

Congregation

◆◆◆"Beth Yosef"◆◆◆

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

Rabbi Aharon Farhi

*Parashat **Bamidbar***

29th Iyar 5783

Maqam Husseni

Issue #1029

Mr. Eliyahu Levy, President

*Haftarat **Mahar Hodesh***

May 20th 2023

*Candle Lighting 7:51pm * Shekiah 8:09pm * Shir Hashirim 7:00pm followed by Minha Friday Night
Shaharit Shabbat 8:15am * Minha Shabbat 7:35pm * Shabbat Ends 8:52pm & Rabbenu Tam 9:22pm
Time for Talit 4:10am * Seasonal Hour 85:00 * Alot Hashahar 3:53am * Netz Hachama 5:35am
Weekday Minha 7:30pm * Earliest Time for Arbit 7:01pm * Tzet Hacoachavim 8:47pm * Chatzot 12:52
Latest Time for Morning Keriat Shema 8:08am * Latest Time for Morning Amidah 9:33am*

*** **Shavuot** ***

Thursday Night May 25th / 6th Sivan - Shabbat May 27th / 7th Sivan

*Make sure to perform **Eruv Tavshilin** on Thursday before the holiday.*

*Candle Lighting Thursday Night 7:56pm * Shekiah 8:14pm * Minha 7:00pm*

*Tikun Reading Limud Shavuot Night 11:30pm * Shaharit First Day 3:49am * Time for Talit 4:06am*

Azharot Reading in Arabic First Day 6:00pm followed by Minha First Day 7:30pm

*Candle Lighting Second Night Friday Erev Shabbat 7:57pm * Shekiah 8:15pm * Shaharit 8:15am*

*Latest Time for Morning Keriat Shema 8:04am * Latest Time for Morning Amidah 9:29am*

*Azharot Reading 2nd Day Shabbat 6:00pm * Minha 2nd Day 7:40pm * Shavuot/Shabbat Ends 8:58pm*

Sponsored by: **Dr. Maya Fteha Mouadeb, her husband Dr. Eli, and their children.**

Blessings and success for the entire family, for donating \$800 to this weekly Torah publication, May Hashem bless them and watch over them with spiritual and physical success, Amen.

Those who wish to contact Rabbi Aharon Farhi can call (646) 552-3412

To sponsor our weekly publication, please mail your donation to:

**Vaad Tehilim Torah c/o R' A. Farhi
2415 Ocean Parkway, Brooklyn NY 11235**

Please do not read this bulletin during Tefillah or Keriat Hatorah

In this week's Parasha we count three groups: Bnei Yisrael without the Leviim, the Leviim from thirty days and older, and the Bnei Kehat from thirty years and older. Hashem loves Bnei Yisrael, so they are counted. The Leviim are counted because of their elevated status and responsibilities. Bnei Kehat are counted because they are the ones who serve, performing holy work, including the services in the Holy of Holies, which is higher than all others. They are removed from the mundane of this world and instead involve themselves in holiness, through them our nation is blessed. We read this Parasha before the holiday of Shavuot, before receiving the Torah. The first Pasuk says that Moshe should speak to Bnei

Yisrael in the Midbar of Sinai, meaning about Har Sinai, specifically about receiving the Torah. The holiday of Shavuot is designed for us to schedule time to learn Torah each day. R' Yehoshua Ben Levi says, every day a heavenly voice announces from *Har Chorev*, 'woe to people due to the yoke of Torah'. Our learning during Shavuot is a Korban, a Minha, a sacrifice. After 120 years in this world, we will each be questioned whether we scheduled daily time to learn Torah. Why is this message delivered daily by a heavenly voice? Also, why from *Har Chorev*, and not Har Sinai, which is actually one and the same? This teaches us that as one is obligated to schedule time for daily Torah study, and through study

we are sacrificing, if a person skips a day without learning Torah, reciting Tehillim, or learning Mishnayot, on that day a heavenly voice announces *Chorev*, heaven forbid, that *destruction* is a result, as the forces of impurity in the world increase without Torah study. Only Torah study has the ability to push away the evil inclination and remove impurity from the world. Torah illuminates our eyes, our minds, brings holiness to our wife, our children, and our families. True spiritual success depends on learning Torah even and especially through the hardest of times, despite the challenges. A life, or even just one day, without Torah study, is a terrible calamity and results in destruction. Therefore, we must always schedule daily Torah study, as much as we can, or at the very least fund and support daily Torah study. May Hashem watch over us, Amen.

Insights on Pirkei Avot

One of forty-eight ways to acquire Torah is to *listen with your ears*. What does this mean? R' Yechiel explains: A person who owns a small clothing store, when he hears business men of larger clothing stores talking amongst themselves discussing the clothing industry, he immediately stops and listens, to hear what the experts are saying so that he too can benefit financially from the information, as he is also involved in the clothing industry, albeit on a smaller scale. The same is true regarding Torah. One may not be on a high level of Torah study, nonetheless he is in the 'industry'. Therefore, when he hears others discussing Torah, he listens with his ears to the experts to hear what they are discussing so that he too can benefit from the holy words of Torah which he considers his personal business.

History in Brief 1939–1945: The Holocaust
Before World War II even began, mouths began speaking about the Final Solution, the annihilation of all Jews from the world. These

were not ordinary citizens who spoke, but rather those with radical ideology, those with influence and eventually power. Millions in Europe did not have a problem with taking a part in this grand plan of mass genocide, and as a result during the next six years millions of Jews were murdered as the world waged war on itself without protest for the lives of Jews. When other countries heard about the barbaric atrocities being committed by the German Nazis against the Jewish nation, they did not concern themselves and just focused on their own war. They were guilty for remaining silent. Jews could not save themselves in most cases, could not escape, had nowhere to run or hide from the German Nazis who were only interested in their deaths.

Health and Recovery

Our Sages warn: there should be no talking during a feast, lest food enter the windpipe instead of the esophagus and cause choking. If food or saliva were to enter the lungs, the person's life would be in immediate danger through suffocation. This is a very dangerous junction. An accident at this junction can become a fatal situation at any age without prior warning. Unlike other diseases or sicknesses, even if a person is generally careful, this situation can elevate without symptoms or warning. Sometimes if it happens that food enters the windpipe, with the mercy of Hashem, miraculously the person will be able to immediately cough up the food which is pushed out of the trachea and the danger of suffocation will be prevented. The rule is that the more you chew the better you will be able to digest your food, both through being well crushed and along with the saliva of the mouth that mixes with it and breaks it down further. It is important to know that if you eat healthy foods, in the proper amount with the desired form of chewing, the chances are that the overall desire to eat more and snack more will decrease, and the feeling of fullness will satisfy you. The right way is to

eat a little at a time, and then in a short time you will feel a tremendous change in your feelings of hunger. It is the desire to fill the belly that causes most patients to become sick, according to the writings of the Rambam, Maimonides. You should know that carbohydrates are mainly broken down in the mouth with saliva. Therefore, continuous chewing of carbohydrates is done in the mouth through saliva and thus it is very important to chew thoroughly because it causes the maximum breakdown of carbohydrates, which will then produce the maximum benefit to the body from the food.

Mussar: Learning Torah

Torah is one of the three crowns Bnei Yisrael was given. This crown is greater than the crown of priesthood and the crown of kingship. There is no greater Mitzvah than learning Torah, as it says *Learning Torah is as great as all of them*. One who wants to be crowned with Torah should not waste his time. If you think that you'll first earn money and then learn Torah, you will not merit the crown of Torah. Make the Torah your permanent schedule and make work your temporary task. *Do not say when I have time I'll learn, for perhaps you won't have time. It is not in heaven*, meaning: to learn Torah you must be a "down to earth" person and not haughty. *It is not across the ocean*, meaning: one who toils too much in work and travel will not merit Torah. Learn *Lishmah* (for Hashem's name) and work *Lishmah*, for then Hashem will help you complete your work successfully and quickly so you can spend more time learning Torah. If a person learns Torah properly, Hashem will deliver the Torah to him with ease and precision, as we find by Avraham Avinu. Hashem testified that Avraham kept the Torah even though nobody taught it to him. Because Avraham toiled in trying to learn the Torah and the concepts of faith, trust, and belief in Hashem, Hashem gave him this great gift. Toiling in Torah distances you from

sinning, while wasting valuable time, which could potentially be used for Torah, will just cause more sins and terrible punishment. Even if you are traveling, think about Torah, as our great sages would not go even a 4 Amot distance without thinking in Torah. The Torah will protect and watch over you. May Hashem merit us to toil in Torah, Amen.

Rishon LeSion:

R' Yaakov Shaul Elyashar 1817-1906

In the letter sent from the Rebbe in Poland, R' Yaakov read about what was happening: three Jewish brothers, who were now in Jerusalem, had testified falsely before the grand courts in Poland, that five Christians had murdered a government official, and were sentenced to death because of the false testimony of the three Jewish brothers. The people in Poland swore that if the five Christians were put to death, they would exact vengeance from the Jews in Poland. The three brothers who had caused all the trouble by testifying falsely were currently in the home of their relative Yitzchak Friedman in Jerusalem. R' Yaakov quickly instructed Bet Din to find the three brothers in order to clarify matters and help the Jewish people in Poland who were in danger. The messengers returned within an hour and informed him that in fact the three brothers from Poland were in Jerusalem working as shoemakers. When asked about Poland, they explained that a government official who was known for his hatred of the Jews had been murdered, and that they testified that five Christians were guilty of this crime, and were therefore sentenced to death.

Laws: Shavuot

- 1** – Shehechyanu is recited on both nights of Shavuot during Kiddush.
- 2** – Just like Shabbat, one may not eat or even taste anything before reciting Kiddush for Yom Tov, both day and night.
- 3** – Just like Shabbat, we split the Yom Tov day in half – half for prayer and learning, half

for eating and enjoying. We use double loaves, we dress nicely (even nicer than Shabbat), but we do not have Seudah Shelisheet.

4 – One is obligated to eat a meal with bread on Yom Tov, both day and night. If one forgot *Ya'aleh Ve'yavo* and said *Baruch Atah Hashem*, he completes *Lamedeni Choukecha* and recites it there. If he already said *Boneh Yerushalayim*, then he says there: *Baruch Atah... Ha'olam Asher Natan Yamim Tovim Le'amo Yisrael Lesasson Ulsimcha, Et Yom Chag... Hazeh, Yom Tov Mikrah Kodesh Hazeh, Baruch Atah... Mekadesh Yisrael Vehazemanim.*

5 – However, if one began the next blessing but did not yet say *La'ad Hakel Avinu Malkenu*, then he continues the blessing with the blessing written in Law #4 above. But, if he already said *La'ad Hakel Avinu Malkenu*, then he cannot say anything besides going further and completing the blessing of *Hatov Vehametiv*.

6 – It is forbidden to create a fire on Yom Tov. It is also forbidden to strike a match; however, one can light a match from an existing flame.

7 – One is prohibited to use an electric lighter on Yom Tov. An oven with an electric lighter may not be lit unless you are using an existing flame.

8 – Electric cannot be turned on or off during Yom Tov. If necessary, a Goy may be told to turn on electric but not to turn off electric or gas.

9 – It is a great Mitzvah to warn the public about the stringencies of riding a bike or skating during Yom Tov.

10 – One who forgot to prepare a fire from before Yom Tov may ask a Goy for assistance. Some are strict.

11 – Once you are done smoking, do not extinguish it in an astray; rather place it on the floor gently.

12 – The Ba'al Shem Tov says that one who does not sleep during the night of Shavuot will have a year free from suffering, with health and success, and he will be blessed with the

seventy crowns of blessings of the next world. *Netillat Yadayim* in *Birkot Hashahar* and *Asher Yatzar* are recited only if necessary and applicable. One should read the *Azharot* during the two days of Shavuot.

Sponsors

*** Pharmacist *Mr. Eli Shalouh, his wife Lillian, and their children.* Blessings and success for the entire family, *Leilui Nishmat* her father *Yitzchak Isaac Ben Amilia Kamhaji a"h*, Amen. *** *Mr. Eli Levy, his wife Becky, and their children.* Blessings, health, and success for the entire family, Amen. *** *Blessed siblings: Azar, David, Charlie, Estella, and Arlit of the Halabi Family.* Blessings and success for the entire family, *Leilui Nishmat* their sister *Sonia Bat Rachel a"h*, Amen. *** *Blessed siblings: Sammy, Seymour, and Renee of the Esses Family.* Blessings and success for the entire family, *Leilui Nishmat* their father *Ovadia Ben Rina a"h*, Amen. *** *Mr. Toby Cohen, his wife Shella, and their children.* Blessings and success for the entire family, *Leilui Nishmat* her father *Avraham Ben Badia a"h*, Amen. *** *Mr. Nissim Kassab HaCohen, his wife Maggie, and their children.* Blessings and success for the entire family, *Leilui Nishmat* his mother *Odette Bat Sofia a"h*, Amen.

Abraham Cohen: Cohen's Mini Market
902 Ave U in Brooklyn * 347-348-9779
Food Stamps Accepted

This week's sponsorship total is \$1150
155,800 Website visits!

* * * * *

www.BethYosef.com