

Congregation

◆◆◆◆ **"Beth Yosef"** ◆◆◆◆

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

Rabbi Aharon Farhi

Mr. Eliyahu Levy, President

*Parashat **Bo***

Maqam Siga

*Haftarat **Hadavar Asher***

3rd Shevat 5785

Issue #1105

February 1st 2025

*Candle Lighting 4:54pm * Shekiah 5:12pm * Shir Hashirim 4:45pm followed by Minha Friday Night
Shaharit Shabbat 8:15am * Minha Shabbat 4:40pm * Shabbat Ends 5:56pm & Rabbenu Tam 6:26pm
Time for Talit 6:06am * Seasonal Hour 60 * Alot Hashahar 5:54am * Netz Hachama 7:06am
Weekday Minha 5:05pm * Earliest Time for Arbit 4:36pm * Tzet Hacoachavim 5:51pm * Chatzot 12:09
Latest Time for Morning Keriat Shema 8:51am * Latest Time for Morning Amidah 9:51am*

Shovevim Fasting:

Thursday January 30th there's no fasting – Rosh Hodesh Shevat

Monday February 3rd fast starts 5:52am and ends 5:40pm

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

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The Pasuk explains a reason for inflicting Egypt with plagues: *So that you may relate in the ears of your sons...that I made a mockery of Egypt.* What was the mockery? The wicked Pharaoh acted with confidence in himself, believing that he alone would decide the fate of the Jewish nation. Even though Hashem had already hit them with seven plagues in last week's Parasha, and Hashem had hardened Pharaoh's heart, nonetheless Pharaoh still believed he was in charge. There is no greater mockery than this. Hashem wanted Bnei Yisrael to remain in Egypt for three more plagues, to witness the hand of Hashem against Pharaoh, controlling him like a puppet, and yet Pharaoh continued to parade around as if he has any say in the matter. When the appropriate time arrived, Hashem released Pharaoh's heart and the "powerful" Pharaoh who had been "calling the shots all along" profusely begged Bnei Yisrael to leave immediately. He was a toy in the hand of Hashem, a complete mockery. We must learn from here that man does not have the

ability to do anything without Hashem, not for good and not for bad. Hashem does everything. We can see another instance of mockery to Egypt. When Bnei Yisrael left on the night of the Seder, what did they bring with them to eat? Matzot, dry flat crackers. Pharaoh had been serving this to the Jews for years in order to torment them, while they wished for rich full bread with oil. But it wasn't Pharaoh who was feeding them, it was always Hashem, because when they finally left Egypt, without any orders from Pharaoh, what did they eat? Matzah. It was a mockery to Pharaoh who thought all along that he was in control with decisions even of what they ate, when in fact only Hashem makes the decisions and Pharaoh was only his puppet. We must learn from this to always be happy with our portion in life, what we have, who we are, which family we are born into, where we live, who are our friends, and so on and so forth. We must believe that everything is according to Hashem's instructions, and everything is for a reason, every moment of our lives, always

for the best, so that we can achieve and accomplish our mission in this lifetime. May Hashem watch over us, Amen.

Insights on the Parasha

1 – The Pasuk says, *Today you are leaving, in the month of springtime*. What do we learn from the fact that the Exodus happened in the month of Nissan? David Hamelech explains in Tehillim (68,7) *He releases those bound in fetters; only the rebellious dwell in the thirsty land*. Hashem planned for Bnei Yisrael to receive the Torah and immediately enter the holy land of Israel, during the beautiful season of spring. However, what happened? The people sinned with the Golden Calf, they were rebellious, and therefore were punished to remain in the thirsty land, the desert, for forty years. (*Torat Moshe*)

History in Brief

180 years after the Hurban, calendar year 250. Rebi Yanai was a student of Rabbenu Hakadosh, and also learned from Rebi Chiya. Rebi Chiya told him that he will one day lead the nation. Rebi Yanai's students are referred to as *Debei Rebi Yanai*. They were great Sages who sacrificed their bodies and souls for the Torah. Rebi Yanai was very wealthy, owning four hundred vineyards, and his students earned a livelihood helping maintain his properties. His son R' Yehuda married the daughter of Rebi Chiya. His daughters were strict not to accept a marriage offer that did not gift them with at least three Kav measures of golden Dinar coins, which is about 4200 grams of gold. Rebi Yanai was strict with Tzedakah, and would teach: if one gifts charity openly, he will have to answer one day for the embarrassment he has caused. Therefore, a person must give charity quietly and secretly, as everything is from Hashem. One

time he had an orchard whose fruits ripened during Chol Hamoed, ready to be harvested, and he allowed his workers to pick it on Chol Hamoed, because work is allowed if there will be a financial loss. The following year, the workers didn't harvest the orchards before Chol Hamoed, thinking that they can do so on Chol Hamoed when they couldn't perform any other work. When Rebi Yanai heard this, he immediately declared his orchards as ownerless, so that he would not cause any further destruction to the world through his actions.

Health and Recovery

The following is good advice in order to maintain good health: 1- Go to the dentist every six months to get a cleaning and a checkup. 2- Practice to physically keep your mouth closed, from a young age, even while sleeping. 3- Sleep at least six hours each night. 4- Do not go suddenly from light to dark or from dark to light. 5- Do not hold the phone to your ear by using just your shoulder and not your hand. 6- Do not stand for prolonged periods of time. 7- Stay away from the microwave. 8- Stay away from smoke. 9- Keep away from garbage. 10- Fill out a will. 11- Keep track of your working minutes. 12- From the ages of 30-35 avoid carrying heavy loads. 13- From the age of 40 get your vision checked and your eyes examined periodically, as well as your blood and sugar levels. 14- From the age of 50 get an ultrasound of your neck and check your bone density. Now let us discuss the body, which constantly repairs itself. The skin and nails we have today are not the same that we had just a short while ago, definitely not the same as a year ago. The food we eat provide energy, vitamins and nutrients, which it carries around the body through the blood, and are used to rebuild and repair much of the body constantly.

Mussar: Ta'anit Dibur
(Tikkun Shovevim)

Sunday February 2nd we will be conducting a day of Ta'anit Dibur in our Bet Kneset Beth Yosef starting at 8:45am – the goal is to complete Sefer Tehillim three times consecutively, without speaking any other words all day. One who fulfills this goal will be rewarded greatly from heaven, and he will gain atonement for the following sins: 1 – For interrupting Torah learning with unimportant words. 2 – Speaking during Shabbat as if it were a weekday. 3 – Speaking in Shul, especially during Kaddish, Chazara, and Sefer Torah. 4 – Lashon Hara. 5 – Lies, cynical speech, flattery, and profanity. 6 – Speaking openly about private family purity matters. Also, one gains the following: 7 – Tehillim reading creates a pleasant spirit before the Heavenly Throne. 8 – It awakens a time of mercy and acceptance for our nation. 9 – Hashem cleanses us from the above-mentioned sins to the point that we are considered like new creations, clean of sin, like a bride and groom who are clean of sin when they get married. 10 – Hashem will send Refuah for the sick. 11 – Hashem will distance evil decrees from us. 12 – Hashem protects us from the Evil Eye. 13 – The gates of Parnassah will open before us. 14 – We will not leave this world before our time. 15 – Enemies and plunderers will be distanced from us. 16 – A woman will not have a forbidden experience a miscarriage, and the child and mother will survive the birth healthy and strong. 17 – The merit of King David a"h will protect us and he will pray for us. Altogether, we will enjoy these seventeen rewards for performing the Ta'anit Dibur – 17 is the numerical value of Tov – good. Therefore, we must all join in this special Mitzvah, may Hashem merit us and send Mashiah, Amen.

Rishon LeSion:

Maran Hacham Ovadia Yossef 1921-2013

The schedule in Yeshivat Porat Yosef began at 9:00am and ended in the afternoon, allowing the students to earn a livelihood before 9:00am and after they ended in the afternoon hours. Hacham Ovadia was successful in enabling many to continue learning in the afternoon, changing the schedule to the benefit of the Sephardic Yeshiva. After Arbit, Hacham Ovadia would go to his father's store in order to help. In the second floor of the store sat a great scholar from Iraq that now lived in Yerushalayim, toiling in his studies of Torah, the holy Chasid R' Sasson Levi, who would learn while humming with holy passion. The words of Torah from his mouth were fire. As he learned Torah above R' Yaakov's store, Hacham Ovadia's love for Torah would ignite within him and his eyes shed tears as he wished to also be learning Torah at that moment instead of working. He was in pain and grief over the loss of time from learning Torah, until Hashem listened to his prayers. In the end of 1936, his father realized that the store was not the place for Hacham Ovadia, who belonged learning Torah in Yeshiva, and so he stopped asking him for help and instead allowed him to continue learning in Yeshiva all through the day and night.

Story

The General entered the barracks to find one of his soldiers dead on the floor and a second soldier on his knees next to the body, claiming it was a suicide. The soldier explained that the dead soldier had stolen the General's ring and tried to blame it on the Jewish innkeeper Shmuel Aryeh. He told him not to tell anyone and promised to give him a cut of the proceeds after he sold the ring. A few hours earlier they had an argument regarding fulfilling his promise of

sharing the proceeds, and it became apparent that the soldier who had promised to share was backing out of their deal. The other soldier then threatened to tell everyone of the truth, and that's when the thief realized he had no other choice but to kill himself.

Laws

1 – One can bring uncovered food into a washing room that does not have a toilet, and can even store the food in there.

2 – If one enters a washing room in order to clean himself, he should wash his hands Netillah after he cleans his body, only once per hand is enough. But if he just enters and leaves without bathing, he does not need to wash his hands, since there is no toilet in the room.

3 – A person can wash his hands Netillah even for a meal in a washing room that does not have a toilet, but recites the blessing outside the room.

4 – One needs to wash his hands Netillah after cutting his nails.

5 – If the nails are not so long, then it is enough to wash each hand once, but if the nails were long enough that it hung over the fingertip, then he needs to wash a full Netillah of three times per hand.

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and Leilui Nishmat her daughter **Emily Bat Altoun a"h,** Amen. *Thank you for this beautiful weekly Torah publication!* *** **Mrs. Eva Dahab and her children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Amen. *** **Mrs. Henriette Zarif Shami, her husband R' Avraham, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat her father **Shlomo Ben Simha a"h,** and Leilui Nishmat her brother **Shaul Ben Adele a"h,** Amen. *** **Mr. David Nahum, his wife Soura, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat his father **Moshe Ben Esther a"h,** Leilui Nishmat his mother **Ayala Bat Rima a"h,** and Leilui Nishmat his sister **Habiba Bat Ayala a"h,** Amen. *** **Mr. Yedidya Laniado, his wife Touni, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat his father **Moshe Ben Sara a"h,** Amen. *** **Mr. Eli Levy, his wife Becky, and their children.** Blessings, health, and success for the entire family, Amen. *** **Mrs. Adele Hudeidi and her children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat her husband and their father **Chaim Ben Farha a"h,** Amen. *** **Mr. Edmon Nahum, his wife Lina, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat the pure soul of the young child **Yosef Chaim Ben Olga 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.

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