

Congregation

◆◆◆◆ **"Beth Yosef"** ◆◆◆◆

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

Rabbi Aharon Farhi

Parashat Terumah

8th Adar Rishon 5784

Mr. Eliyahu Levy, President

Maqam Husseni Haftarat VaHashem Natan

Issue #1062

February 17th 2024

*Candle Lighting 5:13pm * Shekiah 5:31pm * Shir Hashirim 5:10pm followed by Minha Friday Night
Shaharit Shabbat 8:15am * Minha Shabbat 4:55pm * Shabbat Ends 6:14pm & Rabbenu Tam 6:44pm
Time for Talit 5:42am * Seasonal Hour 62 * Alot Hashahar 5:34am * Netz Hachama 6:48am
Weekday Minha 5:25pm * Earliest Time for Arbit 4:50pm * Tzet Hacoachavim 6:09pm * Chatzot 12:09
Latest Time for Morning Keriat Shema 8:41am * Latest Time for Morning Amidah 9:43am*

Friday & Shabbat, February 23rd & 24th, will be Purim Katan

Sponsored generously by the good-hearted:

Mr. Joey Allaham HaCohen, his wife Lilian, their parents, and their children.

May Hashem bless them with spiritual and physical success,
Mazal Tov to the bride and groom **Victor and their daughter Lucy**, Mabrouk, Amen.

Shovevim Fasting:

Thursday February 15th fast starts 5:37am and ends 6:00pm

Monday February 19th fast starts 5:31am and ends 6:05pm

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

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**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, when discussing donations to be given for the construction of the Mishkan, the requirement is for those who wish to donate to do so with their heart, the amounts based solely on what they wanted to give, without obligation. However, regarding the Mitzvah obligation to give charity for the poor and needy, the Rambam writes that if one does not want to give Tzedakah, or if one gives less than what he can afford to give, then Bet Din can force him to give appropriately to charity. The Torah obligates the giving of charity both with a positive and negative commandment. When building the house of Hashem, the Mishkan, so that Hashem comes down and rests within our midst, the Torah explains that this donation can only be given willingly, according to your heart's desire,

only then will Hashem rest His holy Shechinah in our midst. However, providing for the needy and poor is a clear obligation on each and every person, regardless of what you want to do in your heart. Hashem did not make a person poor due to hatred or evil intent, but rather Hashem actually loves the poor and downtrodden. Poverty could be a result of committing sins, or in order to correct something from a previous life, but that does not mean Hashem wishes the person to be destroyed, rather Hashem is caring for the person with love, and therefore obligates and commands others to take care of those in this situation by providing them with charity, like a king who will reward those who take care of the prince, even when the king must be tough on the prince. Those who kick the prince and do not take care of

him when he is down will have to answer to the king one day. Also, Hashem gives us the opportunity to give charity in order to help us grow and earn reward multiple fold. This is how Rebi Akiva explained the concept of poverty to the king Tornus Rufus. May Hashem watch over us, Amen.

Insights on the Parasha

1 – According to our simple understanding, we can explain the need for many of the holy vessels in the Mikdash, for example, the Aron housed the Luchot, the Menorah was a source of light, the Mizbeah was used to burn the Ketoret, but what was the purpose of the Shulhan and the Lehem Hapanim, the Table and the Showbreads? The bread was eaten by the Cohanim, who were miraculously satiated through it with even the smallest amount, and the Shulhan was actually the source of blessing which spread out to all throughout the world, showering the people with sustenance, prosperity, and success.

History in Brief

130 years after the Hurban, 200AD. Rebi Yehuda Hanasi, Rabbenu Hakadosh, maternally descended from the tribe of Yehuda, while paternally he descended from the tribe of Binyamin. He was the seventh Nasi from Hillel Hazaken, sanctified like the seventh day in creation. Also, like the seventh light in the holy Menorah, and like Moshe Rabbenu who was the seventh from Avraham Avinu. He learned from many Rabbanim, including and specifically from R' Elazar Ben Shamua HaCohen from a very young age. He learned Torah through serious poverty and hard times. Rabbenu Hakadosh tells of a time he was learning by R' Elazar Ben Shamua and they brought out figs and grapes to be eaten outside of the Sukkah because it was a snack. They would sit very close together to hear Torah from their Rabbi's mouth. He would say that just as there is a clear difference between the holiest of sacrifices and regular mundane

food, so too was there a difference between them and the generation of Rebi Yossi. He also learned Torah from Rebi Shimon Bar Yohai. Rebi Meir was also called the teacher of Rabbenu Hakadosh. He said that what sharpened him from his colleagues was due to seeing Rebi Meir from behind, but if he would have seen Rebi Meir from the front, he would have been even sharper. All Mishnayot that Rebbe wrote, he had received from Rebi Meir.

Health and Recovery

1 – Figs, grapes, pomegranates, and almonds are healthy for the body whether dried or otherwise. They cleanse the kidneys, increase body mass, and improve overall conditions. Dry figs are in fact better than juicy figs. 2 – One should always be accustomed to eating a proper breakfast before starting his day. 3 – One should not sit down to a meal if he feels it necessary to relieve himself. 4 – One must regularly clear his intestines, as one who is not careful with this will experience terrible health issues. 5 – Elderly people should drink hot water with tea daily. 6 – A person experiencing digestion issues should distance his meals further apart, and eat lighter.

Mussar: Shalom Bayit (Peace at Home)

Every person is able and obligated to create an atmosphere of paradise at home with his family. Love and affection should be felt in the air. If one is successful, then he is at peace with Hashem as well. When a husband and wife are friendly and affectionate with one another, then they have 'Shalom', peace, which is also 'Shelemut', completeness. A couple is compared to fire and water. When they are at peace, then the heavens are at peace as well, and Hashem takes pride and glory from such a household, a family that even affects the angels. The worlds are united through peace. Heaven forbid, if the opposite transpires and fights fill the household, then curses, pain, suffering, and evil are unleashed, and bitter times hit the family. They are destined for

Gehinam as the 'fire' heats and evaporates the 'water', and the 'water' extinguishes the 'fire' in their family. Poverty, heretic dealings, and deceitfulness are then brought about. Heaven forbid if divorce should occur as a result of their fights, then their bond with heaven is broken, which is then the source of many problems that occur upon the land. Therefore, everyone must learn to forgive and forget. Do not hold a grudge; rather, help each other improve. Increase the honor and care that is provided for one another, for then the Shechinah will rest upon your household and fill it with blessings and happiness, Amen.

Story

In the great city Kiev, Russia lived a wealthy man named Yeshayahu. He conducted his business from Russia to Alexandria, Egypt, as well as to Prague and to Warsaw. Despite his great wealth, he was not very quick to provide assistance for those in need within his city. Only after the Gabbai proved to already have exhausted all other options would Yeshayahu agree to help out, but not before asking many questions about the cause, about the need, and about the plan of how exactly the assistance would be executed in great detail. The Jews of Kiev did not appreciate the way Yeshayahu acted, and they stayed away from him if they had the choice. Any Gabbai or person in need who came to the steps of Yeshayahu's large estate to speak with him for help knew that they would be thoroughly interrogated to an unnecessary extent, and would only approach him if they absolutely had no other choice.

Rishon LeSion:

R' Ben-Zion Uziel 1880-1953

Ben Zion's father was R' Rephael Uziel, Av Bet Din of Jerusalem. Despite his service to the public, he always made sure to learn Torah with his young son Ben Zion. They spent hours together sitting and learning Torah. The son would not waste time from learning even when he was on his own. He first learned in

Talmud Torah called Doresh Zion, and afterwards learned in Yeshivat Tiferet Yerushalayim, where he was recognized for his great potential and his outstanding studious practices. He grew in steps higher in Torah levels. The scholars of Jerusalem took notice of his achievements, including the current Rishon LeSion R' Yaakov Shaul Elyashar, as well as the Ashkenazi Rabbi of Jerusalem R' Shmuel Salant. At the young age of fourteen his father passed away, the Tzaddik R' Yosef Rephael Uziel, leaving young Ben-Zion in darkness, the weight of supporting his mother and his siblings falling heavily upon his shoulders. Those days he was spending hours during the days in Shiurim, for Talmidim, and throughout the night he did not allow his eyes too much sleep. Fortunately, after just a short period of time another member of his family took upon himself the burden of supporting the family, and young Hacham Ben Zion was able to return to his learning full force, without further distractions.

Laws: *Milah*

- 1** – One should choose a Mohel who is exceptional in his skill and Yirat Hashem.
- 2** – A gentile may not perform a Milah.
- 3** – The father should appoint the Mohel as his messenger, and stand nearby. If the father is an expert Mohel, then he should perform the Milah himself.
- 4** – Some have the custom that the father cuts the Orlah and the Mohel finishes the Milah. If the father may not do this properly due to his nerves, which would then cause the Mohel to have to cut again, causing unnecessary pain to the baby, then the father should not do the cut.
- 5** – If a father is a Mohel but wants to be the Sandak, then he can give the honor of Mohel to another, and be credited as the Mohel as well if he helps the Mohel perform the Milah, i.e. he holds the baby's legs straight.
- 6** – If the grandfather is concerned with his son, the father who is a Mohel, performing the Milah on his grandson, and is worried that he

would not cut properly the first time which would cause unnecessary pain to the baby, then the father should listen to the grandfather. **7** – The father must be near the Mohel during the Milah, for it is like a Korban, and a Korban requires the attendance of the owner to be standing nearby.

8 – A Mohel, who never actually circumcised someone yet, even though he may be certified and capable, should not perform the first Milah unless he is being supervised by a professional Mohel. If a professional is not present, then the circumcision must be postponed until a professional is available, even if it is the 8th day, since it is a risk and danger to perform the Milah under the current circumstances.

Sponsors

*** Askan Tzibur, head of “*Matan BaSeter*”, **Mr. Aslan Yehuda Bawabe, his wife Myra, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, wishing **R’ Aharon Farhi** longevity health and strength to continue spreading Torah to the public through this weekly publication, Amen. *** **Mr. Albert Leon Farhi, his wife Grace, their parents, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Mazal Tov to the bride and groom **Henri and Joyce**, Mabrouk, Amen. *** **Blessed siblings: Eli, Nissim, Suzette, Yaffa, and Ariella of the Levy Family.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their father **Yosef Ben Sarah a”h**, Amen. *** **Mr. Joey Araman, his wife Julie, their parents, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, wishing an easy delivery and birth for Julie, and a Refuah Shelemah for his father **Soli Araman Ben Rachel**, health and strength, Amen. *** **Mr. Yosef Aboudi, his wife Linda, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their son **Avraham Aboudi Ben Linda a”h**, Amen. *** **Mrs. Kamo Shasho Meta, her husband** Askan Tzibur **Hazan Albert, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family,

Leilui Nishmat her father **Hacham Albert Meta Ben Leah a”h**, and Leilui Nishmat her mother **Allegra Bat Leah a”h**, Amen. *** **Mr. Soli Bawabe, his brother Hillel, and their sisters.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their mother **Rachel Bat Shafikah a”h**, Amen. *** **Mrs. Arlett Guindi Bawabe, her husband Yosef, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat her mother **Rachel Bat Shafikah a”h**, Amen. *** **Mr. Victor Kassab HaCohen and his daughter Emily.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat his wife and her mother **Becky Rivka Bat Rachel a”h**, Amen. *** **Blessed siblings: Avraham, Morris, Edward, and Rimon of the Cohen Family.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their mother **Joul Bat Bahie a”h**, Amen. *** **Mrs. Suzi Farhi, her husband David, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat her brother **Avraham Ben Linda a”h**, 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. *** **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. *** **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. *** **Mr. Meir Wahba, his wife Pauline, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Amen.

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