בס"ד. שלהי אדר תשע"ט

To the families of *Kehilas Anas"h שי'* at the Eu - Brussels and of Virtualcommunity@Sichosonline.org

"Reminders" for Pesach 5779

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

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

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May we celebrate this *Pesach* in the *Bais Hamikdosh Hashlishi!* Rabbi Levi Y. Garelik

* * *

The following are only "reminders". On *Sichosonline.org* you can find many more details. **During the month of** *Nissan* (in general):

- 1. Tachanun: Tachanun is not recited throughout the entire month.
- 2. Nossi: From Rosh Chodesh until Yud Gimmel Nissan the Nossi is said.
- 3. Brocho on Trees: During Chodesh Nissan there is a special Brocho to be said on trees that blossom.
- 4. **Taanis Bechorim (Fast of the first born):** If the household has a *Bechor*, he [or his father] should not forget to finish his *Masechta* to be completed by *Erev Pesach*. (In case he wasn't able to, he can listen to a *Siyum* from the *Rov*).
- 5. *Matzo: Matzo* is not eaten until the *Seder*. [Check with the Rov regarding giving children machine *matzo* (which you do not serve on *Pesach*) etc. until the evening before *Erev Pesach*.]
- 6. *Mivtza Matzo Shmuro* to acquaintances: One of the *first Mivtzoim* of the *Rebbe* was that we should distribute *Matzo Shmuro* to friends, neighbors, doctors, etc. that we come in contact with. *For your convenience, Tzac"h has made a service available giftmatzah@gmail.com and they will ship the Matzo to whoever you wish.*
- 7. *Ma'os Chittim:* Give money to help others with *Pesach* needs. Mothers, especially, should give, to educate their children.
- 8. 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"....)
- 9. Four Questions: Review with the children the פיר קושיות.
- 10. **Selling the** *Chometz*: Any time after *Rosh Chodesh*, the head of the household goes to the *Rov* to appoint him to sell the *Chometz* of the home, office, summer home, etc. It is advisable/educational to take along the children. Those that are

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traveling eastward for *Pesach* [e.g., to *Eretz Yisroel*, or further east] should sell the *Chometz* at their destination or discuss this with your *Rov* who will assist you. Those living in Europe and are traveling to the USA should sell it in Europe. In any case, discuss it with the Rov.

- 11. **[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*), It is advisable to discuss the details regarding *bedikas chometz* with the *Rov*.
- **12.** Renting a home: If you are renting a home for Pesach, ensure with the owner that the utensils, oven etc. are *Kosher L'Pesach*. DO NOT rely on *Koshering* Erev Pesach....]
- 13. *Koshering* the Kitchen: If help is needed for *Koshering* the kitchen, you may contact: In Crown Heights: R' Shaltiel Lebovic (1888gokosher).
- 14. **Medicines and special gluten free diets:** 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 a**s many times it may take a few days for research. The same applies to gluten free diets.
- 15. *Beis* (second day in) *Nissan, Yorzeit* of the Rebbe Rashab: See *Sefer Haminhogim* page 86 regarding the customs of a *Yom Hahilula* of a *Rebbe*.
- 16. Yud Alef Nissan: Make all the relevant preparations for the Rebbe's 117th birthday.
- 17. Haircuts: Remind the men and boys to get haircuts before *Yom Tov*, and not wait until *Erev Yom Tov*, for there are many *Shailos* associated with that. From *Erev Pesach* after *Chatzos* (midday) until *Erev Shavuos* it is our custom not to cut one's hair.
- 18. *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 Thursday 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. a paper bag, b. a candle, c. a feather, d. a wooden spoon, e. string and f. a paper to wrap all of the above.
- 2. *Matzos*: Buy enough *Matzo* for the *Sedorim*, all eight days of *Pesach*, guests, etc. Don't wait for the last minute.
- **3. Wine:** Buy enough wine for the *Sedorim*, all eight days of Pesach, the four cups for *Acharon Shel Pesach*, as well as for guests, etc. <u>Suggestion</u>: if you have a אינו-יהודי/ה 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 <u>with pictures per</u> <u>the Rebbe's instruction</u>, (if they don't have yet, or they haven't received one from school, etc.)
- 5. *Siddurim* and *Benchers*: We customarily do not to use the same *siddurim* and *Bentchers* on *Pesach* that have been around the house during the rest of the year, so it is suggested to purchase new ones.
- 6. Scale: There are those who buy a small kitchen scale (portion control) to measure the correct amounts for the *Matzo* and *Moror*.
- 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 *Yortzeit 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 his wife and children according to his means.
- **10. Carbon monoxide detector:** Those who have the gas on for a prolonged time 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*.

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11. Vacuum cleaner bag: To be replaced on *Erev Pesach*.

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 and that they are not from *shmitah*.

Shabbos Hagodol, 8 Nissan

* After *Mincha* we read the *Haggadah* from "עבדים היינו" until "כל עוונותינו לכפר על" (at the end of the paragraph "כל עוונותינו לכפר על"). The *Rebbe* would say it with the *Minyan*, while sitting at his place. On our website, there is a wonderful *shiur*, based on *Likutei Sichos* where the *Rebbe* explains beautifully why it is called *Shabbos Hagodol* and why we say the Haggadah. <u>http://theonlinerabbi.com/sichosonline/parshas-bo/</u>

Motzoei Shabbos Hagodol

*In Maariv we say "ויהי נועם" and "וואתה קדוש".

* Kidush Levana: If there is a visible moon, then Kidush Levana should be recited tonight.

* **Havdolo:** After Havdolo don't forget to put away the B'somim in the Chometz (as our custom is not to use B'somim on Pesach). Even though this year it will not be used during Pesach as we do not have a Motzoei Shabbos/Chol Hamoed.

Tuesday, Yud Alef Nissan ,יום הבהיר – י״א ניסן, The Rebbe's 117th birthday.

*After Davening we begin to say the Rebbe's new Kapitel, 118, 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.

Wednesday night:

*If one has braces, retainers, fillings or false teeth he should refrain from eating hot (or sharp) *Chometz* from now on, and ensure that cold chometz does not get stuck. These items should be cleaned well. (See further concerning what must be done tomorrow night.)

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Thursday, 13 Nissan, דעמח צרק האילולא של הצמח יי״ג ניסן, יום ההילולא של הצמח צרק *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 המזבה" until ויכן עשה את המנורה" and we do not say the Yehi Rotzon.

Thursday evening:

Bedikas Chometz (Check local calendar):

Before Bedikas Chometz ensure that the Chometz was sold!! If possible, go now and take care of it!

- **1.** We search for the *Chometz* after *Maariv*.
- 2. *Chometz* that is left to be eaten tomorrow morning should be put away so that the children do not get to it. The areas that are to be sold to the *goy* should be closed off and marked.
- 3. All the areas where *Chometz* is stored should be locked and marked at this time.
- 4. We prepare:
 - a. A **bag** to place the *Chometz* which is found during the *Bedika*.
 - b. A candle.
 - c. A wooden spoon.
 - d. A <u>feather.</u>
 - e. A **paper** to wrap around all of the above.
 - f. <u>String</u> to tie the paper.
 - g. 10 pieces of Chometz as follows:
 - 1. We take ten pieces of *Chometz*, preferably something that does not make crumbs.
 - 2. Each piece should be less than a kezayis.
 - 3. We wrap each one in paper or napkin, not foil, so that it should burn well.
 - 4. We put them out in several different places in the house.
 - 5. It is better to put them in the corners of the rooms rather than in the middle of the rooms.
 - 6. Someone should write down where each piece was placed.
- 5. There are those who have the custom to wash נטילת ידים before beginning the search.
- 6. The father should gather the members of the household next to him when he makes the *Brocho*.
- 7. 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*.
- 8. The places that will be sold to the *goy* and are sealed for the duration of *Yom Tov* do not have to be searched.
- 9. The *Chometz* that is found is placed in the paper bag.
- **10.** If one of the ten pieces is lost or misplaced, call the *Rav* after the *Bedika*.
- **11.** After the *Bedika* say the first "*Kol Chamiro*" and then wrap the paper around the bag, the candle, the feather and the spoon, making sure that the handle of the spoon is visible and then tie it. Ensure that there is at least a *Kezayis* of *Chometz* to burn.
- **12.** <u>Thank you!!!</u> 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*.
- **13.** 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.

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- **14. Car:** Don't forget to do *Bedikas Chometz* 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 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). Whoever has retainers for their teeth, should also pour hot water on them (not boiling water that may ruin them).

*Be very careful with any *Chometz* left over for the next day. It should be put out of reach of the children. Friday, *Erev Shabbos, Erev Pesach Rambam*'s birthday

- י״ד ניסן, ערב חג הפסח יום הולדתו של הרמב״ם

In the morning until after *Biur* (burning of the) *Chometz*:

- 1. **Mikva.**
- 2. Shacharis (we don't say מזמור לתודה).
- 3. *Siyum* for the *Bechorim*: All *Bechorim* (first-born) fast on *Erev Pesach* unless they participate in a *Seudas Mitzva* or *Siyum*. If the father is a *B'chor*, or he has a son younger than *Bar-Mitzva* that is the first-born to his mother or father, the father should participate in a *Siyum* that is usually held after *Shacharis* in *Shul*, and bring the child along as well.
- 4. *Mechiras Chometz*: If it has not yet been done, <u>run</u> to the *Rov* and take care of it.
- 5. Nails: It is best to cut nails before Chatzos midday (Check local calendar).
- 6. Haircut: Must be done before *Chatzos (Check local calendar)*. If one forgot, it may be done after *Chatzos* through a *Goy*.
- 7. Eating Chometz: Stop eating chometz before: (Check local calendar)
- 8. Garbage: Remove all garbage from the house: Before (Check local calendar)

Burning the *Chometz*:

- 1. **Check the pockets:** Prior to burning the *Chometz,* check the pockets of clothing, especially of the children, in their coat pockets, etc. for any *chometz.*
- 2. **Ten pieces:** Burning of the *Chometz* must also be with ten pieces, therefore, if any pieces were lost during the *Bdika*, be sure to add the correct amount of pieces missing.
- 3. End of the time for burning *Chometz*: Before (*Check local calendar*) after which one says the second *"Kol Chamiro"* and the "יהי רצון". Gas should not be used-just a regular fire.

Friday, ערב חג הפסח—from *Biur Chometz* until the evening:

* What we do/don't eat: We do not drink wine nor eat *Matzo*. We also don't eat any of the foods that are used in the *Keoro* for *Charoses* (apples, pears and nuts) and *Maror* until after "*Korech*" of the second Seder. Eggs and potatoes may be eaten. This applies to children as well.

* **Sleeping:** If possible, children should nap during the day so they will be able to be awake for the *Seder*. *Rambam*'s birthday:

* We study something in honor of the *Rambam*'s birthday.

Preparations for the *Sedarim* and the meals:

Important: As this year the first *Seder* night is on Friday night, everything for the *Seder* must be prepared on Friday <u>during the day</u>.

- **1.** Roasting: On both nights of the *Sedarim* we do not eat meat or chicken that was roasted.
- 2. Checking Lettuce: Check the lettuce leaves for bugs and wash and dry them.
- **3.** *Maror* (*Chrein*): Grind the *Maror*. Some store it in a tightly-sealed container so it should not lose its sharpness.
- 4. Charoses: Prepare the Charoses, which consists of apples, pears and nuts. The Rebbe brings down a nice "Siman" from the Ariza"l for these ingredients: It says in the Posuk "אבן". "הרושת אבן". Is the acronym for איפל Is the acronym for אביל (eppel-apple, baren-pears, nissn-nuts). This year, because of Shabbos, we add the wine to the Charoses on Friday rather than on Shabbos during the Seder.
- 5. Eggs: Cook the eggs for the Sedarim until they are hard-boiled.
- 6. Zeroa: Roast the Zeroa to put on the Ke'ara.
- 7. Salt-water: Prepare the salt-water.
- 8. *Matzos*: Open the packages and boxes of *Matzo* and make sure there are enough whole *Matzos* to use for the Seder.
- **9.** Wine: Open the bottles of wine. Those who drink white wine but they mix a little red wine into it in honor of the *Seder*, it is preferable to mix them on Friday.
- **10.** If you are eating elsewhere (not at home), do not forget to bring everything you need **BEFORE** *Shabbos* (*Matzos*, wine etc.).

Preparations for Yom Tov:

- 1. Nails: It is best to cut your nails before *Chatzos* mid-day (*Check local calendar*). If one forgot, they may be cut after *Chatzos*.
- 2. Shabbos Clock: Ensure that the Shabbos clock is set for both Sedarim.
- 3. *Eiruv Chatzeiros* (in apartment buildings, two-family houses, neighbors etc.): For those who need—don't forget to make an *Eiruv Chatzeiros* to be used the entire year.

Mincha and Seder Korban Pesach

- * Mincha: We Daven earlier than usual for time is needed to say "Seder Korban Pesach" before Sh'kia.
- * Before Mincha we say "Hodu" and "Posach Eliyohu".

* **Seder Korban Pesach:** After *Mincha* and before *Sh'kia* one says the *"Seder Korban Pesach"*. One should read it in the proper time so the reading should be in place of the sacrifice, and one should entreat *Hashem* to rebuild the *Beis Hamikdash* speedily in our days and we should be able to bring the *Korban Pesach*, Amen. (See לקוטי שיהות חלק 36 'ל

Right before *Yom Tov*:

* Long-lasting candles (like a *Yartzeit Licht*): Light the long-lasting candles for those who do not have a gas flame lit over *Yom Tov*. [Those who have household help should light one even if there is a gas flame lit, for sometimes it is inadvertently turned off].

* **Candles and candle-holders:** Those who 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.

Hadlokas Haneiros – candle lighting

- 1. Candle lighting time is 18 (23) minutes before *Shkiah*. (Check local calendar).
- 2. <u>Those who are eating elsewhere do not forget to light candles at the right time!</u> If one missed lighting candles tonight, a *Rov* should be contacted after *Yom Tov* to determine what should be done for the future.
- 3. Tzedaka: Give Tzedaka equivalent to two days for Shabbos and Yom Tov.
- 4. Brochois/blessings: The two Brachos said are: שהחיינו and להדליק נר של שבת ושל יום טוב and .

In the evening:

***Preparing the Table:** While the father is in *Shul* davening *Ma'ariv*, those at home should set the table with all the necessary items and utensils needed for the *Seder*. The *Ke'ara* should not be set up; the father will put it together as soon as he returns from *Shul*.

Ma'ariv:

- 1. Tefillah for Friday night starts from "מזמור לדוד".
- 2. At the end of "Lecha Dodi" we say "Gam Besimcha Uvetzoholo".
- 3. The Amidah is that of Sholosh Regolim.
- 4. After the Amida we say Vayechulu and the entire Hallel is recited ("Brocho meain sheva" is not recited.). [Kadish Tiskabel.]

5. Mizmor Ledovid, Aleinu leshabeach.

* The Father should see to it that he comes home from *Shul* **immediately** after *Maariv* so the *seder* can start in a timely manner before the children get tired.

The First Seder:

**Minhag Beis HaRav* – the custom in the *Rebbe's* house: Throughout the generations, the custom was to begin the first *Seder* immediately after *Ma'ariv*, and to eat the *Afikoman* before *Chatzos* (*Check local calendar*). *Before beginning the *Seder* one should give the children nuts so they see a "change". This will cause them to ask "*Ma Nishtano*...why is this night different?"

If one forgot to prepare the:

Zeroa: You may place instead a piece of boiled meat (or any boiled item).

Beitza: You may place instead a boiled item.

Chrein: Cut some pieces but do not grate.

Charoses: Cut the fruits into pieces and then you add a little wine with a *Shinui* (a change - i.e. first put wine and then add the pieces etc.)

Salt water: it is prepared with a *Shinui* (i.e. first put in the salt then the water) and make a minimal amount with just a little salt.

- * [The details concerning the Seder are in a different document].
- * It is best to eat the Afikoman before Chatzos, (Check local calendar).
- * By Mayim Achronim, until the end of Shvi'i Shel Pesach we do not pass our fingers over our lips.
- * By "Shfoch Chamoscho" we go to the door without the candles.

* Krias Shema: The first night of Pesach, In Krias Shema before going to sleep, we recite only the first paragraph of Shema (until ובשעריך) and the Bracha of המפיל.

Shabbos, 15 Nissan, the first day of Yom Tov

* Sof Zman (latest time for) Krias Sh'ma: (Check local calendar).

* **Birchas Kohanim**: Prepare the children to attend *Shul* to hear *Birchas Kohanim* which is done at the end of *Musaf*.

* Hallel: After the Amida for Shalosh Regolim the entire Hallel is recited.

* מוריד הטל:

- In Musaf, after the Gabbai's announcement, we begin to say "מוריד הטל".
- If one forgot and said משיב הרוח ומוריד הגשם: If one remembered before saying "ברוך אתה ה' מחי המתים", return to אתה גבור". [If he only said ברוך אתה ה' מחי he can say למדני חוקיך and go back to למדני לאתה גבור". [If he only said after saying the Bracha, return to the beginning of the Amida.
- One who is *davening* at home should estimate what time *Musaf* is said in *Shul*, and should then daven *Musaf* and say מוריד הטל.

* After Musaf we recite "Velokachto Soles" and "Shesh Zchiros".

* Kiddush: Kiddush at the start of the meal is that of Shabbos and Shalosh Regalim. "Mizmor ledovid" until "Vayekadshehu" are said quietly and then recite out loud: "אלה מועדי".

- * Birchas Hamazon:
 - (Retzei and) Yaale Veyovo: We add (רצה חיבא and) יעלה ויבא in Birchas Hamazon. If one forgot and remembered after beginning the following Bracha (even if he only said "ברוך") must begin Bentching again. However, if he remembered before beginning the next Bracha, he should say the text printed in the Siddur: "ברוך... אשר נתן..."
 - הרחמן: At the end of Birchas Hamazon we add Horachamon of Shabbos and הרחמן: "הרחמן הוא ינהילנו ליום שכולו".

* **During the first day of** *Yomtov* (*Shabbos*): One is not allowed to prepare on *Shabbos* for the next day. Therefore, one may not prepare anything for the *Seder* of tonight until after Tzeis Hakochovoim (*(Check local calendar)*.

* In Mincha we do not say "Tzidkoscho".

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Motzoei Shabbos, The second night of Yom Tov—First night of Sefiras Ha'Omer

* All preparations for the Seder and the Seuda may begin after Tzeis Hakochovim (nightfall): (Check local calendar)

* In order to start doing any preparations for the *Seder*, the women must first say (after *Tzeis Hakochovim*) *"Boruch Hamavdil bein Koidesh Lekoidesh"*, and only then may they commence the preparations for the *Seder* (even before *Maariv*).

Ma'ariv:

- **1.** Tefillah for Shalosh Regolim, beginning from "שיר המעלות".
- 2. In the Amida of Sholosh Regolim we add "Vatodieinu". If one forgot, then after the Amidah he says "Boruch Hamavdil bein Koidesh Lekoidesh".
- **3.** After the *Amidah* the entire *Hallel* is recited.
- 4. Sefiras Ha'Omer: Tonight we start counting Sefiras Ha'omer (יום אחד לעומר).

The second *Seder*:

- Candle Lighting:
 - a. Candles should be lit after nightfall (*Check local calendar*) or close to the start of the *Seder* from an existing flame.
 - b. Two Brachos are recited: "להדליק נר של יו"ט" and "שהחיינו".
 - **c.** If it is necessary to bring a candle from a neighbor, cover it before walking outside so the wind should not extinguish the flame.

Before the second *Seder* begins:

- Sefiras Ha'omer: Remind everyone to count Sefiras Ha'Omer.
- Ensure that all the women have lit candles. If there are not enough candles, do not rely on lighting after the Seder, rather borrow candles from a neighbor so that all the women can light candles before beginning the Seder.
- <u>Minhag Bais Harav</u>, throughout the generations, was to spend more time on the second night at the *Seder*. The *Rebbeim* would elaborate on the explanations of the *Haggada*, *Divrei Torah* and *His'orerus* and were not particular to eat the *Afikoman* before *Chatzos*.

If one forgot to prepare:

Zeroa: If one forgot to roast it on *Erev Yom Tov*, they may roast only what is needed for the *Seder*, and be sure to eat it the next day, as roasted meat may not be eaten at night and we may not prepare from *Yom Tov* for after *Yom Tov*.

Beitza: If one forgot to prepare the boiled eggs, they may be cooked at night. However, since one is not allowed to prepare on *Yom Tov* for after *Yom Tov*, cook only what is needed for the *Seder*, and be sure to eat them at the beginning of the meal or the next day.

After the second Seder

- Until 5730 the *Rebbe* would come to the *Shul* downstairs, after the second *Seder* (about 1:30 am) and say several *Sichos* on the *Hagadda* and sometimes also a *Maamor*. May we merit to hear more *Maamorim* and *Sichos* this year!
- Krias Shma: Before going to sleep, Krias Shma is said like any other Yom Tov.

Sunday, 16 Nissan – Second day of Yom Tov

* Sof Zman Krias Shma: (Check local calendar).

* Davening:

- Birchas Kohanim: Prepare the children to attend Birchas Kohanim which is done at the end of Musaf.
- Hallel: After the Amida of Shacharis for Shalosh Regolim the entire Hallel is recited.

* Meal:

- Kiddush: Kiddush is that for Shalosh Regolim and we begin from "אתקינו וכו' אלה מועדי וגו".
- **Esther's Feast:** It is customary to mention/do something during the meal of the day to remember Esther's feast which was on this day.
- * Birchas Hamazon:

 - שכולו טוב" We add הרחמן: אינחילנו ליום שכולו טוב".

* מסכת סוטה: We start learning מסכת סוטה – one page per day. Today we learn the שער בלאט as is explained at length in the *sicha* of

ערב חג השבועות תשמ"ה.

Motzoei Yom-Tov – Beginning of Chol Hamoed

In Ma'ariv (Check local calendar) we add four things:

- <u>מוריד הטל</u>: If one said משיב הרוח and remembered before he said מוריד המתים: "he goes back משיב הרוח" he goes back to אתה גבור. If, however, he remembered after that he starts the Amidah again. (This applies for the next thirty days).
- 2. **אתה הוננתנו**: If one forgot to say it and remembers after he said "ה" of חונן הדעת he doesn't go back and just says ברוך המבדיל בין קודש לחול after he finishes davening.
- 3. <u>ותן ברכה We say ותן ברכה for the first time.</u>

If one mistakenly said ותן טל ומטר לברכה - then:

- a. If he remembered before he finished the Bracha, he starts the Bracha again from ברך עלינו.
- b. If he reminded himself before he finished the Amidah he goes back to ברך עלינו.
- c. However, if he finished the *Amidah* he has to repeat it from the beginning.

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- 4. <u>יעלה ויבא</u> : We add Ya'ale Veyovo in the Shmone Esrei.
 - If one mistakenly forgot to say it, then:
 - a. If he remembers before he says "ה" of המחזיר שכינתו לציון" he says המחזיר שלה ויבא there and then continues.
 - b. If he already said 'ה and remembers before he begins מודים he says it there.
 - c. If he remembers before he says the second יהיו לרצון, he goes back to רצה.
 - d. If he remembers after the second יהיו לרצון he must repeat the Amidah again from the beginning.

* Sefiras Haomer: Tonight we count two days to the Omer.

* Havdala:

- We say the regular Havdala but we do not use the *Besomim* nor the candle.
- We don't say ויתן לך.

Monday, First day of Chol Hamoed - 17 Nissan

In Shacharis:

- 1. We don't say מזמור לתודה.
- 2. We add in the *Amidah*:
 - 1. מוריד המתים If one said משיב הרוח and remembered **before** he said ברוך אתה ה' מחי' המתים he starts again from אתה he remembered after that he begins the *Amida* from the beginning. (This applies for 30 days).
 - 2. ותן של ומטר לברכה: If one mistakenly said ומטר לברכה- then:
 - a. If he remembered before he finished the Bracha, he starts again from ברך עלינו.
 - b. If he reminded himself before he finished the Amidah he goes back to ברך עלינו.
 - c. However, if he finished the *Amidah* he has to repeat it from the beginning.

3. יעלה ויבא: We add Yaale Vayovo in Shmone Esrei.

If one mistakenly forgot to say Yaale Veyovo, then:

- a. If he remembers before he says "המחזיר שכינתו לציון" he says המחזיר שכינתו לציון there and then continues.
- b. If he already said 'ה and remembers before he begins מודים he says it there.
- c. If he remembers before he says the second יהיו לרצון, he goes back to רצה.
- d. If he remembers after the second יהיו לרצון he must repeat the Amidah again from the beginning.
- 3. Half הלל [Krias Hatorah].

4. *Mussaf* for שלש רגלים.

During the day:

*Cup of wine: Every day of חול המועד it is customary to drink one cup of wine with one of the meals.

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*Sota: We learn מסכתא סוטה דף ב'.

*In Maariv: Sefiras Haomer - Day number Three.

Tuesday, Second day of Chol Hamoed – 18 Nissan, ה"י ניסן Birthday of R' Levi Yitzchok Schneerson – the Rebbe's father, and the day of the Rebbe's Bris.

Shacharis: Like yesterday

*Cup of wine: Every day of חול המועד, it is customary to drink a cup of wine with one of the meals.

*Bentching: יעלה ויבא is added. If one forgot – see above on first day of Chol Hamoed.

*During the day: Learn מסכתא סוטה דף ג'.

*In *Maariv*: *Sefiras Haomer* - Day number Four.

Wednesday, Third day of Chol Hamoed

Shacharis: Like yesterday.

*Cup of wine: Every day of חול המועד, it is customary to drink a cup of wine with one of the meals.

- * Bentching: עלה ויבא is added. If one forgot see above on first day of Chol Hamoed.
- * During the day: Learn מסכתא סוטה דף ד'.
- * In Maariv: Sefiras Haomer Day Number five.

Thursday, Fourth day of Chol Hamoed, Erev Yom Tov

Shacharis: Like yesterday.

- * Cup of wine: Every day of המועד, it is customary to drink a cup of wine with one of the meals.
- * Bentching: יעלה ויבא is added. If one forgot see above on first day of Chol Hamoed.

* During the day: Learn מסכתא סוטה דף ה.

Eiruv Tavshilin!

DON'T FORGET TO MAKE AN EIRUV TAVSHILIN ON EREV YOM TOV!!

The Eiruv Tavshilin allows one to cook on Yomtov (Friday) for Shabbos. As follows:

Take a whole *Matza* and a *kezayis* of a cooked item, like fish or meat. Hand this to someone (older than *Bar Mitzva*) who is NOT a member of the household, and do the procedure and say the *Nusach* that is written in the *Siddur*.

Put the *Eiruv* aside until *Shabbos (Acharon Shel Pesach)* when it should be eaten (see below).

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Reminder: The *Eiruv Tavshilin* is not only for cooking from *Yom Tov* to *Shabbos*, but also for lighting candles on Friday evening. Therefore, those who will not be eating at home on *Shabbos*, should light where they will be eating or should at least put up some water to cook for *Shabbos* to enable them to make an *Eruv Tavshilin*. If they are not putting up anything to cook but they would like to light candles at home (from a pre-existing flame), they should consult the Rov.

Contact the Rov in case of any question.

* Mincha: Korbonois, Ashrei, Amidah (Morid Hatol, V'sain Brocho, Yaale Veyovoi), Aleinu.

Before Yom Tov starts:

- 1. Long lasting candle: If one does not have a gas fire lit for the duration of Yom Tov, he should light a long lasting candle (like yorzeit licht) that will last for a minimum of 26 hours, in order to be able to light the candles the second night of Yom Tov (Friday night). Those who plan to have a gas fire lit and have hired help should light a *Licht* as a precaution because sometimes the gas flame is inadvertently turned off.
- 2. **Candles:** Those that use glass holders for their candles (that must be cleaned before each use) should make sure to have enough clean holders to last for both nights of *Yom Tov*.
- 3. **Shabbos Clocks:** Ascertain that the *Shabbos clocks* are set for both days and evenings of *Yom Tov* and *Shabbos.*

Candle Lighting:

- Tzedaka: Give Tzedaka for two days of Yom Tov.
- Candles should be lit 18 minutes before sunset (*Check local calendar*), just like every *Erev Shabbos*. However, if one missed the correct time they may light later from a pre-existing flame (preferably right before the meal).
- Those who are going to eat elsewhere (not at home) should not forget to light candles.
- Say the Bracha להדליק נר של יום טוב and we <u>do not</u> say .

The Simcha of Shvii and Acharon Shel Pesach is greater than the Simcha of the other days of Pesach (Sefer Haminhogim)

* Maariv: Begins from שיר המעלות; the Amida is of שלש רגלים, and then count Sefira.

* Sefira - Day number Six.

The Meal:

* Before one starts the meal – he should ensure that all the women, especially the guests, have lit candles.

* Kiddush: of Sholosh Regolim, begin from סברי מרנן and do not say שהחיינו.

* ספר השיחות ת"ש: At an opportune time, it is proper to read the story of the *Rebbetzin* in her youth from ספר השיחות ת"ש, pages 71-72 סעיפים ב,ג,ד Additionally, there is a fascinating explanation of the *Rebbe* about this in לקו"ש חלק ל"ז page 14 and onward.

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Bentching

- יעלה ויבא: is added in *Bentching*. If one forgot to say it and remembered after he already began the next *bracha* (even if he only said ברוך) he must begin *Bentching* again, but if he remembered before he said ברוך האשר נתן... "he should say what it says in the *Siddur*"
- הרחמן הוא ינחילנו ליום שכולו טוב We add .

Shvi'i Shel Pesach at Night:

It is a Lubavitch custom to stay awake all night and learn. Alos Hashachar (Check local calendar)

Friday, Erev Shabbos, Shvi'i Shel Pesach, 21 Nissan

- * Latest Krias Shma: (Check local calendar)
- * Birchas Kohanim: Prepare children for Birchas Kohanim at the end of Mussaf.
- * Hallel: After the Amida, half Hallel is recited.
- * Shiras Hayam: During Krias Hatorah when שירת הים is read it is customary to stand.

The Seudah (meal)

Kiddush: Kiddush is that of Shalosh Regalim and we begin from אתקינו....אלה מועדי.

Bentching:

* יעלה ויבא: is added in *bentching*. If one forgot to say it and remembered after he already began the next *bracha* (even if he only said ברוך) he must begin *bentching* again. But if he remembered before he said ברוך he should say what it says in the *siddur* " ברוך...אשר נתן...

* הרחמן הוא ינחילנו ליום שכולו טוב We add.

During the day:

- * Learn 'מסכתא סוטה דף ו
- * תהלוכה: Lubavitch custom is to go on *Tahalucha* on *Shvi'i shel Pesach*.

Preparations for Shabbos:

- * Anyone who made an *Eruv Tavshilin* should prepare any cooking that needs to be done for *Shabbos* early on in the day so that there is enough time before *Shabbos* for the food to be fully cooked and ready to eat (including the *cholent*.)
- * *Kneidlach* for *Acharon Shel Pesach:* There are several *Minhogim* regarding this (whether to prepare them today or not). Each person should follow their family *Minhog*. If you don't have a specific Minhag, the author's opinion is that Kneidlach may be made with the following three conditions:
 - 1. That they are prepared on Friday afternoon and not tasted until Shabbos.

2. That the utensils used for the preparations will be put away and not be used for **anything else** this Pesach.

3. This applies only to someone who made an Eiruv Tavshilin!

Mincha

• ידיד נפש and פתח אליהו is not recited but ידיד נפש.

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• Those who are celebrating *Seudas Moshiach* in a public place (*Shul, Bais Chabad* etc.) should remember to bring the *Matzos* and the wine **before** *Shabbos*.

Before Shabbos

* **Candle Lighting:** Candle lighting is 18 minutes before sunset (*Check local calendar*). If someone missed the time, they may **not** light later.

* Those who are not eating at home should not forget to light candles at home before, at the proper time, or should go to their hosts and light there 18 minutes before *Shkiah*.

- * You may light only from a pre-existing flame.
- * Say the Bracha להדליק גר של שבת ושל יום טוב and we do <u>not</u> say Shehecheyonu.

Maariv

- We begin from מזמור לדוד.
- In גם בשמחה ובצהלה we say לכה דודי .
- Amida is that of Yom Tov (with the additions of Shabbos)
- Sefiras Haomer Day Number Seven, one week.

Kiddush and the Meal:

- It is a Minhag to use the Matza of the Eiruv Tavshilin as להם משנה but not to eat it (until tomorrow).
- Say quietly: דא היא סעודתא מזמור ללום עליכם, אשת חיל, מזמור לדוד.
- *Kiddush*: of *Sholosh Regolim*. Begin from יום השישי and do not say שהחיינו.
- *Gebrokts:* We stress the concept of eating שרוי' געבראקטס with every part of the meal.
- מים אחרונים: We once again put water over the lips.

Bentching:

- Retzei and Yaale Veyovo are added in Bentching. If one forgot to say Yaale Veyovo and remembered after he already began the next Bracha (even if he only said ברוך) he must begin Bentching again. But if he remembered before he said ברוך he should say what it says in the Siddur "ברוך...אשר נתן..."
- הרחמן הוא ינחילנו ליום שכולו טוב We add the Horachamon for Shabbos and הרחמן.

Shabbos, Acharon Shel Pesach, 22 Nissan

- * Latest Krias Shma: (Check local calendar)
- * Birchas Kohanim: Prepare children to attend Birchas Kohanim which is done at the end of Mussaf.
- * Hallel: After the Amida, half Hallel is recited.

* **Yizkor:** Before *Musaf* we add **Yizkor**. Those who have to say *Yizkor* and cannot attend *Shul* may say it at home.

- * *Mussaf* for שלש רגלים.
- * ולקחת סולת: After Musaf we say Velokachto Soles etc.

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Kiddush and the Meal:

- It is a Minhag to use the Matza of the Eiruv Tavshilin as להם משנה. Some eat it at Seuda Shlishis, however this year it may be an issue if Seudas Moshiach is in another location (and the Eiruv was not brought there yesterday), so it is eaten now.
- *Kiddush*: Everything before *Kiddush* is said like a regular *Shabbos* until ויקדשהו, but **quietly**. Then we say אלה מועדי out loud.
- * **Gebrokts:** We stress the concept of eating שרוי' געבראקטס with every part of the meal.
- * מים אחרונים: We once again put water over the lips.

* Bentching

- Retzei and Yaale Veyovo are added in Bentching. If one forgot to say Yaale Veyovo and remembered after he already began the next Bracha (even if he only said ברוך) he must begin Bentching again. But if he remembered before he said ברוך...אשר נתן.. " ברוך...אשר נתן... "
- הרחמן הוא ינחילנו ליום שכולו טוב We add the Horachamon of Shabbos and הרחמן.

*During the day: learn מסכתא סוטה דף ז'.

Mincha

* We daven Mincha (no Tzidkoscho) and then prepare for Seudas Moshiach.

Seudas Moshiach

- We wash our hands like for any other meal (before Shkiah, and eat at least a כזית before Shkiah. In NY: 7:47 pm).
- 2. Some have the custom to eat the *Matza* of the *Eiruv Tavshilin* (if it wasn't yet eaten or if the *Seuda* is in their home or where there is an *Eiruv*).
- Drink 4 cups of wine "with the intention that this is for *Geulah*. If one is unsure if he had this in mind, he should surely drink again, being that through drinking this he hastens *Moshiach's* arrival, and therefore it must be done properly". [Quote from the Rebbe's *Maamor* on *Acharon shel Pesach* 5749 Printed at the end of this booklet].
- 4. It is customary to sing *Niggunim* from all the *Rabbeim* and then האפ קאזאק.
- 5. **Moshiach's Dance:** There are two explanations for this: The first is, that it is a dance welcoming *Moshiach*, and the second is, a dance in which *Moshiach* partakes, We explain it the way it is worth it for us the second! (From a *Sicha* of the *Rebbe*).

6. Bentching

- Retzei and Yaale Veyovo are added in Bentching. If one forgot to say Yaale Veyovo and remembered after he already began the next Bracha (even if he only said ברוך) he must begin Bentching again. But if he remembered before he said ברוך he should say what it says in the Siddur "...אשר נתן...
- הרחמן הוא ינחילנו ליום שכולו טוב We add the Horachamon of Shabbos and הרחמן.

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The end of Yom Tov

* *Maariv* (or saying ברוך המבדיל בין קודש לחול): after(*Check local calendar*)

* אתה הוננתנו is said. If one forgot to say it and remembers after he said "ה" of הונן הדעת he doesn't go back. Rather, after he finishes the *Amida* he says ברוך המבדיל בין קודש לחול.

* ואתה קדוש and ואתה קדוש are recited.

* Sefiras Haomer – Day Number Eight- One week and one day.

* The custom is to wait some time after Maariv (or after לחול המבדיל בין קודש לחול) before opening the *Chometz* places etc. (until after the *Rov* and the *Orev Kablon* arrange the purchase etc.) Some have the custom to wait about an hour after the end of *Yom Tov*.

* Havdala: Regular Havdala, with ויתן לך and אש is recited.

On מוצאי יום טוב it is customary to wish:

א געזונטן זומער און א פרייליכען תמיד!

בניסן נגאלו ובניסן עתידים להגאל

Rabbi Levi Y. Garelik Sichosacademy.org

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The Rebbe's addition to the Maamor where it discusses the concept of the drinking of the four cups of wine at Seudas Moshiach (see above on page 30)

ועבורות ארבותינו נשיאינו, אדמויר הזקן בשי ישי וכיק מרא אדמויר, הרי בודאי ובודאי שבכחם של מעשינו ועבודתינו, לפורש אכילת סעודת משיח ושחיית די כוסווה ארא להביא את הגאולה מיד, כהרף עין ממש, קובודאי שכל אחד ישלים די הכוסות, וגם אלה שספק אצלם אם שתו כל ד׳ הכוסות בכוונה זו (שזה שייך לגאולה העתידה) בודאי ישלימו, דשתיית ד׳ הכוסות צריכה להיות באופן ודאי וברור, וכאמור, שעי״ו בנאבה הגאולה העתידה ה) ויהי רצון שכל זה יהי׳ בגילוי ממש באופן שכל אחד מראה באצבעו ואומר זהי -סיראר סיר ברוגמת סעודת משיח שאפשר להכצות באצבע המצה והיין, ובפנימיות - ברוגמת המצה והכוסות דסעודת משיח שנעשים דם ובשר כבשרו, ומתוך שמחה וטוב לבב, ותיכף ומיד ממש, דלא עיכבן אפילו כהרף עין. XIAN ער 2 עלו לאר זהר זהר. ישנה יא יב. אילטן) ר מהירוע דעים מתומה מורה על הגאולה העהירה, כמרומו בפסוק (ישעי ט, ו) ילסרבה ולהעיר הסשרה ולשלום אין קיץ" (ואה ספר הערכים אביד מערכת אוחיות אות מים (ב) סיו. רשיב), שאחד הכיאורים בזה הוא - שהעולם מצד בריאתו היא פסוכב רק פשליש רוזות, כמארויל (כיכ כה, סעיא) יעולם לאכטררה הוא דומה ורוח צפונית אינה מסובבת" (היינו, שמצד רוח צפונית ש"מצפון הפתח בר" (ידמי א, יד) יש מקום לענינים בלתי רצריים), ולע"ל יהי העולם מסובב מכל ד רוחותיו, גם מרוח הצפונית. ויש לומר, שגם ענין זה מרומו בד׳ הכוטות ששותים עכשיו (באחש״פ) - כי זה שלע"ל יהי העולם מסובב מכל וי רוחותיו, נעשה זה ע"י מעשינו ועבודתינו עכשיו. (17 נוסף על גאולה הפרטית (של האדם העובר). אם שמריר ספריג - בנונע להגילוי דקיים שהיי בהנאולה דיוציים. רעאכויכ בנונע ההגילוי דגאולה העתירה, שאו יאמרו שני פעמים זה (תענית בסופה). צו)דוראירת האוא הוסיף כין דער עון ציא

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