

Congregation

◆◆◆◆ **"Beth Yosef"** ◆◆◆◆

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

**Rabbi Aharon Farhi**  
*Parashat **Hukat***  
7<sup>th</sup> Tammuz 5784

**Mr. Eliyahu Levy, President**  
*Maqam Husseni Haftarat **VeYiftah Hagiladi***  
Issue #1080 July 13<sup>th</sup> 2024

*Candle Lighting 8:08pm \* Shekiah 8:26pm \* Shir Hashirim 7:00pm followed by Minha Friday Night  
Shaharit Shabbat 8:15am \* Minha Shabbat 7:50pm \* Shabbat Ends 9:08pm & Rabbenu Tam 9:38pm  
Time for Talit 4:11am \* Seasonal Hour 86 \* Alot Hashahar 3:54am \* Netz Hachama 5:37am  
Weekday Minha 7:00pm \* Earliest Time for Arbit 7:15pm \* Tzet Hacoachavim 9:03pm \* Chatzot 1:01  
Latest Time for Morning Keriat Shema 8:12am \* Latest Time for Morning Amidah 9:38am*

*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

---

The Parasha begins by discussing the laws of the Parah Adumah, the completely red heifer, with the words *This is the decree of the Torah*. It does not say that this is the decree of the Parah, to teach us that just as we must fulfill this commandment as a decree, whether or not we understand it, so too must we fulfill the entire Torah, as decree from Hashem, not because of reason or understanding. The nations of the world laugh at this decree, not understanding how the pure becomes impure in order to purify the impure, but that is exactly the lesson. We do not serve Hashem based on our limitations of understanding and personal decisions of what is right and what is wrong. The Mitzvah of Parah Adumah is a lesson for all of Torah. Shelomo Hamelech, the wisest man to live, understood that this Mitzvah was beyond his comprehension. Shelomo through his wisdom reached a very high level of Moshe who was a prophet, in some ways a wise man is even greater than a prophet. The letters in Shelomo's name are the same as LeMoshe. Shelomo said, just as

he was unable to understand the Mitzvah of Parah Adumah, so too must it be true that he doesn't really understand all of the other Mitzvot in the Torah. The Torah and Mitzvot were given from Hashem, unlimited and infinite in every way, and therefore His words are far beyond our comprehension whether we think we understand them, big or small, difficult or simple, we must therefore serve Hashem and fulfill the Mitzvot regardless of anything. The nations of the world laugh, not understanding that this is exactly what strengthens us and gives us the greatest reason to serve Hashem, simply because our Creator has commanded us, not because we think it makes sense to our limited intellect. This is our life, our purpose, and through the Mitzvot performance we will merit a wonderful life in this world and eternal life in Olam Haba. May Hashem watch over us, Amen.

### **Insights on the Parasha**

**1** – Hashem instructed Moshe to speak to the rock to bring forth water, but Moshe

hit the rock instead. He was punished, the Pasuk says, because of the lack of Emunah in Hashem. Didn't Hashem testify that Moshe was the most trusted in His house? How could it be that Moshe lacked Emunah if he was the most trusted? The Or Hachaim Hakadosh explains: Hashem created the world within the laws of nature, with the exception of those who learn Torah. When a Torah scholar excels in Torah, his words can change the laws of nature. A righteous man decrees and Hashem fulfills his words. Hashem wanted Moshe to show the nation that he had the power to speak to the rock and change nature, to bring forth water from a dry rock. Moshe was humble, the humblest in history, and did not want to show the nation that he possessed this great power through his speech. Instead, he hit the rock with his trusted staff, similar to previously performed miracles. This is why Hashem said that there was a lack of Emunah, not that Moshe lacked Emunah, but rather the potential Emunah that could have resulted from speaking to the rock was now lost. The people now lacked that potential growth in their Emunah that could have resulted from seeing that a righteous person decrees and Hashem fulfills.

### ***History in Brief***

*150 years after the Hurban, calendar year 220.* Antoninus, the Caesar of Rome and beloved friend of Rabbenu Hakadosh, passed away in calendar year 163. His two sons-in-law, Marcus and Aurelius, took over and ruled together in peace and harmony. They both favored Rebbe. In the beginning of their reign, Marcus went to war against the cities of Europe who were rebelling after the passing of Antoninus. After defeating them, the rebellion submitted and were ruled once again by Rome. A few years later, Germany along with other cities rebelled and were hit with plagues from Hashem that killed much of their people and their livestock, leaving their once greatly populated cities feeling empty and desolate.

They were also infested with locusts that ate much of their grain. The battles fought during their rebellion cost many lives on both sides, until after three years the Caesars prevailed and the rebellion was destroyed. Then Babylonia and the civilizations along the Euphrates River rebelled, which was very bad for the Jews that lived in those areas, but they too were defeated. While Marcus and Aurelius were returning from victory together, suddenly Aurelius died, leaving Marcus with complete reign as Caesar. He continued to rule Rome with great philosophy, wisdom, mercy, and kindness, similar to his father-in-law Antoninus.

### ***Health and Recovery***

The following are important ways to care for the body: 1- Visit the dentist every six months for a cleaning and checkup. 2- From a young age learn to keep the mouth closed, especially while sleeping. 3- Sleep each night for at least six hours. 4- Do not switch suddenly from light to dark or dark to light. 5- Do not hold the phone with your shoulder against your face without using your hands. 6- Do not remain standing for an extended period of time. 7- Distance from loud audio speakers. 8- Completely avoid all types of smoking. 9- Do not delay going to the bathroom. 10- Examine your hereditary table. 11- Perform laboratory testing and follow up on the results. 12- From the age of 30-35 be careful with your cartilages and avoid lifting heavy weight. 13- Starting at the age of 40, measure intraocular pressure, blood pressure, and blood sugar levels. 14- From the age of 50: ultrasound the carotid arteries in the neck, and measure bone density. Now we will preface a few sentences about what is happening inside our body. The body renews itself all the time, dismantling the existing and rebuilding it anew. The skin and nails we have today are not the same ones we had a year ago, nor the same that we will have in a week, a month, or a year. The body constantly rebuilds itself using the food we

ingest and absorb into the blood circulation through the small intestine, breaking down and clearing out most of which is waste through liquid, stool, and perspiration.

### **Mussar: *Lashon Hara***

It is a terrible sin to speak negatively about another Jew, even if it is the truth. For example, “*This is what so and so did*”, “*These are his ancestors*”, “*This is what I heard about him*”. One who speaks evil and lies about another Jew is called a “*Motzi Shem Ra*”. Our Sages teach us that the sin of Lashon Hara is equivalent to idolatry, immorality, and murder all together. Lashon Hara is categorized into different categories: 1. One who speaks negatively about somebody that did something bad to him and others hear and are quiet. Since it appears like they agree to what he said, those listeners are also guilty of Lashon Hara. 2. One who speaks Lashon Hara about a person’s ancestors. 3. If someone causes someone else’s face to turn white in public regarding the actions of his ancestors. 4. It is forbidden to tell a son that his father did certain bad things during his lifetime even if the person told the son in private and not within earshot of others. 5. If a person speaks about a Baal Teshuvah’s previous sins, this is a great sin because he did Teshuvah and his sins became Zechuyot. Furthermore, he is causing the Baal Teshuvah to stumble and he might go back to his old ways. 6. If you see someone doing a sin privately, do not publicize it because he may do Teshuvah and Hashem will forgive him while you are demeaning him in public. 7. If a Talmid Hacham or Yerei Shamayim sins because the Yetzer Hara got the better of him once, don’t suspect him for his sins, because for sure he has already performed Teshuvah. 8. It is forbidden to be happy about your friend’s shame. 9. When someone speaks about kosher Gabbaim and suspects that they are thieves, his sin will be too great to carry. Hashem should forgive us, Amen.

### **Rishon LeSion:**

#### ***R’ Yitzchak Nissim 1896-1981***

Throughout all of Iraq, R’ Yitzchak Nissim was known as a Gaon, a teacher and mentor, a leader, and with his Torah knowledge he successfully guided and developed the Jewish population of Bagdad in their observance of Kashrut, their children’s Chinuch, and establishment in all Jewish ways of life. Recognition of his greatness was not limited to Iraq. The Chafetz Chaim greatly respected him, as well as the Sages in Israel, years before he even moved to Israel. In 1926, at the age of thirty, R’ Yitzchak left Bagdad and settled in the holy land of Israel. The Jews of Bagdad were torn over his departure, but they were unable to do anything about it. He wished them peace and ascended. The Sages of Israel heard that ‘a lion had come up from Babel’, a Sage who was proficient in Torah, Mishnah, Gemara, Halacha, and all the commentaries. Many came from far and wide to speak with him, to discuss Torah, or to seek his advice in personal matters. There was no resistance, he was accepted and appreciated by everyone.

#### ***Story***

R’ Yehuda worked hard to collect and secure the necessary funds in order to pay for the upcoming wedding celebration of the orphan Yehoshua, with enough funds leftover so that he and his bride could start their life together with dignity. He returned home with seven hundred Rubels and hid them away in his office in the attic. In just a few short weeks the wedding was scheduled to be performed in their backyard, and much of the preparations were in motion. The next day unfortunately the money was gone! Two young orphans testified that during the night, in the very early hours of the morning, they saw Yehoshua go up to the attic, remain in the office for half an hour, and then came out. R’ Yehuda and his wife could not believe what they were hearing. The audacity, to bite the hand that feeds you. The terrible behavior was far worse than losing the

money. How could he do such a thing? Steal the money that was earmarked for his own wedding! They spoke with him, told him about the witnesses, and demanded that he immediately return every coin. He was then to leave forever, never to return. But Yehoshua was very confused. He declared his innocence. He insisted that he was not the culprit, he had not stolen the money, and in fact had never stolen anything in his life, even in his youth. But how could he explain the witnesses, who had seen him enter the attic in middle of the night? He was silent, without explanation, and this did not help his case.

### **Laws**

**1** – We first put on the right shoe and then the left shoe, and then we tie the left shoe and only then we tie the right shoe.

**2** – This applies to women and children as well.

**3** – We untie the right shoe first and then the left shoe, and then we remove the left shoe and only after do we remove the right shoe. The same applies to all garments, the right is put on first while the left is removed first. The right always is more respected.

**4** – When washing and cleaning your body, the right hand is before the left hand, etc. the right always before the left. However, the head is always washed first because it is most important. The Kippah is cleaned as well before the other garments.

**5** – A person is prohibited from standing and walking completely straight and erect, rather he should be slightly bent leaning forward, with a relaxed posture.

**6** – A man is prohibited from walking four Amot with his head uncovered. The head should never be uncovered for long.

**7** – If someone is wearing a non-Jewish head covering, it is best to also wear a Kippah, at least while praying and reciting a blessing.

**8** – Placing a hand on the head is considered a covering, but is insufficient for reciting a blessing or mentioning Hashem, until he wears

a Kippah or places his friend's hand on his head. He can also use his sleeve to cover his head to recite a blessing.

### **Sponsors**

\*\*\* **Mr. Soly Araman, his wife Vicky, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat his father **Yosef Ben Jamila a"h**, and Leilui Nishmat his brother **Aryeh Ben Rachel a"h**, Amen. \*\*\* **Mr. Shahoud Shaul Mishanie, his wife Nadia, and their children.** Blessings, health, and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat his father **Moshe Ben Zakie a"h**, and Leilui Nishmat his mother **Margo Bat Bahie a"h**, Amen. \*\*\* **Mrs. Kitta Bawabe Dweck.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat her husband **Yosef Asaf Ben Mazal a"h**, Amen. \*\*\* **Mr. Setto Yaakov HaCohen, his wife Lyzett and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat his mother **Sabrie Bat Galia a"h**, Amen. \*\*\* **Mr. Ezra Shasho HaLevi and his daughters: Lydi, Silva, Noura, and Tova.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat his wife and their mother **Nina Sarah Bat Silva Sabout a"h**, Amen. \*\*\* **Blessed siblings: Avraham, Morris, Edward, Rimon, Esther, Berta, and Norma, 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. \*\*\* **Mr. Eli Hakoun, his wife, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Amen.

*This week's sponsorship total is \$600  
200,600 Website visits!*

\* \* \* \* \*

***www.BethYosef.com***