided that he made a condition before Shabbat to do so. One condition can be effective for the whole year, but it is better to do so every Friday. If one forgot to

make the condition, then he can ask a non-Jew to unplug the lamp from the timer.

Sponsors

*** **Mr. Eli Levy, his wife Becky, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Mazal Tov to the Sandak, the Hazzan **Victor and his wife Dolly**, on the birth of their grandson **Victor**, Mabrouk, Amen. *** The Hazzan and Baal Koreh **Mr. Albert Shasho HaLevi, his wife Kamo, and their children.** Blessings, health, and success for the entire family, Amen. *** **Mr. Isaac Anbi and his children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their mother **Eva Aysha Bat Liza a”h**, Amen. *** **Blessed siblings: Dibo, Mordechai, Sami, Touni, Ketty, Lina, and Nadia of the Kafif Family.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their mother **Olga Bat Zakie a”h**, Amen. *** Askan Tzibur **Mr. Shlomo Cohen, his wife Gila, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat his mother **Kourjie Yaffa Bat Simha a”h**, Amen. *** **Blessed siblings: Faraj, David, Clod, Edmon, Janett, Rina, Esther, Gila, Syma, and Evon of the Nahum Family.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their mother **Ayala Gazalo Bat Rima a”h**, Amen. *** **Mr. Victor Maleh, his wife Shirley, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat his father **Yehuda Aslan Ben Jamila a”h**, Amen. *** **Blessed siblings: Soly and Hillel Bawabe.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their mother **Rachel Bat Shafika a”h**, Amen. *** **The Janani Family.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat **Jack Yaakov Chaim Ben Sara a”h**, Amen.

*This week’s sponsorship total is \$1450.
Tizku L’Mitzvot, Amen!*

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