

Congregation

◆◆◆"Beth Yosef"◆◆◆

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

Rabbi Aharon Farhi

Parashat Re'eh

25th Av 5783

Maqam Raast

Issue #1040

Mr. Eliyahu Levy, President

Haftarat AniYa So'ara

August 12th 2023

*Candle Lighting 7:41pm * Shekiah 7:59pm * Shir Hashirim 7:00pm followed by Minha Friday Night
Shaharit Shabbat 8:15am * Minha Shabbat 7:20pm * Shabbat Ends 8:39pm & Rabbenu Tam 9:09pm
Time for Talit 4:44am * Seasonal Hour 80 * Alot Hashahar 4:28am * Netz Hachama 6:04am
Weekday Minha 7:30pm * Earliest Time for Arbit 6:54pm * Tzet HacoChavim 8:34pm * Chatzot 1:00
Latest Time for Morning Keriat Shema 8:28am * Latest Time for Morning Amidah 9:48am*

Thursday & Friday August 17th/18th will be Rosh Hodesh Elul

*Sponsored by: The generous and kind-hearted Mr. Mordechai Guindi HaCohen,
his wife Linda, and their children Henry, Yosef, Avraham, Edmon, and their sisters.
Tizku LeMitzvot for donating \$800 to this weekly Torah publication and distribution.
May Hashem bless them with spiritual & physical success, health & longevity, Amen.*

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

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Please do not read this bulletin during Tefillah or Keriat Hatorah

In this week's Parasha, Hashem commands Bnei Yisrael to slaughter animals according to Halacha. Many ask: Hashem is merciful to all of creation. Why did Hashem command man to slaughter animals for the purpose of consumption? Also, it says that an Am Ha'aretz is not allowed to eat meat - why? The author of *Yilkut Mordechai* explains: When Hashem created the world, the animals were asked if they wanted to be consumed by man, and they said yes. Why? The reason they agreed is because an animal does not have a soul from above. By satiating a person with a holy soul, they are able to raise the status of their existence to a greater level. Therefore, it is actually in their best interests, and a form of mercy, to be eaten by man, provided that they are slaughtered according to Halacha. Everything about slaughtering according to Halacha includes mercy and consideration for the animal - both the way it is done and the reason it is done. We can now understand why an Am

Ha'aretz is not allowed to eat meat: the animals only agreed to be slaughtered and consumed because they would be elevated to a higher level of spirituality as a result of joining with the soul of the person who learns Torah, prays, performs Mitzvot, and connects to Hashem. When the person recites Shehakol on the animal, the animal's spirituality is elevated. The Pasuk says *this is the Torah (laws) of a domesticated animal, wild animal, and bird* - The Pasuk is hinting that only those who study Torah and perform Mitzvot are allowed to eat meat. Rabbenu Hakadosh was punished terribly for many years because he told a calf that had escaped from its Goy owner who wanted to slaughter it, that this was its purpose of being created, when in fact it wouldn't be elevated. We must be very careful to always recite the correct blessings on everything we eat, because there are spiritual advancements that we're responsible to bring forth as a result. May Hashem watch over us, Amen.

Insights on the Parasha

1 – *Hashem shall you follow... Him shall you serve and to Him shall you cleave.* This Pasuk encompasses the daily obligations of a Jewish person in the morning. *Hashem shall you follow* – to go to Shul in the morning and pray with a Minyan. *Him you shall fear* – when you enter the Shul and recite *coming to Hechal Kodshecha with awe.* Then, *His commandments shall you observe* – when you put on your Talit and Tefillin. *His voice shall you hearken* – when reciting the Seder of Tefillah. *Him shall you serve* – when you recite the Amidah. Then, *Him shall you cleave* – through the morning services, you will fulfill the Pasuk of cleaving to Hashem, as it says: *But you who cling to Hashem – you are all alive today!*

History in Brief

130 years after the Hurban, 200AD. Beruria, the wife of Rebi Meir, the daughter of R' Chanania Ben Teradyon one of the ten martyrs of the Malchut, was a wise woman with great knowledge in Torah. She is mentioned in the Talmud forever amongst the names of the great Tanaim, and discussed Halacha with them. She learned from three hundred great Sages during the times that great winds destroyed homes and uprooted trees. She was praised by Tanaim for her greatness and once they told her that what she said was very good. A different time they even commented that her words were greater than her father R' Chanania Ben Teradyon! Once she rebuked R' Yossi Haglili not to speak unnecessarily with women. Another time she rebuked a student who was whispering while learning Gemara that he must raise his voice when learning Torah. Even her husband Rebi Meir would listen to her words. Once, wicked people were causing pain to Rebi Meir. He prayed that they should die, but she told him not to curse

them, but rather to pray that they repent from their evil ways and return to Hashem. He did and they repented and even asked Rebi Meir for forgiveness. She witnessed her father being burned while holding a Sefer Torah. She told him that she was sorry to be seeing him like this. He told her that it would have been hard if he was alone, but with a Sefer Torah, the one who demands the yoke of Torah will request him. Before they burned him, they asked him why he worked hard learning Torah. He answered because it is the will of Hashem. They immediately burned him, killed his wife, and put his second daughter in a house of harlotry.

Health and Recovery

For leg and foot pain, try the following practices: 1- Not to stand too much and make an effort to sit more often. However, do not sit too much either. Rotate positions in a healthy cycle throughout the day. 2- As the legs are exercised, the muscles are activated and cause the blood to return to the heart. So, in addition to changing positions, it is recommended to exercise the leg muscles as well. 3- While you are laced up in shoes, rise slowly on your tiptoes as much as you can, slowly return, and then before the heel reaches the floor slowly rise up again on your tiptoes. This exercise, while very effective, can sometimes cause cramps in the muscle below the knee, so start-off gradually, as when doing therapy through orthopedic instruction. 4- Any movement or exercise of the ankle will activate the muscles to cause pressure on the veins and return the blood back to the heart, thus preventing accumulation in the veins. 5- Regular paced walking is the best action for exercising the leg muscles. 6- Regarding overweight people, these exercises that we mentioned should be conducted for effective weight loss, and only then should one

increase his walking, because walking while overweight can be harmful to the cartilage. 7- Lack of movement of the leg can cause a clot deep within a vein, so it is of great importance to properly and sufficiently make use of blood thinners to prevent the formation of clots when one's movements are limited.

Mussar: Honoring Parents

The obligation to honor your parents is so great that the Pasuk compares it to honoring Hashem. As well, disrespecting them is a great sin. Unfortunately, nowadays children, and even adults, are very lax and unjust with this terrible sin, causing their parents unnecessary pain and suffering daily. Hashem will serve them justice one day and they will eat the fruits of their sins in this world, having to deal with children who will disrespect them as well, measure for measure, while the principle punishment for their sins remains intact for the world to come. Yaakov Avinu was away from his parents for twenty-two years, not serving his parents, and was therefore punished that he be separated from Yosef for twenty-two years. There is no escaping justice; everyone is punished according to their level. Yosef's life was shortened because he remained silent when told *Your servant Yaakov*, which was disrespectful to his father. For a parent to forgive a wrong action or disrespectful gesture committed against them is not simple. We must be very careful to always be respectful and honor them as best we can. We mustn't ever stray from their wishes, cause them to yell or scream, anger them, or embarrass them in any way. Each time we fulfill their words, we fulfill a great Mitzvah from the Torah. We can learn a great lesson from the following story: a student was once learning by his Rabbi and went home to eat something while the Rabbi clarified a certain

difficulty. When he was done eating, his mother asked him to perform a chore. Not wanting to miss the lesson, he told her that he'd do it later. On the way back to the class, he realized that the purpose of his learning was in order to perform the Mitzvot, and he therefore returned home to help his mother. When he finally arrived back to learn, his Rabbi asked him which great Mitzvah he had performed while he was gone, for the great Sage Abaye had accompanied and escorted him back into the class. Abaye was an orphan and never had the opportunity to honor his parents. He therefore joined in presence with those who would fulfill the great Mitzvah that he was never able to do. May we fulfill this Mitzvah properly, Amen.

Rishon LeSion:

R' Nissim Danun 1873-1920

When the Turkish army draft was put in effect during World War I, which would affect the students of the Yeshivot in Israel, R' Nissim was able to stop it with the help of Hashem. As long as a student possessed a signed document from R' Nissim that he was a student in Yeshiva, the Turkish leader exempted him from the army. When the number of exemptions grew, the leader requested that they line up the students and Rabbanim in rows so he can go out to see them. R' Nissim was concerned that this would cause an issue, because the Ashkenaz Rabbanim did not dress any different than the students, unlike the Sephardic Rabbanim who wore special robes and head coverings. He feared that they would not appear distinguished enough and the leader would change his mind about the draft. He therefore instructed in advance that they dress in robes and special head coverings. They quickly did so, and the leader was content with what he saw. As the war was ending in 1920, R' Nissim traveled to Tunisia to collect money

for the poor of Israel. He passed away there on the 15th of Shevat in 1920, leaving Jerusalem in mourning. In his place they put R' Chaim Moshe Elyashar as the next Rishon LeSion, the oldest son of R' Yaakov Shaul Elyashar who passed away in 1906.

Laws: Pidyon HaBen

1 – When a firstborn is birthed through caesarean procedure, the father is exempt from redeeming him. The next child also does not require Pidyon HaBen redemption.

2 – Even if the firstborn through caesarean does not live for at least thirty days, the second child still does not require redemption.

3 – If the doctor used an instrument to help pull the baby out, then a blessing should not be said on the Pidyon. However, one who does recite a blessing has what to rely upon.

4 – If the doctor widened the birth canal, this does not invalidate the Pidyon in any way.

5 – A doctor that used a device that pumps and vacuums in order to assist with the birth, this does not invalidate the Pidyon in any way.

6 – A woman that became pregnant artificially from her husband, with the approval of a Hacham, and gives birth to a firstborn son, the father is obligated to perform the Pidyon. If the father is unknown, then the son must redeem himself when he grows older.

Sponsors

*** **Mr. Yosef Aboudi, his wife Linda, and their children.** Blessings, health, and success for the entire family, Amen. *** **Mrs. Simcha Franco, her son Mr. Yosef Ashkenazi, and their family.** Blessings and success for the entire family, blessings of Banim Zecharim, Leilui Nishmat her father **Yosef Ben Esther a”h**, and Leilui

Nishmat her mother **Sarah Bat Simcha a”h**, Amen. *** **Mr. Eli Levy, his wife Becky, and their children.** Blessings, health, and success for the entire family, Amen. *** **Mrs. Tania Antabi and her son Soly Shaalo, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat her mother **Linda Bat Tera Esther a”h**, Amen. *** **Mrs. Eva Khafif Antabi, her husband Shlomo, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat her mother **Linda Bat Tera Esther a”h**, 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.

Measurements of the Gemara:

Kezayit= 28.80g, Beitzah= 57.60g, Reviit= 86.40g, Lug= 230g, Kav= 925g, Seah= 5000g, Eipha= 16.660kg, Kur= 166.60kg.

*This week's sponsorship total is \$1300
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