

Rosh Yeshiva & Community Rabbi:
Dayan Abraham David Shli"ta

Please Note: This Newsletter has Holy writings and should be disposed of in Geniza only.

PURIM 5782

(Thursday 17th March 2022)

On the 14th of Adar, Thursday the 17th March, we celebrate Purim. Thank G-d the pandemic restrictions are now lifted and our celebrations can go back to normal but if one feels they need to protect oneself do wear a mask.

We celebrate Purim, derived from the word 'Pur' which means lots. It recalls the lots Haman cast to find the most favourable day to destroy the Jews and how G-d reversed this tragedy and turned this day into one of salvation. Nothing happens to us by chance; even the 'lots' are dictated by G-d.

Our Rabbis tell us that Haman's decree came as a punishment for our taking part in the feast King Achashverosh made for his subjects in Shushan. Mordechai warned his people not to attend the festivities of the 'goyim' - we are a people apart from the nations. We are an example to the world as one nation with a message of belief in G-d, who has revealed His will to us in the Torah. We must not assimilate or dilute the Torah we were given at Sinai. Attending the festivities of the 'goyim' and fraternising socially with them only endangers our purpose and in fact makes them repel and despise us.

There were Jews who argued with Mordechai and called him 'old-fashioned' when he warned them not to attend. They argued that by not attending they would be hated and singled out by the King, the solution was to socialise etc., then everything would be alright.

We can imagine how surprised and confounded they were when Haman's decree became law with the king's approval, as it says in the Megillah, 'Ve Ha-er Shushan Navocha', they were really mixed up. Only then did they realise how they were mistaken and the 'old rabbi' knew what he was talking about. At Mordechai's suggestion, they repented, mourned and fasted; thus the decree was annulled.

According to our Rabbis, the Festivities they attended started on the 3rd of Tishri, so the 7th day was on Yom Kippur. This was the only day they stayed away and on this day the seeds of salvation were sown. Achashverosh became light-headed and commanded that Queen Vashti be brought before him dressed only with her crown. She refused and we know the result; she was dethroned and the door was opened for Esther to become queen and bring about the salvation.

As world events take place and great changes are made in the world, we see the Hand of G-d lead and protect the Jewish people through their trials and tribulations. We await the final redemption and the destruction of evil. AMEN

MI SHENICHNAS ADAR MARBIM BESIMCHA – 4th MARCH 2022

Some Laws Concerning the month of ADAR and PURIM according to our Custom.

ADAR

- 1) Adar is a time for happiness. If someone has a court case with a non-Jew, this is an appropriate month to have it.

PARSHAT ZACHOR

- 2) The Shabbat before Purim, (12th March 2022) is called Shabbat Zachor. All men are obliged by the Torah to hear the Parshah about Amalek found at the end of Parshat Ki Tetze (Devarim 25 17:19), as it says in the Torah, "*Remember what Amalek did to you*" "*Zachor et Asher asah lecha amalek*". ***Even though women are not obliged to hear this being read in the Synagogue, they will be rewarded if they do so and should make every effort to attend.***

TA'ANIT ESTHER

Ta'anit Esther this year will begin at 4:45am on Wednesday 16th March and terminates at 6:47pm. It is our custom not to eat before the hearing of the megillah in the evening unless he feels weak or faint.

MACHAZIT HASHEKEL

- 3) It is customary to donate charity before or on Ta'anit Esther as a remembrance of the Shekalim which were donated to pay for the offerings in the Temple. It can be given after this as well. The correct amount is about £6:20 to cover the value of a half Shekel of silver (about 10g of silver) for each person. This Machair Hashekel should be handed in at shul or can be donated via paypal at <https://odyosefhai.glideapp.io>.

MEGILLAT ESTHER

- 4) Both men and women are obliged to hear the reading of the Megillah at night and again during the day. It is a mistake to think that it is enough to hear the one reading only at night. Children must also be trained in the Mitzvah. But one should make sure that young children brought to the synagogue do not disrupt the services.
- 5) The person who reads the Megillah for women after he himself has already heard it, does not make a Beracha on their behalf and nor do the women themselves. But, if he or another man has not heard the reading of the Megillah, then the Beracha before and after the reading should be said even if there is no minyan according to the Ben ish Hai.

- 6) The Megilla is unrolled completely and folded like a letter before it is read. This only applies to the reader and not the congregation.
- 7) The one who reads the Megillah must have in mind to include all those who listen and the listeners should intend to fulfil their obligation. They must pay complete attention and must not miss out one word. If one of the congregation dozes off during the reading of the Megillah, he has to hear it again from where he missed. Every congregant should have a Megillah to follow even if it is only printed, so that if he missed hearing a word, or some words, he can read it from the printed book itself and catch up to where the Chazan is, thus he fulfils his obligation.
- 8) The congregants do not need to stand while the Megillah is read but it is customary to stand up while hearing the Beracha before and after the reading.
- 9) We only need to make the Beracha Sheheheyanu on the Megillah at night and we have in mind to include all the Mitzvoth of the following day, i.e. the 2nd reading of the Megillah, the Matanot Le Evyonim the Shelach Manot and the Seuda. But if for some reason the Beracha Sheheheyanu was not said at night, it can be said for the reading of the morning.
- 10) At the end of the reading of the Megillah, we all say Arur Haman, Baruch Mordechai, Arura Zeresh, Berucha Esther, Arurim Kol Hareshaim, Beruchim Kol Yisrael, Ve Gam Harbona Zachor Letov as it is written in the Siddur.

MISHLOACH MANOT

- 11) Both men and women are obliged in the Mitzvah of Shelach Manot, i.e. to send no less than two kinds of food which can be eaten without further preparation to one person (two kinds should be in separate containers or packed separately). Shelach Manot must be sent to an adult but Matanot La-eyyonim may be given to a katan (under bar mitzvah) if he is a poor person in need.
- 12) A mourner, within the year for his parent and within a month for other family, should not be sent Shelach Manot (gifts) for Purim but he is obliged to send Shelach Manot to one person and to give Matanot to the poor. But Shelach Manot can be sent to his wife and children.

MATANOT LA-EVYONIM

- 13) Matanot La-eyyonim must also be given by both men and women. The obligation is to give at least £1:50p each to two poor people this must be distributed on the same day. The Yeshiva will facilitate this and plates will be placed on the Teva for this purpose. Since there has been a great rise in the price of food one should consider giving more mor matanot la-eyyonim. **Donations can also be provided online via <https://odyosefhai.glideapp.io>. Such donations should be made before 9:45am on Purim day so that they can be distributed at the correct time.**
- 14) Donations can also be made before Purim by handing it in at synagogue or donated online but should be marked as Matanot La-eyyonim to be sure that they are distributed on Purim day in accordance with the mitzva.

SEUDAT PURIM

- 15) It is a Mitzvah to make a special Seuda on the day of Purim and to drink wine.
- 16) Al Hanissim is recited in the Prayers and in Berchat Hamazon on Purim but not on Shushan Purim, the following day. But on both days, we omit the Anah and Tachanunim.
- 17) One should dress with Shabbat clothing or other fine clothes on Purim.

PARASHAT ZACHOR will be read on Shabbat Vayikra on 12th March 2022. This is an obligation from the Torah to hear this Parasha.

BETH KENESSETH TIMINGS FOR PURIM 5782

Wednesday 16th March 2022

Ta'anit begins
Shacharit
Mincha (Birchat Cohanim)
Ta'anit ends
Purim Arbit followed by Megillah
Second Megillah reading
Third Reading to be announced if required

Fast of Esther

4:45 am
7:00 am
5:25 pm
6:47 pm
6.40 pm
9:15 pm

Thursday 17th March 2022

Shacharit followed by Megillah
Second Reading
Ladies reading at Dayan David's home
Mincha
Arvit

Purim

7:30am
10:00am
12.00pm
3:40pm
7:30 pm

Friday 18th March 2022

Shacharit
Mincha followed by Kabbalat Shabbat & Arvit

Shushan Purim

7:00am
5:40pm

Saturday 19th March 2022

Shacharit followed by Musaf
Followed by Musaf
Followed by a Hamotzi Kiddush & Shiur
Mincha

Shabbat

8:30am

12:45pm

**Matzot
Mitzva**

*Hand baked soft Sedarim Matzot Made according to our Tradition
KASHER LE-MEHADRIN - Under the supervision of
Dayan Abraham David of Od Yosef Hai
Baked in the ZADIK Bakery on the premises of the Yeshiva
Makes the eating of the required Shiur of Matzot on Seder night easier
To Order: Enter requirements on Yeshiva Notice Board
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