

For the Virtualcommunity@Sichosonline.org

“Reminders” for Pesach 5774 (part 1).

Please print and display on the refrigerator etc. or a place where it can be in clear view.

[May not be posted on any internet website without prior consent from the author]

Mechiras chometz: 1468 Union St. (bet. Kingston and Albany avenues – basement entrance). I suggest that you text me before you come.

May we celebrate this *Pesach* in the *Bais Hamikdosh Hashlishi!*

Rabbi Levi Y. Garelik

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Due to the volume of information, the “Reminders” are divided into three parts:

1. From *Rosh Chodesh Nissan* until after *Bedikas Chometz*.
2. From *Erev Yom Tov* until the first day of *Chol Hamoed*.
3. From *Chol Hamoed* until after *Yom Tov*.

The following is only a “reminder”. On the website (Theonlinerabbi.com) you can find many more details.

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During the month of *Nissan*

1. ***Tachanun:*** *Tachanun* is not recited throughout the entire month.
2. ***Nossi:*** From *Rosh Chodesh* until *Yud Gimmel Nissan* the נשיא is said.
3. ***Brocho on Trees:*** During *Chodesh Nissan* there is a special *Brocho* to be said on trees that blossom.
4. ***Matzo:*** We don’t eat *Matzo Shmuro* until the *Seder*. You may give the children machine *matzo* (which you do not serve on *Pesach*) until the evening before *Erev Pesach*.
5. ***Mivtza Matzo Shmuro to acquaintances:*** One of the *first Mivtzoim* of the *Rebbe*, was that we should distribute *Matzo* to friends, neighbors, doctors, etc. that we come in contact with. ***For your convenience, Tzac”h has made a service available where you can do this online, and they will deliver Matzo to whoever you wish: giftmatzah.com***
6. ***Ma’os Chittim:*** Give money to help others with *Pesach* needs. Mothers, especially, should give, to educate their children.
7. ***Learning the Halochois:*** It is customary that fathers set aside time to learn the *Halochois* of *Pesach* with their children. (They can start with the “reminders”....)
8. ***Four Questions:*** Review with the children the פיר קושיות.
9. ***Selling the Chometz:*** Any time after *Rosh Chodesh*, the head of the household goes to the *Rov* to sell the *Chometz* of the home, office, summer home, etc. It is advisable to take along the children. Those that are traveling eastward for *Pesach* [e.g., to *Eretz Yisroel*, or further east] should sell the *Chometz* at their

destination. Those living in Europe and are traveling to the USA should sell it in Europe. In any case, discuss it with the Rov.

10. **Not home for Pesach:** those who are going away for *Pesach*, and sell their entire home through the *Rov* (and no one will enter their home during *Pesach*), do not need to do *Bedikas chometz* in their home. It is advisable to discuss the details with the *Rov*.
11. **Koshering the Kitchen:** If help is needed for *Koshering* the kitchen, you may contact: In Brussels: R' Mordechai Chaloncon (32484969303). In Crown Heights: R' Shaltiel Lebovic (1888gokosher).
12. **Medicines:** Those who take medicines on a regular basis should consult with their doctor if it is necessary to do so during *Pesach*. If yes, contact the *Rov* **but please don't wait for the last minute!**
13. **ב' ניסן: Yorzeit of the Rebbe Rashab:** See *Sefer Haminhogim* page 86 regarding the customs of a *Yom Hahilula* of A *Rebbe*.
14. **י"א ניסן:** All the relevant preparations for **the Rebbe's birthday**, particularly since this year is the same *k'vius* as in 5662 (1902) the year that the *Rebbe* was born (on Friday).
15. **Haircuts:** Remind the men and boys to get haircuts before *Yom Tov*, and not wait until *Erev Yom Tov*, for there are many *Shailos*... From *Erev Pesach* after *Chatzos* (midday) until *Erev Shavuot* it is our custom not to cut one's hair.
16. **Bedikas Chometz in the office:** If the office will be used on *Pesach*, and it is distant from the house, and it will be difficult to go there on Sunday night prior to *Pesach*, ask the *Rov* for the procedures of an "early" *Bedikas Chometz*.

Things to buy in advance:

1. **Bedikas Chometz set:** consisting of a paper bag, a candle, a feather and a wooden spoon.
2. **Matzos:** Buy enough *Matzo* for the *Sedorim*, all 8 days of *Pesach*, guests, etc. Don't wait for the last minute....
3. **Wine:** Buy enough wine for the *Sedorim*, all 8 days of *Pesach*, the 4 cups for *Acharon Shel Pesach*, as well as for guests, etc. Suggestion: if you have a אינו-יהודי/יהודי working in the house, or are making a public *seder* etc. buy only יין מבושל (unless you can have special arrangements).
4. **Haggadas:** Buy enough *Haggadas* for the parents and adults, as well as for the children **with pictures** (if they don't have yet, or they haven't received one from school, etc.)
5. **Siddurim and Bencherlach:** For those who need; for we try not to use the same *siddurim* on *Pesach* that have been around the house during the rest of the year.
6. **Scale:** There are those who buy a small kitchen scale (portion control) to measure the correct amounts for the מצה, מרור.
7. **Candles and candle-holders:** Those that use glass holders that need to be cleaned after each use, should ensure that they have enough for two days of *Yom Tov*, as on *Yom Tov* there is a *shailo* regarding the removal of the washer that is stuck to the wax.
8. **Long-lasting candles** (like a *Yartzeit Licht*): At least two long-lasting candles for those who do not have a gas flame lit over *Yom Tov*. However, those who have household help should light one even if there is a gas flame lit, for sometimes the maid turns off the flame.
9. **Clothes and Jewelry:** One should buy clothes and jewelry for one's wife and children according to his means.

10. Carbon monoxide detector: Those who have the gas on for a prolonged time during *YomTov* should ensure that they have proper ventilation and that they have a proper carbon monoxide alarm system in place. Make sure to test it a couple of days before *YomTov*.

Also to plan the purchases of those things that will be bought closer to *Yom Tov*, such as:

1. Fish.
2. Chicken.
3. *Zeroa* for the *Ke'oro* (the neck of the chicken).
4. Eggs.
5. Lettuce.
6. *Maror*.
7. Potatoes.
8. Onions.
9. Nuts.
10. Fruits for *Charoses*: **apples, pears, nuts**, etc. If one is using fruits from *Eretz Yisroel*, ensure they have a proper *Hechsher* so that *Terumos* and *Ma'aseros* have been taken.

Friday, י"א ניסן – יום הבהיר, *The Rebbe's birthday, Erev Shabbos HaGodol*

*After *Davening* we begin to say *Kapittel* 113 in *Tehillim*.

*This is a day for reflection and taking on *Hachlotos Toivos*, and it is appropriate to read additional details in *Sefer Haminhogim* p. 85.

Shabbos HaGodol, י"ב ניסן

* After *Mincha* we read the *Haggadah* from "עבדים היינו" until "לכפר על כל עונותינו" (at the end of the paragraph "על אחת כמה וכמה"). The *Rebbe* would say it with the *Minyan*, while sitting at his place.

* On my website, there is a beautiful *shiur*, based on *Likutei Sichos* where the *Rebbe* explains beautifully why it is called *Shabbos Hagadol*. <http://theonlinerabbi.com/sichosonline/parshas-bo/>

Motzo'ei Shabbos Hagadol

* In *Ma'ariv* we do not say "ויהי נועם" nor "ואתה קדוש".

* If one did not yet say *Kiddush Levana* and there is a visible moon, then it should be recited tonight.

* **Havdolo:** Right after *Havdolo* don't forget to put away the *Bsomim* in the *Chometz*.

* If one has braces, retainers, or false teeth he should refrain from eating hot (or sharp) *Chometz* from now on, or at least to ensure it does not get stuck, and to clean these well. (See further concerning what must be done tomorrow night.)

Sunday י"ג ניסן, יום ההילולא של הצמח צדק *Yorzeit of the Tzemach Tzedek*

See *Sefer Haminhogim* page 86 regarding the customs of a *Yom Hahilula* of A *Rebbe*.

* Today, instead of the נשיא, we say from "זאת חנוכה המזבח" until "כך עשה את המנורה" and we do not say the *Yehi Rotzon*.

Bedikas Chometz:

Ensure before *Bedikas Chometz* that the *Chometz* was sold!! Do not begin *Bedikas Chometz* until this has been done!

1. We search for the *Chometz* after *Ma'ariv*.
2. *Chometz* that is left to be eaten tomorrow morning should be put away so that the children do not get to it. *Chometz* that is to be sold to the *goy* should be closed off and marked.
3. We prepare: 1. A **bag** to place the *Chometz* which is found during the *Bedika*, 2. A **wooden spoon**, 3. A **feather**, 4. A **paper** to wrap all the above, 5. **String** to tie all of the above, 6. **Ten pieces of Chometz** as follows:
4. We take ten pieces of *Chometz*, preferably something that does not make crumbs. Each piece should be less than a *kezayis* and wrapped in paper, not foil, so that it should burn well. We put them out in 10 different places in the house. It is better to put them in the corners of the rooms rather than in the middle of the rooms.
5. The mother or the children should write down where each piece was placed.
6. There are those who have the custom to wash נטילת ידים before beginning the search.
7. The father should gather the members of the household next to him when he makes the *Brocho*.
8. After the *Brocho*, one should not speak until completing the *Bedika*. The search should be performed slowly and meticulously, and should begin in the room closest to where he is when reciting the *Brocho*.
9. The places that will be sold to the *goy* and are sealed for the duration of *Yom Tov* do not have to be searched.
10. The *Chometz* that is found is placed in the paper bag.
11. If one of the ten pieces is lost or misplaced, call the *Rav* after the *Bedika*.
12. After the *Bedika* say the first "כל המירא" and then tie the paper that contains the bag, the candle, the feather and the spoon, making sure that the handle of the spoon is visible. Ensure that there is at least a *Kezayis* of *Chometz* to burn.
13. **Thank you!!!** The father should give a heartfelt "Thank you" to the mother and the children for having done such a superb job in preparing the house so nice and clean for *Pesach*.
14. If the father has not yet done *bedikas Chometz* in the office (and it will not be sold in the *chometz*), he should do that at this point.
15. **Car:** Don't forget to make a *Bedika* in the car (if it will be used on *Pesach*). It can be done with a flashlight.

* **Vacuum cleaner bag:** Remember to empty and discard the vacuum cleaner bag.

* **Retainers, fillings and braces:** Whoever has retainers for their teeth, should pour hot water on them. Whoever has fillings or braces should rinse their mouth with hot or warm water (hot or warm as they would usually use when having a tea or coffee).

*Be very careful with any *Chometz* left over for the next day. It should be put out of reach of the children.

Monday morning, Erev Pesach, Birthday of the Rambam,
י"ד ניסן, ערב חג הפסח יום הולדתו של הרמב"ם
until after *Biur Chometz*, in brief:

**Mikva*.

**Shacharis* (we don't say לתודה מזמור).

**Siyum* for the *Bechorim*.

*End of the time for eating *Chometz*:

In New York: before 10:38 am. In Brussels before 11:24 am.

*End of the time for burning *Chometz*:

In NY: before 11:39 am. In Brussels before 12:33.

--See further for more details--

בברכת בניסן נגאלו ובניסן עתידין להגאל

לוי יצחק גרליק