

Congregation

◆◆◆"Beth Yosef"◆◆◆

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

Rabbi Aharon Farhi

Mr. Eliyahu Levy, President

Parashat ***Achare Mot Kedoshim***

Maqam Siga Haftarat Vayhi Devar...Halidrosh

12th Iyar 5781

Issue #935

April 24th 2021

*Candle Lighting 7:25pm * Shekiah 7:43pm * Shir Hashirim 7:00pm followed by Minha Friday Night*

*Shaharit Shabbat 8:15am * Minha Shabbat 7:05pm * Shabbat Ends 8:26pm & Rabbenu Tam 8:56pm*

*Time for Talit 4:45am * Seasonal Hour 79:00 * Alot Hashahar 4:28am * Netz Hachama 6:04am*

*Weekday Minha 7:30pm * Earliest Time for Arbit 6:42pm * Tzet Hacoachavim 8:21pm * Chatzot 12:53*

*Latest Time for Morning Keriat Shema 8:31am * Latest Time for Morning Amidah 9:50am*

Monday April 26th will be Pesah Sheni, Sunday April 25th Minha we recite Yehi Shem

Hilula for Tana Rabi Shimon Bar Yochai in Beth Yosef Thursday Night April 29th

Candle Lighting 8:00pm After Minha and Arbit. Those who wish to partake in this Mitzvah

& purchase the lighting of a candle for \$100 each candle should contact Rabbi Aharon Farhi.

Tizku L'Mitzvot, Amen.

Those who wish to contact R' Farhi can call (646) 552-3412

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2415 Ocean Parkway, Brooklyn NY 11235

Please do not read this bulletin during Tefillah or Keriat Hatorah

During Yom Kippur, the Cohen Gadol uses a goat to atone for the sins of the nation. What is the service performed with the goat? First, the Cohen Gadol recites Viduy upon the head of the goat and declares it as the *Sa'ir Hamishtale'ach*. This goat will atone for all of the sins performed by our nation, on condition that they do Teshuvah properly. *Place them upon the head of the He-Goat* – The sins aren't actually placed upon the head of the goat. Rather, Hashem is assuring us that if the Cohen performs this service properly, then the sins will be removed from the people and will be considered as if they are placed elsewhere, where they will no longer be remembered. The Siftei Cohen writes: When a sin is committed, a prosecuting angel is created. With the power of Hashem's name, the Cohen Gadol through the Viduy ties up all of these prosecutors of our nation and places them upon the head of the goat. This goat now becomes very heavy and hard to move. The designated man then takes the goat to the desert after Viduy. He has been designated from the previous day for this task and is ready for the service. Even if it is Shabbat, and even if this designated individual has become impure, he still enters the Mikdash and takes the

goat, and even lifts the goat, places it upon his shoulders, and carries it through the public domain. This individual must be an expert with directions and must know the roads and paths well. Everyone according to Halacha can be designated for this, but it is preferable that a Cohen be designated for this task. The designated man was also one who would not live throughout the following year – through Ruach Hakodesh the Cohen Gadol was able to designate such an individual. The reason it is preferable that a Cohen should be used is so that people do not instigate that the Cohanim only take all the good things for themselves (Tithes, Terumah, etc.) – therefore they are designated for this task as well. May Hashem merit us and protect us, Amen.

The second Parasha we read this week, Kedoshim, commands and warns: *You shall not be a gossipmonger among your people*. In this Pasuk the Torah is warning us not to speak Lashon Hara about others. Our Sages teach us: some sins are offensive to heaven and some are offensive to people. Lashon Hara is a sin that is offensive to both those in heaven and those on earth, as it says in Tehillim: *They set their mouth*

against heaven, and their tongue struts on earth. People, who are compared to a ladder that is set earthward whose top reaches heavenward, are composed of a body and a soul, as it says, *Hashem formed the man of dust from the ground, and He blew into his nostrils the soul of life.* The ladder's base which is stationed on earth symbolizes the body of a person, while the top of the ladder which reaches heavenward symbolizes the soul. *The angels of Hashem were ascending and descending it.* Hashem graces us with blessings and success which descends through people from the world of the angels above. However, the connection must first be made by the person in order to receive the blessings. The truth is that the type of influence we receive from above could be good or bad, depending on our actions that establish the connection. Our sages teach us: every time we do an action, an angel is created. Once we perform an action and create an angel, we have now established the connection between heaven and earth and can receive the influence. *The angels of Hashem were ascending and descending* – first ascending to establish the connection, then descending to bring the influence. The *Gra* says: every word of Torah we learn creates the type of angel that bestows upon us many blessings. The Torah we learn ascends up to the source of our souls and descends upon us to bless our bodies as well. One who speaks Lashon Hara sins terribly and causes much destruction in heaven and on earth. Whenever one speaks against a friend, a congregation, a family member, or any part or group of our nation, he creates a prosecuting angel who causes destruction above and then descends and causes more destruction on earth. Therefore, the Torah warns us not to speak Lashon Hara. May Hashem watch over us, Amen.

Insights on Pirke Avot

One who ventures to misuse a crown to his benefit, the tables will turn – whether the crown is one of honor, greatness, or importance, when one chases after fame and glory for the wrong reasons, his prize will run away from him. However, if one remains humble and tries to move away from honor and glory, the fame will chase him and reach him. The results all depend on the individual's authenticity of intentions.

History in Brief

60 years after the Temple's destruction, in the year 128AD. During this period after the destruction of the Temple, the strength of the Jewish people began increasing once again, but when the Romans noticed this, they did their best to suppress their growth and oppress them. There were two great Yeshivot in Babylonia, studying Torah day and night, which Hashem protected from the Greeks and the Romans, until the Roman Caesar Trajan conquered Babylonia in the sixteenth year of his reign, a feat no other Caesar was able to achieve between the rivers of Perat and Chidekel. His reign marked the geographical peak of the Roman empire. A war had broken out between the residents in Babylonia, and many men died, which thus created the opportunity for the Romans to step in and take charge. The Romans killed thousands of Babylonians, including many Jews. When Egypt realized that Rome had overpowered the Jews of Babylonia, they too began to overpower the Jews of Egypt, who numbered double the amount of people that had left Pharaoh and Mitzraim, 1.2 million, looting their wealth and possessions. Many Jews decided to flee into the deserts in order to escape the unfriendly treatment of the Egyptians, but their enemies chased them into the deserts, an army of 50,000 sword wielding Egyptians, and they soaked the sand with Jewish blood. The great synagogue in Alexandria was destroyed and their gold and silver was plundered.

Health and Recovery

Smoking is the number one cause of Emphysema, and the most preventable if the smoker just quits. Emphysema is a condition that involves damage to the walls of the air sacs (alveoli) of the lungs. Alveoli are small, thin-walled, very fragile air sacs located in clusters at the end of the bronchial tubes deep inside the lungs. There are about 300 million alveoli in normal lungs. As you breathe in air, the alveoli stretch, drawing oxygen in and transporting it to the blood. When you exhale, the alveoli shrink, forcing carbon dioxide out of the body. When emphysema develops, the alveoli and lung tissue are destroyed. With this damage, the alveoli cannot support the bronchial tubes. The tubes collapse and cause an "obstruction" (a blockage), which traps air inside the lungs.

Because there are fewer alveoli, less oxygen will be able to move into the bloodstream. Doctors refer to a person with this sickness as someone who is dead while alive, because he is actually healthy besides for the fact that he has great difficulty breathing. The great Rabbanim of previous generations have spoken out against smoking, and we too join them, as too many are addicted already, and we must save those who are young and do not understand the dangers they are allowing themselves to fall prey to, especially before they are addicted. Our Torah commands us to guard our health in order to serve Hashem. Smoking is directly against the Torah, and causes terrible damage to our health. The doctors all agree that smoking will cause sicknesses and diseases that can be deadly over time, and completely preventable by simply not smoking. Everyone agrees that smoking is unhealthy, damaging, unnecessary, and addicting.

Mussar: *Ungratefulness*

The Pasuk states that one who returns bad to others who had been good to him will not be able to rid his domain of bad. Everyone must train themselves to appreciate what others have done for them, and must never forget their kindness. Even if he has also caused you grief in the past, you must nonetheless remember the good and forget the bad. Man must emulate the ways of Hashem. Hashem overlooks our sins, such as the sin of the Golden Calf, and remembers our correct actions, such as accepting the Torah. Let us learn from Moshe Rabbenu, who did not hit the river or the earth since they had saved him from harm and possibly death, and he showed appreciation. He also did not battle Median because he had grown up with them. Our Sages teach us that a person is obligated to respect even someone who had merely opened the door for him even more than he is obligated to respect his own parents. Eliyahu Hanavi and Elisha Hanavi did not resurrect their parents, but they resurrected others whom they felt indebted to because of the kindness they received from them. If such is the obligation upon receiving bread, how much so is the obligation to show gratitude when assisted spiritually or physically in ways that saves from terrible harm and danger. If you do not honor or recognize your benefactor with gratitude, then you are ungrateful. Let us now ponder for a moment: how grateful must we be to Hashem who grants us countless goodness and constantly shows us outstanding kindness. We are indebted and therefore obligated to fulfill His

every command, otherwise we are proven to be hopelessly ungrateful. May Hashem watch over us, Amen.

Rishon LeSion:

R' Avraham Chaim Gagin 1787-1848

R' Avraham was a trusted leader who guided his students and congregation towards Hashem in the ways of the Torah. During troubled times, he sent messengers, collectors, from Yerushalayim to other areas of the world to support the needy in Israel. Many intellectual disagreements were fought during those days, and with great wisdom R' Avraham was able to settle them successfully, restoring peace to his people. His heart worried for those who came to Israel, who had traveled a long and rough journey by sea and land, until they reached Yafo, Jaffa, the southern and oldest part of Tel Aviv, an ancient port city in Israel, which was in fact void of Jewish people at the time, with nobody to show them kindness, nobody to help them settle into the land. R' Avraham appointed R' Yehuda HaLevi Margoza to greet and assist Jews who were arriving at the Jaffa port. He established a Jewish community there with a Shul. The Haskalah, often termed Jewish Enlightenment, an intellectual movement among the Jews of Central and Eastern Europe, eventually made its way to Israel, attempting to ensnare the vulnerable. R' Avraham rose up like a lion to battle this movement, not allowing them an inch in his community, forbidding his people from having anything to do with the wicked who were spreading their false philosophies. However, the weak and downtrodden were easy prey for the movement and some were lost in Israel as well.

Story

In the town of Liska, in Hungary, lived a great Rebbe named R' Tzvi Hersh, who founded the Liska Hasidic Dynasty. He lived a very frugal life. Even though the community enjoyed great prosperity, he would not allow its leaders to raise his salary. Every day, many came to his home to open their hearts, tell over their worries to the Rebbe, and ask for a blessing. The Gabbai, the Rebbe's attendant, R' Meshulem, would instruct them to be quick when they enter, speak from their heart, receive a blessing, give a donation to charity, and leave in a timely fashion, so as to allow others the opportunity to enter to see the Rebbe as well. However, some people spent extended periods of time inside the Rebbe's study, and those waiting had to exercise patience. On the Rebbe's desk was a

collection bowl where the visitors placed their donations to charity, gaining merit to help them through their tough time. Each gave according to their ability, each with their hearts to heaven. R' Meshulem would collect the money at the end of every night and assist the Rebbe in distributing them to charitable causes. The Gabbai would also take care of the Rebbe's household.

Laws: Hagomel

1 – Traveling by plane from city to city, or country to country, for a flight of at least 72 minutes, requires the recitation of Hagomel with Shem and Malchut, as a flight is categorized as traveling through the desert.

2 – Recovering from a bedridden sickness after even only one day, even if it was not life threatening, even if it was only high fever that drained your energy and confined you to the bed, obligates the recitation of Hagomel.

3 – After one heals from surgery, one must recite Hagomel, because complications are possible during any surgery.

4 – If the surgery was successful and the doctor is happy with the healing results, Hagomel is recited, even though the body is still at risk. However, if the person did not yet heal, and he has nonetheless left his house to pray in Shul, but is still considered sick, then he does not recite Hagomel.

Sponsors

*** **Rabbi Baruch Toufic Shabot, his wife Ketty, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Amen. *** **Mrs. Rosett Cohen and her children.** Blessings, health, livelihood, Semahot, and success for the entire family, Amen.

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*** **Mrs. Nina Alwaya, her husband Gabriel (Jabra), and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat her brother **Menashe Ben Paulina a"h**, Amen. *** **Mr. Farah Hamra, his**

wife Dina, and their children. Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat **Rachel Bat Latifa a"h**, and Leilui Nishmat the young girl who passed away early in life **Rachel Bat Yaffa a"h of the Faks family**, Amen. *** **Mrs. Becky Levy, her husband Eli, and their children.** Blessings, health, and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat her brother **Marco Ben Jamila a"h**, Leilui Nishmat **Rosalyn Bat Chava a"h**, and Leilui Nishmat **Rachel Bat Yaffa a"h**, 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. *** Askani 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.


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