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ותלמד
"תקצי חיים"
לעשות רצונך
בלבב שלם



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Mitzvah Items after Sukkos, Davening for Rain | Noach 5785

241

The Sukkos Mitzvah Items after Sukkos

S'chach after Sukkos

- Putting s'chach in the garbage.** On Sukkos, s'chach may not be used for any purpose other than the mitzvah. However, after Sukkos one may make personal use of s'chach in a way that is not degrading. Thus, while one should not disrespect s'chach by throwing it in the garbage, as it is an item that was used for a mitzvah (מ"ב כ"א סק"י), one may put s'chach next to a garbage even though it will ultimately get thrown out by the garbage men (ע"פ מ"ב שם סק"י, שו"ת מקדש ישראל צ"ח), as long as he places it in a way that people will not step on it.
- Stepping on s'chach.** S'chach should not be stepped on, as it is considered "tashmishei kedushah" and may not be treated disrespectfully. Thus, one should not throw s'chach in a spot where people walk since doing so causes the s'chach to be degraded (מ"ב סי' תרל"ח סק"ד).
- Wrapped s'chach.** S'chach wrapped in a bag, e.g., bamboo mat s'chach that became wormy or moldy in its package, may be thrown out if there is no fear it will become exposed in the garbage (הגר"נ קרליץ, חוט שני סיכות עמ' רל"ד).
- Bamboo mat s'chach as a partition.** After Sukkos, one may use bamboo mat s'chach as a partition, e.g., around a yard or balcony, since that is not a degrading usage.
- S'chach in shemitah.** Someone who cut palm branches for his s'chach does not need to treat them with kedushas shevi'is since they do not have kedushah. Thus, he may place them next to the garbage even though he is causing them to be thrown out. He just may not disrespect the mitzvah by throwing them out directly (above, 1).

Sukkah Decorations after Sukkos

- One should not make use of sukkah decorations after Sukkos in a degrading way. Thus, if one hung fruits [e.g., pomegranates, esrogim, or dates] as decorations and they are still edible, he should eat them. If they are inedible, he should not throw them out in a degrading manner. He should first put them in a separate bag and then throw out the bag.

Arba Minim after Sukkos

- Esrog.** After Sukkos is over, one may eat or derive benefit from an esrog used on Sukkos, but he may not treat it disrespectfully. Some people make esrog jam for Tu b'Shevat night (ליקוטי מהרי"ח, כ"כ). Some people give esrog jam to a pregnant woman as a segulah for an easy delivery (שם).
- Shemitah esrog.** If an esrog was picked after Rosh Hashanah 5782/2021, we are machmir to treat it with kedushas shevi'is out of uncertainty as to the halachah. Thus, it must be treated accordingly.
- Lulav.** Some have a minhag to burn their lulav with their chometz Erev Pesach to use it for another mitzvah. Others keep it in the house for protection (סדר היום, כ"ד). Lulavim do not have kedushas shevi'is (שו"ת שבט הלוי, ק' שו"ת מנחת יצחק ח"ח סי' ק', שו"ת אמונה פ"א סקפ"ו).

Hoshanos

- On top of the aron.** Some have the minhag to put their hoshanos on top of the aron kodesh in shul (בעל תוס' יו"ט, מלבושי יו"ט על). (הלבוש, שו"ת מהרש"ם ח"ד סי' נ"ג). This is not disrespectful to the aron kodesh since beis din makes a condition enabling the minhag to be fulfilled.

- For protection.** Some take the hoshanos home and store them for protection of the house (התניא הקדמון סי' פ"ו) or for protection on the road (מנורת המאור נר ג' כלל ד').

משיב הרוח

משיב הרוח ומוריד הגשם

- In Mussaf of the last day of Sukkos, we begin saying משיב הרוח ומוריד הגשם in the second brachah of Shemoneh Esrei, and we continue to say it until Mussaf of the first day of Pesach (שו"ע א"ח סי' קי"ד ס"א).
- Some say משיב הרוח, with a komatz under the gimel (שו"ת אג"מ א"ח), but the earlier version was מוריד ומשיב הרוח, with a segol under the gimel (ליקוטי מהרי"ח).

Mistakes Regarding the Hoshanos

- Said 'Morid Hatal'.** If, in the winter, one said מוריד הטל, which he was used to saying in the summer [nusach Sephard], and he realized his mistake during the brachah, he should rectify it by mentioning geshem (ביה"ל שם ד"ה אין). If he remembered after "ונאמן אתה," he must repeat "ונאמן אתה" to make the words before the chasimah similar to the chasimah (מ"ב סקכ"ט). If he already said "ברוך אתה ה'", he should continue davening since we need dew even in the winter.
- Didn't say anything.** However, if he did not even say מוריד הטל [this often happens to those who daven nusach Ashkenaz and do not say it in the summer] and already finished the brachah, he may say משיב הרוח if he did not yet start קדוש or קדש. If he already started קדוש, he must start Shemoneh Esrei again (שו"ע סי' קי"ד ס"ה, ומ"ב). He does not need to say תפתח again since his tefillah was a tefillah, albeit missing a part.

Unsure If He Said משיב הרוח

- If one is unsure whether he said משיב הרוח and it is within thirty days [21 Cheshvan] or 90 tefillos after starting to say it, whichever comes first (מ"ב סקל"ז), he is assumed to have omitted it since he is still not used to saying it. If he is at a point in the tefillah which necessitates repeating it, he must repeat it. [A set shliach tzibbur has an advantage since he says each tefillah twice and gets to 90 sooner (שע"ת)].
- If after thirty days one finds himself making this mistake three times, he loses his chazakah and it is as if he is within thirty days unless he always corrects himself right away (א"א בוטשאטש).
- If right before or during Shemoneh Esrei one was aware that he had to say the proper addition, then even if he became unsure right after Shemoneh Esrei, we assume he said the right one. However, if he became unsure within Shemoneh Esrei, near the relevant brachah, it is likely he made a mistake, and if necessary, he must repeat Shemoneh Esrei (מור"ק). If he did not remember before or during Shemoneh Esrei to add the proper words, even if he remembered after Shemoneh Esrei, he must daven again.
- One who knows he is the type of person who is always unsure if he said the right thing should only pay attention to doubts that arise right away, not to doubts that arise after some time.

Southern Hemisphere

- The poskim discuss what Jews living in the Southern Hemisphere, e.g., South Africa, South America, or Australia, whose summer coincides with our winter, should say in their tefillah. Originally, some held that all they should do is ask for what they need in Shema Koleinu (שו"ת תורת חיים ח"ג סי' ג').

21. Subsequently, many poskim ruled they should daven like the rest of the world since rain is not harmful to them in their summer. Nowadays that rain can be utilized even during the summer, most poskim agree they should daven like the rest of the world. Thus, during these days, they too say הגשם ומוריד הגשם (ש"ת) משיב הרוח ומוריד הגשם (ש"ת) (מנח"י ח"ו סי' קע"א, תשובות והנהגות ח"א סי' צ"ח).

ותן טל ומטר Halachos

When to Begin

22. In Eretz Yisroel, ותן טל ומטר is said in Bareich Aleinu starting from the night of 7 Cheshvan [Thursday evening of Parshas Lech Lecha this year, 5785/2024] since there is more of a need for rain in Eretz Yisroel (שו"ע סי' קי"ז).
23. In Chutz La'aretz, ותן טל ומטר is said from the evening of the 60th day after tekufas Tishrei, i.e., the night between the 4th and 5th of December [when the upcoming solar year it is not a solar leap year]. This year, 5785/2024, that comes out on Wednesday evening, the 3rd of Kislev, Parsah Vayeitzei.
24. Even if one davens before tzeis the night we start saying ותן טל ומטר, he still says it (ני"ז) (ש"ת שאילת שלמה או"ח סי' נ"ז).

ותן טל ומטר Forgor

25. If one did not say ותן טל ומטר when he should have said it, he must daven again (שו"ע סי' קי"ז ס"ד).
26. **In Bareich Aleinu.** If he remembered during Bareich Aleinu, he should stop, go back to ותן טל ומטר, and continue from there (מ"ב סק"ז).
27. **Before Shema Koleinu.** If he remembered before Shema Koleinu, he should say "ותן טל ומטר לברכה, כי אתה שומע וכו'" in Shema Koleinu. If he already finished Shema Koleinu but remembered before starting Retzei, he should say "ותן טל ומטר לברכה, רצה וכו'".
28. If he remembered after beginning Retzei but before taking three steps back, he should go back to Bareich Aleinu. If he took three steps back, he must start Shemoneh Esrei over.
29. If one said the second לרצון after the requests at the end of Shemoneh Esrei, it is as if he took three steps back even if he did not yet say שלום (מ"ב סק"ח) עושה שלום (מ"ב).
30. The poskim discuss whether answering to Kedushah, Kaddish, or Barchu during Elokai Netzor is considered finishing davening which would necessitate repeating Shemoneh Esrei (א"א בוטשאטש סי' תכ"ב). Therefore, several poskim ruled that it is preferable to be silent and listen to the chazzan say Kedushah or Kaddish (ש"ת שבת) (הלוי ח"ה סי' כ"ג). Nevertheless, if one answered, bedieved he can rely on the poskim who hold he only must go back to the brachah in which he erred (אג"מ ח"ג סי' נ"ז והליכות שלמה פ"ח אות ל"א).

Went Back Unnecessarily in Shemoneh Esrei

31. If one forgot ותן טל ומטר; continued davening; then remembered and davened again; but subsequently realized or noticed the halachah that he only had to go back to Bareich Aleinu, he should stop wherever he is – even in the middle of a brachah – and continue with Bareich Aleinu (ש"ת שדה אלחנן או"ח סי' ג').
32. If he went back to Bareich Aleinu because he thought he did not say ותן טל ומטר but then remembered he said it, he should immediately go back to where he left off originally (מ"ר בשו"ת) (שבט הקהתי ח"ב סי' נ"ד).

Ben Eretz Yisroel Traveling to Chutz La'aretz

33. The leading poskim debate the halachah regarding ותן טל ומטר for a ben Eretz Yisroel traveling to Chutz La'aretz and vice versa (פ"ר"ח ופמ"ג, והברכי יוסף הובאו במ"ב סק"ה ובאר היטב סק"ד). We will summarize the opinions of many of the poskim.
34. **If he traveled to Chutz La'aretz before 7 Cheshvan,** he should say ארחות רבינו in Shema Koleinu starting from the night of the 7th, while continuing to say ותן ברכה in Bareich Aleinu. Nevertheless, if he said ותן טל ומטר in Bareich Aleinu, as they do in Eretz Yisroel, he has many poskim to rely on (ק"ב) (ש"ת אג"מ ח"ב סי' ק"ב וש"ת וישב משה ח"א סי' ק"ב).
35. **Bochurim.** The same applies to yeshivah bochurim from Eretz Yisroel who travel to Chutz La'aretz at the beginning of the zman to learn there.
36. In the above case and other cases in which מטר is mentioned in Shema Koleinu, some say one should specify "לברכה" ותן טל ומטר "לבני ארץ ישראל" (הגריש"א). Others hold he should say "לברכה דברי יציב ח"א סי') (ש"ת אג"מ ח"ב סי' ק"ב וש"ת וישב משה ח"א סי' ק"ב). However, the early poskim imply one should only say "ותן טל ומטר לברכה" and not add words to the text composed by the Anshei Knesses Hagedolah (כ"ק מרן גאב"ד ירושלים).

37. **If he left Eretz Yisroel after 7 Cheshvan,** since he already started saying ותן טל ומטר, he should continue doing so in Chutz La'aretz so as not to make the matter look like a joke (ש"ת סק"ב בשם ברכי) (יוסף). However, if he resettled there with his family, he davens like a ben Chutz La'aretz (ק"י) (ש"ת באר משה ח"ז דיני בני א"י וחול"ל סי' קי"ז).

Place without a Jewish Community

38. One who travels to a place where there is no Jewish community planning to come back to Eretz Yisroel that year should say ותן טל ומטר in Bareich Aleinu like a ben Eretz Yisroel since there is no issue of "lo siggededu." This applies to those who travel to kivrei tzaddikim in Europe or the like where there is no Jewish community. Even if he subsequently goes to a place with a Jewish community, he continues to daven like a ben Eretz Yisroel.

Ben Chutz La'aretz Traveling to Eretz Yisroel

39. **If a ben Chutz La'aretz travels to Eretz Yisroel before 7 Cheshvan** and will be in Eretz Yisroel then, he should daven like a ben Eretz Yisroel while he is there (ש"ת דברי יציב הנ"ל וש"ת קנה בשם שם). If he returns to Chutz La'aretz before the 60th day of the tekufah, he should stop saying ותן טל ומטר (ש"ת מנח"י ח"י סי' ט'). Some say in such a case he should say מטר in Shema Koleinu (ה"ה) (תשובות והנהגות ח"ב סי' נ"ה). (שו"ת מנח"י ח"י סי' ט').
40. If he will remain in Eretz Yisroel after the 60th day of the tekufah, e.g., a yeshivah bochur or seminary girl learning in Eretz Yisroel, he or she should start on 7 Cheshvan like a ben Eretz Yisroel.
41. If a ben Chutz La'aretz in Eretz Yisroel or a ben Eretz Yisroel in Chutz La'aretz made a mistake, he does not need to go back since there are opinions that what he did was correct (ש"ת מנח"י שם).

Shliach Tzibbur Davening Different from His Minhag

42. If one is a shliach tzibbur in a place that is davening differently than he is, in his own Shemoneh Esrei he should follow his minhag, and in Chazaras Hashatz he should follow the local minhag (ברכי יוסף סק"ח). One may be a shliach tzibbur lechatchilah in these circumstances (הגרש"א).

Shailah Arose Mid-Shemoneh Esrei

43. **Looking up the halachah in the siddur.** If a shailah ever arises in the middle of the Shemoneh Esrei regarding one of the additions to Shemoneh Esrei, one may turn to the back of the siddur [e.g., in an ArtScroll siddur] to look up the halachah.
44. **Going to a sefer.** If his siddur does not have halachos in it, he may walk to the sefarim shelf in the middle of Shemoneh Esrei to look up the halachah in a sefer (מ"ב סי' ק"ד סק"ב בשם ח"י אדם). Still, he should not make an interruption long enough to finish the entire Shemoneh Esrei, since that would create a safeik whether he has to start over.
45. **Asking a rav.** If he does not know how to look up the halachah, does not know where it appears, or does not have sefarim, he may ask a rav what he should do (שם).
46. **Calling a rav.** If there is no rav present, he may call a rav mid-Shemoneh Esrei to ask what to do if it is something vital to the tefillah, but he should do so discreetly, e.g., under his tallis or outside the shul, to avoid a chillul Hashem and mar'is ayin of talking on the phone in the middle of Shemoneh Esrei. He should not say "Yasher koach" at the end of the call.
47. If possible, it is better to write the shailah without speaking (מסגרת זהב על קצו"ע סי' י"ח סק"ג).

Said ותן טל ומטר prematurely

48. **In Eretz Yisroel.** If one said ותן טל ומטר in Eretz Yisroel after Succos before 7th Cheshvan, most poskim hold that one doesn't repeat the shemoine esrei because in reality they are days of rain, the only reason we don't start asking for rain in those days is for the sake of the oilei regalim. Therefore bedieved one is yoitzei (ק"י) (ש"ת ארחות חיים ספינקא שם סק"א, הגרש"א, אשי ישראל פכ"ג אות מ"ה).
49. However, some are of the opinion that one is not yoitzei and needs to repeat (דינים והנהגות להחז"א תפילה פכ"ד כ"ו, שערי תשובה סי' ק"ח סק"י).
50. **In Chutz Learetz.** In Chutz Learetz, if one said ותן טל ומטר before 7th Cheshvan but before 5th Dec. he needs to repeat and its like he said it in the summer, but he should repeat on condition that it could be a tefillas nedava (ע"פ מ"ב סי' ק"י סק"ג וביאה"ל שם ד"ה הצריכים).



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