

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

"Reminders" for Pesach 5780 - Part 1

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](#)

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The following are only "reminders". On Sichosacademy.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*). This year, some may have difficulty getting to the *Rov*, so they should try to learn מסכתא תמיד online. Its only 8 *blat*.
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. with whom 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 whomever you wish.**
7. **Ma'os Chittim:** Give money to help others with *Pesach* needs. Mothers, especially, should give, in order 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. THIS YEAR, due to the current situation, I have set up that you can do it on my website Sichosacademy.org. There are two options: 1. To print the form, fill it out, and send it back to me. THIS is the preferable option. If you do not have a printer, you will find a second option to fill it out on a google doc. Those who want to arrange for a physical *Kinyan* should contact me privately.
Whichever way, I suggest that you do it with the children. PLEASE TAKE CARE OF IT BEFORE MONDAY 12 NISSAN. Thank you. Those that own chometz in other places where it is a different time zone, please note it on the form. In any case, discuss it with the *Rov*.
11. **[Not home for Pesach:** Those who are going away for *Pesach*, and will 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:** On Sichosacademy.org I have uploaded a document that explains the *Koshering* procedures. If you need assistance, feel free to contact me. If help is needed *Koshering* the kitchen, you may contact: In Crown Heights: R' Shaltiel Lebovic (1-888-gokosher).
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** as many times it can take a few days of research. The same applies to gluten free diets.
15. **Bais 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 118th 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*, 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* (*for the Sedorim it is preferable to have red wine*), all eight days of *Pesach*, the four cups for *Acharon Shel Pesach*, as well as for guests, etc. Suggestion: if you have a אינו-יהודי/יה 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** – per the Rebbe's instruction, (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 who use glass holders that need to be cleaned after each use should ensure that they have enough for two days of Yom Tov and Shabbos, 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, as sometimes they turn off the flame.
9. **Clothes and Jewelry:** A man 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*.
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*.

Friday - *Bais Nissan* , ב' ניסן, *The Rebbe Rashab's Yohrzeit*.

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

Shabbos Hagadol, 10 Nissan

* After *Mincha* we read the *Haggadah* from "עבדים היינו" until "לכפר על כל עוונותינו" (at the end of the paragraph "על אחת כמה וכמה"). 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 Hagadol* and why we say the *Haggadah*.
<http://theonlinerabbi.com/sichosonline/parshas-bo/>

Motzoei Shabbos Hagadol

*In *Maariv* we do not say "וידינו נועם" and "ואתה קדוש".

* **Kidush Levana:** If there is a visible moon, *Kidush Levana* should be recited tonight (if it wasn't yet done).

* **Havdolo:** Don't forget to put away the *B'somim* in the *Chometz* after *Havdolo* (as our custom is not to use *B'somim* on *Pesach*).

Sunday, *Yud Alef Nissan* , י"א ניסן – יום הבהיר , The *Rebbe's* 118th birthday.

*After *Davening* we begin to say the *Rebbe's* new *Kapitel*, 119, 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.

Monday 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.)

Tuesday, 13 Nissan, 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 הנוכת המזבח" until המנורה את עשה את המנורה" and we do not say the *Yehi Rotzon*.

Tuesday 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** in which to place the *Chometz* which is found during the *Bedika*.
 - b. A **candle.**
 - c. A **wooden spoon.**
 - d. A **feather.**
 - e. A **paper** to wrap around all of the above.
 - f. **String** 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 ידיים 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. **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*.
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.
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.**

Wednesday, 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*, in brief:

* *Mikva*.

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

* *Siyum for the Bechorim* (first-born).

* **End of the time for eating *Chometz*: In NY: before 10:42 am.**

* **End of the time for burning *Chometz*: In NY: before 11:43 am**

TO BE CONTINUED