

בס"ד. אדר ה'תשפ"ג – שנת הקהל

To the families of *Kehilas Anas"h* שי' at the EU in Brussels
and of Virtualcommunity@sichos.online

"Reminders" for Pesach 5783 – Shnas Hakhel

Part 1 - From Rosh Chodesh Nissan until Bedikas Chometz (Tuesday 13 Nissan)

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- * 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 truly be celebrated joyfully.
 - * All the sources are in the Hebrew section of the Reminders.
 - * **Important note:** It has been stressed many times that these are **"Reminders"** to be able to see things "at a glance" and they are **not** a compilation of *Halocho*.
 - * Since there several *Halochois* that require elaboration, the format of the "Reminders" has been kept, and the additional details are included at the end of this document, in the "Laws and customs" by Rabbi Lesches, with his permission (they are all also available on the website below). They include the *Halochois* of: *Pesach* and *Hakhel*; Thirty days before *Pesach*; (what is not eaten; how to handle *Chometz*; *Maos Chitim*; *Mivtza Matzoh*; *Mechiras Chometz* etc.) - Month of *Nissan* – *Shabbos Hagadol* – Cleaning away the *Chometz* – *Koshering* utensils and countertops etc. - *Mechiras Chometz* - *Kitniyos* – Prevalent *Chumros*; Times of *Bedikas chometz*; *Seder* preparations; *Erev Pesach* morning; *Biur Chometz*; *Chometz* after this time; finding *Chometz* after this time; *Erev Pesach* in the afternoon; *Matzah*; Forgot to prepare *Seder* items; *Halel*; The actual *Seder*; *Yaale Veyavo*; First day of *Pesach*; second day of *Pesach*; *Chol Hamoed*; last days of *Pesach*.
 - * Additionally, on our website, sichosacademy.org there is a wealth of information regarding *Pesach*. I urge you to visit it before you look for the *Rov* to ask a *Shailah*.
- Please post this on the refrigerator or another central location.

My phone numbers:

Home: 718 493 6170. Cell: 347 4151122

Website: Sichos.online

[May we celebrate this Pesach in the Bais Hamikdosh Hashlishi!](#)

[Rabbi Levi Y. Garelik](#)

Mechiras Chometz: Starting from Sunday 4 Nissan at 1466 Union St. (bet. Kingston and Albany avenues – basement entrance). Generally I am in the office from 3:00 pm until 9:00 pm. I suggest that you text me at the above cell number before you come (and specially if you want to come at other times). If you can't make it in person you may do the *Mechira* on the above website by filling out a form. However, the preferred method is by making a *Kinyan* with the *Rov*. I also suggest that you come with your children.

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The Alter Rebbe states in his *Shulchon Oruch*, in the beginning of *Hilchois Pesach*, that 30 days prior to *Pesach* we start reviewing the *Halochois* concerning *Pesach*.

The following are only “Reminders” part 1 - on *Sichos.online* you can find many more details. This page will also be updated on the website with 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 recited.
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, if the *Bechor* is under *Bar Mitzvah*] should not forget to finish his *Masechta* to be completed by *Erev Pesach*. [As there are still 3 weeks left there is still time to complete a small *Masechta*]. If he wasn't able to finish his own *Masechta* he can listen to a *Siyum* from the *Rov*. See all the details below in the Reminders for *Erev Pesach*.
5. **Matzo:** *Matzo* is not eaten until the *Seder*. [See below in “laws and customs” regarding giving children *machine-Kosher-L'pesach-Matzo* (which is not served on *Pesach*) or *Matzo* crackers 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. **For your convenience, Tza"ch has made a service available – contact them at 718-953-1000 - and they will assist.**
7. **Ma'os Chittim:** Give money to help others with *Pesach* needs. And also educate the children to give.
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:**
 - a. 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 for whatever reason cannot go personally to the *Rov* may do it online. A form can be found on *sichos.online*].
 - b. Those who are traveling eastward for *Pesach* [e.g., to *Europe*, *Eretz Yisroel*, or further east], or have *Chometz* in those parts of the world, should sell the *Chometz* at their destination or discuss this with your *Rov* who will assist you. Those living in *Europe* who are traveling to the *USA* should sell it in *Europe*. If they are already here, they should contact the *Rov*.
 - c. In any case, discuss it with the *Rov*.
 - d. The times when I will be available for *Mechiras Chometz* are above on page 1.
11. **Not home for Pesach:** To those who are going away for *Pesach* and are planning to sell their entire home through the *Rov* (and no one will enter their home during *Pesach*): It is advisable to discuss the details of the sale and regarding *Bedikas Chometz* with the *Rov* (where and when it should be performed).
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:** see “*koshering instructions*” at the end of this document or consult our website *sichos.online*. If help is needed for *Koshering* the kitchen, you can 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** as 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. **Haircuts:** Remind the men and boys to get haircuts before *Yom Tov* and not wait until *Erev Yom Tov*. It must be done before *Chatzos* of *Erev Yom Tov*. If one forgot, it may be done after *Chatzos* through a *Goy*. Therefore, don't wait until the last minute as from *Pesach* until *Erev Shavuot* it is our custom not to cut one's hair.
17. **Bedikas Chometz in the office:** If the office will be used on *Pesach*, and it will be difficult to go there on Tuesday night prior to *Pesach*, ask the *Rov* for the procedures of an “early” *Bedikas Chometz*.
18. **The Rebbe's letter on Hakhel/Pesach:** Learn the Rebbe's letter from תשכ"ז printed in the *Haggadah* etc. where the Rebbe explains beautifully the connection between *Pesach* and *HAKHEL*.

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 type and color of wine – see laws and customs below), for the *Sedorim*, all eight days of *Pesach*, the four cups for *Acharon Shel Pesach*, as well as for guests, etc. Suggestion: if you have an אינו-יהודי working in the house, or are making a public *Seder* etc. buy only מבושל – *Mevushal* wine (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 instructions (if they don't have yet, or they haven't received one from school, etc.)
5. **Siddurim and Bentschers:** We customarily do not to use the same *Siddurim* and *Bentschers* on *Pesach* that have been around the house during the rest of the year, so it is suggested to purchase new ones (unless you already have special ones for *Pesach*).
6. **Scale:** There are those who use a (non-*Muktze*) 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 *Yahrzeit 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 flame is inadvertently turned off.
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*.
11. **Vacuum cleaner bag:** To be replaced on *Erev Pesach*.

Also ensure 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** etc.

Shabbos Hagadol, 10 Nissan, Shabbos Parshas Tzav

- a. The Rov says a *Shabbos Hagadol Drosha*.
- b. 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/>
- c. In *Maariv* we do not recite "ויהי נועם" and "ואתה קדוש".
- d. ***Kidush Levana***: If there is a visible moon, then *Kidush Levana* should be recited tonight (if it wasn't recited yet).

****Havdolo***: Right 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*).

* ***Yud Alef Nissan - Sunday***: Make all the relevant preparations for the ***Rebbe's birthday***. Check your emails for programs.

**SUNDAY - YUD ALEF NISSAN GATHERINGS
MEN WOMEN AND CHILDREN
STAY TUNED**

To be continued in In part 2 -
From the 12th of *Nissan* until the first day of *Chol Hamoed*

Bez"h this *Pesach* we will celebrate in *Yerusholayim* in the *Bais Hamikdosh Hashlishi*!

[Rabbi Levi Y. Garelik](#)
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