

Adar 5778

Reminders for the days of Purim – 5778**[May not be posted on any internet website without prior consent from the author]****To the families of Anash שיחיו of the community at the EU – Brussels
And virtualcommunity@sichosonline.org**

Experience has shown that it is best if both husband and wife (and children...) review this each day thoroughly so that miscommunications and last-minute panics can be avoided, and Yom Tov can be truly celebrated joyfully.

Please post this on the refrigerator or another central location.

Wishing you a true Simchas Yom Tov, which we will celebrate in the Bais Hamikdosh Hashlishi.

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During the month of Adar:

1. It is customary to learn the *Halochois* (laws) associated with *Purim*, [on the website sichosonline.org there are a lot of details], in *Nigle* and in *Chassidus*.
2. We add in the giving of *Tzedoko*.
3. We make the necessary arrangements for “*Mivtza Purim*”.

What to prepare before *Purim*:

1. **Assorted foods** - for *Mishloach Manos* (even if one participates in communal baskets.)
2. **Kreplach** - for the *Purim Seuda*.
3. **A kosher Megillah** - if possible.
4. **Graggers** - and noisemakers for the children.
5. **Money** – for *Machatzis heshekel*, *Matanos Le'evyonim* and those who deliver *Mishloach Manos*.
6. **A Ba'al Kriah** - if necessary, to read the *Megillah* at home by night and by day.
7. **Mivtza Purim** - Arrange where the family will perform “*Mivtza Purim*”.

Shabbos Zochor 9 Adar

Parshas Zochor:

All males are obligated to hear *Parshas Zochor* being read in *Shul*.

All women and girls should go to *Shul* to hear *Parshas Zochor*, for such is the *Minhag Yisroel*. However, women who generally don't go to *Shul* because they are tending to their young children and it's hard for them to arrange to go to shul, are not obligated to go to shul to hear *Parshas Zochor* being read. Instead they can read it in a *Chumash*. It is found at the end of *Parshas Ki Seitze (Dvorim 25, 17)*.

12 Adar – Tuesday Evening

- After one goes to sleep, even if he wakes up in middle of the night, he is not permitted to eat. If one wants to wake up before *Alos Hashachar*, to eat, he may do so but he must declare his intentions (before he goes to sleep) to wake early and eat. He has to finish eating and drinking before *Alos Hashachar*, (see local calendar for the times).

13 Adar - Wednesday תענית אסתר - Fast of Esther

Fasting: One who is ill, and women who are pregnant or nursing (a child up to 24 months) etc. - do not have to fast.

Shacharis: 1. The *Chazan* says ענונו in *Chazoras Hashatz*. 2. After *Tachanun* (after the words מכל עוונותיו) סליחות and the long מליכנו מליכנו are added. These are said even if one is not fasting. 3. We read the *Torah - Vaychal* and no *Maftir*. [חגי קדיש after *Krias Hatorah*].

Before Mincha:

- **Machatzis HaShekel:** Before *davening Mincha* one should give 3 *half-Shekel* coins for מחצית השקל. It is customary that a father also gives on behalf of his wife and their small children (and if the wife is pregnant – some give for the unborn child). Usually, the *Gabbai* of the *Shul* has the coins for "מחצית השקל". [If one forgot – see *Shacharis* of *Purim* below].
- On one occasion the *Rebbe* mentioned that children, with the assistance of the parents, should be encouraged to give *Machatzis Hashekel* from their own money.

Mincha:

1. **Krias HaTorah - Vaychal** and *Maftir*.
2. **Tachanun** - is not recited.

3. **Aneinu** - We add *Aneinu* in the *bracha* of "שומע תפלה". If one forgot, it can be said after "אלקי נצור" before the second "יהיו לרצון". One who is not fasting does not say *Aneinu*.
4. **Ovinu Malkeinu** - The long אבינו מלכנו is not recited.

In Maariv:

- **In the Shemone Esrei we add:**
V'al Hanissim: We add "ועל הניסים". If one forgot, and remembered before he said the word "ה" of the *bracha* "הטוב שמך ולך נאה להודות" he should go back and say "ועל הניסים". If he remembered after saying the word "ה" he does not go back.
- **Megillah:** After *Shemone Esrei* (and *Kaddish Tiskabel*) the *Megillah* is read.
- We make noise by "*Haman*" only when it is accompanied by a title or description, such as "המן האגגי", "בן המדתא האגגי", or "המן הרע" etc.
- If during the *Megillah* reading, one finds a פסול in the *Megillah*, if most of the letters are *Kosher*, it is permissible בדיעבד to continue.
- After the *Megillah* reading, we say קדוש ואתה (Kadish without *Tiskabel*) and עלינו.

At Home:

Ensure that everyone, especially the women who did not go to Shul, hear the Megillah being read tonight.

1. **Reading the Megillah**, for those who did not hear it in *Shul*:
 - a. When the *Brochois* are recited, everyone must be standing, however, they may sit while the *Megillah* is being read.
 - b. The listeners should not respond Boruch Hu Uvoruch Shmo to the blessings.
 - c. If one was already *Yotzei* the *mitzvah* and is reading for someone else, (one of) the listener(s) recites the *Bracha* of "לשמע מקרא מגילה" and the other two *Brochois*.
 - d. If there is no *Minyan* present, the *Bracha* הרב את ריבנו (after the *Megillah*) is not recited, however we do recite יעקב שושנת.
2. **Birchas Hamazon:** In the *Birchas Hamazon* of the evening meal, ועל הניסים is added. If one forgot, and remembered before saying the word ה' in the *Bracha* "על המזון", he should go back and say ועל הניסים. If he remembered after saying the word ה', then when he reaches "הרחמן הוא יזכנו" he should add: "הרחמן הוא יעשה לנו ניסים כמו שעשה לאבותינו בימים ההם בזמן הזה, בימי מרדכי וכו'". If he forgot and already finished *Bentching*, he doesn't repeat it.
3. We say *Magdil* as usual (not like *Yomtov* that we say *Migdol*).

14 Adar - Thursday, *Purim* - פורים

It is customary to wear a silk *Kapote* like on *Shabbos* and *Yom Tov*.

Shacharis:

1. **Tachanun** - is not recited.
2. **V'al Hanissim** - We add "ועל הניסים" in *Shemone Esrei*. If one forgot, and remembered before he said the word "ה" of the *Bracha* "נאה להודות" he should go back and say "ועל הניסים". If he remembered after saying the word "ה" he does not go back.
3. **Krias HaTorah** - If one did not hear *Parshas Zochoir*, he can fulfill his obligation through listening to this *Torah* Reading.
4. **Machatzis Hashekel**: One who did not yet give *Machatzis Hashekel* should do so now before the reading of the *Megillah*.
5. Before the reading of the *Megillah*, they should announce that when the *Baal Kriah* says the *Bracha* of *Shehecheyanu* (before reading the *Megillah*), one should also have in mind the other three *Mitzvos* that are done on *Purim*: *Mishloach Monos*, *Matonos Loevyonim* and the *Seuda's*.
6. **The *Megillah*** is read.
7. After the *Megillah* is read we say the *Brocho* of *Harov Es Rivenu*, *Ashrei*, *Uvo Letzion*, *Kadish Tiskabel* and the *Torah* is returned to *Aron Koidesh*.

During the day of *Purim*:

* We go on *Mivtzaim* to ensure that other *Yidden* also perform the *Mitzvos* of the day.

There are four *Mitzvos* to be done on this day:

1. **Reading the *Megillah***, for those who did not hear it in *Shul*.
 - a. Before the reading of the *Megillah*, they should announce that when saying the *Bracha* of שהחיינו everyone should also have in mind the other three *Mitzvos* of the day: *Mishloach Monos*, *Matonos Loevyonim* and the *Seuda*.
 - b. If one was already *yotzei* the *mitzvah* and is reading for someone else, (one of) the listener(s) recites the *Bracha* of "לשמנו מקרא מגילה" and the other two *Brochois*.
 - c. When the *Brochois* are recited, everyone must be standing, however, they may sit while the *Megillah* is being read.
 - d. The listeners should not respond *Boruch Hu Uvoruch shmo* to the blessings.
 - e. If there is no *Minyan* present, the *Brocho* הרב את ריבנו (after the *Megillah*) is not recited, however we do say שושנת יעקב.
2. **Mishloach Manos**: A man to a man, a woman to a woman, or families to families, **and educate the children to do such**. Those who participated in "communal baskets" should nevertheless send at least two or three regular *Mishloach Manos*.

3. **Matonois Lo'evyonim**, to at least two poor people. If there are no poor people to give to, money should be given to the *Gabbai Tzedaka*, **and educate the children to participate as well.**
4. **Seuda – festive meal** (see further for details).

The **Alter Rebbe** writes in **Torah Or** (and it is also brought in *Sefer Haminhogim*) **that the joy of Purim is much greater than the joy of Yom Tov.**

Mincha

1. **Tachanun** is not recited.
2. **V'al Hanissim** is added in *Shemone Esrei*. If one forgot, and remembered before he said the word ה' of the *Brocho* להודות ולך נאה להודות he should go back and say "ועל הניסים". If he remembered after saying the word ה' he does not go back.

Seuda (festive meal) -

- **Time** - One may eat the *Seuda* in the morning, but it is customary to *daven* an early *Mincha* in the middle of the day and to eat afterwards. One must wash and eat at least a *kezayis* before the *Shekia* (sundown).
- **We eat the Kreplach.**
- If the *Seuda* continues into the night, ועל הניסים is said in *Birchas Hamazon* because the meal began during the day. [If one *davened Maariv* in middle of the meal, ועל הניסים is not said in *Birchas Hamazon*.]
- **Do not forget to daven Maariv after the meal.**
- The Rebbe's *Farbrengen* would take place after *Maariv*.

15 Adar - Friday – Shushan Purim שושן פורים :

- **Tachanun** is not recited.
- **Simcha and Maos Chitim:** We continue *Simchas Purim* and we start giving *Maos Chitim* (*Tzedaka* for the needy for *Pesach*).
- **Matza and Hilchos Pesach:** *Matza* is not eaten until the night of the *Seder*, and we begin to learn the *Halachos* of *Pesach*.

25 Adar כ"ה אדר

Birthday of our *Rebbetzin*.

May we merit to celebrate this Purim in the Bais Hamikdosh Hashlishi!

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