Chullin 119 – Good Morning Raboisai

Yad – A Handle for Tumah and Hechsher

1️⃣ Does a Yad Work for Hechsher?

👉 Rav Chiya bar Ashi says in the name of Rav:

- A yad – handle – works for Tumah
- But not for Hechsher

Rebbe Yochanan says:

- A yad works for both Tumah and Hechsher.

📌 What Does This Mean?

👉 Before food can become tamei:

- It must first become susceptible to Tumah
- This happens through contact with one of the seven qualifying liquids

This is called:

- Hechsher l'kabel Tumah

The question is:

If the liquid touches only:

- The handle attached to the food

Does that make:

- The food itself susceptible to Tumah?

Rav says:

- No

Rebbe Yochanan says:

- Yes.

2️⃣ The Source of the Machlokes

👉 The Torah discusses:

- Water falling on food

- Tumah subsequently touching it
- The law of a yad

The question is whether:

- The law of yad at the end of the pasuk
- Can also apply back to Hechsher mentioned earlier.

One opinion says:

- We apply it only to the immediately preceding law of Tumah

The other says:

- We can apply it even to Hechsher mentioned earlier in the pasuk.

3️⃣ Another Explanation – Hechsher Is the Beginning of Tumah

👉 The machlokes can also be explained logically.

Rebbe Yochanan holds:

- Hechsher is the beginning of the Tumah process

Since a yad works for:

- Tumah itself

It also works for:

- The Hechsher that prepares the food to receive Tumah.

Rav holds:

- Hechsher merely makes the food susceptible to Tumah
- It is not itself the beginning of Tumah

Therefore:

- The law of yad does not necessarily apply to Hechsher.

Minimum Size for a Yad and Shomer

4️⃣ Rav – A Yad Needs a Kezayis

👉 Rav says:

- There is no yad for less than a kezayis of food

The case can involve:

- Several small pieces which together reach the amount needed for Tumah

But each individual piece:

- Has less than a kezayis

According to Rav:

- Its individual handle does not have the status of a yad.

5️⃣ Rebbe Yochanan – Even Less Can Have a Yad

👉 Rebbe Yochanan disagrees.

He holds:

- A yad can exist even when the food attached to it is smaller than a kezayis

The Gemara discusses:

- A pol – approximately the size of a bean

As an example of:

- A much smaller amount.

6️⃣ Shomer – A Protector

👉 The Gemara then discusses the minimum amount needed for:

- A shomer – something protecting food

Examples include:

- A peel
- A shell
- Skin
- A bone protecting marrow

A shomer is more significant than:

- A yad

Because without its protection:

- The food could become damaged.

7️⃣ Rav & Rebbe Yochanan

👉 Rav holds:

For a yad:

- The food must be at least a kezayis

For a shomer:

- The food must be at least the size of a pol.

👉 Rebbe Yochanan holds:

For a yad:

- Even less than a kezayis can qualify

For a shomer:

- No minimum amount is required.

Two Bones Entering a House

8️⃣ Two Half-Kezaysim of Human Flesh

👉 The Gemara brings an unusual case.

There are:

- Two bones

Each has attached to it:

- Half a kezayis of flesh from a dead person

The flesh remains:

- Outside a house

But the ends of both bones extend:

- Inside the house.

The Tanna Kama says:

- The house becomes tamei.

📌 **Why?**

👉 Together, the two pieces of flesh equal:

- A full kezayis

And the bones can potentially act as:

- Handles carrying the Tumah into the house.

9️⃣ Rebbe Yehudah ben Nekusa Disagrees

👉 Rebbe Yehudah ben Nekusa says:

- The house remains tahor

He does not allow:

- The two separate half-kezaysim
- To combine through their separate bones

To create:

- Tumah in the house.

🔟 Is the Bone a Yad or Shomer?

👉 This creates a problem for Rav.

If each bone is acting as:

- A yad

Each has only:

- Half a kezayis of flesh

But Rav said:

- A yad requires at least a kezayis.

If the bone is acting as:

- A shomer protecting the marrow

Then:

- A different set of minimum-size rules applies.

📌 Gemara's Answer

👉 The Beraisa does not have to follow:

- Both opinions

It can be explained according to:

- The particular Tanna whose ruling fits whether the bone is being treated as a yad or shomer.

The Femur Bone

1️⃣1️⃣ Meat Attached to a Femur

👉 Rebbe Yehudah discusses:

- A large femur bone

If it has:

- A kezayis of meat attached

Then:

- The entire bone can transmit Tumah

Meaning:

If Tumah touches one part:

- The Tumah can travel through the bone to the attached meat.

1️⃣2️⃣ Achirim – Even a Smaller Amount

👉 Achirim say:

- Even if only a pol-sized amount of meat is attached
- The entire bone can transmit Tumah.

Again, the Gemara asks:

Is the bone functioning as:

- A yad

Or:

- A shomer for the marrow inside?

1️⃣3️⃣ Why Specifically a Femur?

👉 Rava points out:

The Beraisa specifically chose:

- A femur

Why?

Because a femur contains:

- Significant bone marrow.

This indicates that the bone is being treated as:

- A shomer

It protects:

- The edible marrow inside.

1️⃣4️⃣ Does Achirim Really Require a Pol?

👉 According to Rebbe Yochanan:

- A shomer requires no minimum amount

Yet Achirim mentioned:

- A pol.

📌 Answer

👉 The pol is not necessarily:

- A precise minimum shiur

Achirim is emphasizing:

- That a full kezayis is unnecessary

Even a very small amount:

- Can qualify.

Pods Protecting Beans

1️⃣5️⃣ Large and Small Beans

👉 Rebbe Elazar ben Azaryah discusses:

- Beans growing inside pods

For large beans:

- The pod is not necessarily considered a shomer

For small beans:

- It can be considered significant.

📌 **Why?**

👉 Small beans:

- Are more difficult to clean if they become dirty

Therefore:

- Their pod provides important protection.

Large beans:

- Can be cleaned more easily

So:

- They have less need for the pod's protection.

1️⃣6️⃣ **Is the Pod Really a Shomer?**

👉 The Gemara considers another explanation:

Perhaps the case is not:

- Shomer

But:

- Yad

Several pods can grow:

- Attached together to a stem

The stem can be used:

- To pick them up together.

Therefore:

- It can function as their handle.

A Complete Small Food

1️⃣7️⃣ A Lentil

👉 The Gemara brings a Torah source discussing:

- Seeds together with their protective coverings

Even something as small as:

- A lentil

Can have:

- A shomer.

📌 Why Isn't Its Small Size a Problem?

👉 A lentil is:

- A complete individual food

A complete entity can have special significance even though:

- It is very small.

The Gemara compares the concept to:

- A complete creature

Which can be significant even when:

- Smaller than the normal shiur.

Can Separate Shomrim Combine?

1️⃣8️⃣ Rav Oshaya's Question

👉 Rav Oshaya asks:

Can:

- Two separate shomrim

Combine together:

- To complete the required amount?

For example:

- Two small foods
- Each with its own protective covering

Can their protective parts:

- Join together for the shiur?

1️⃣9️⃣ Not Shomer on Top of Shomer

👉 The question cannot simply involve:

- Several layers of protection around the same food.

Why?

Because we already know:

- A shomer on top of another shomer
- Does not automatically count.

Only the protection:

- Directly needed by the food

Has the status of shomer.

The Layers of an Onion

2️⃣0️⃣ Three Layers

👉 The Gemara discusses three layers surrounding an onion.

The inner layer:

- Combines with the onion
- Even if it has holes

Because:

- It is directly connected to and protects the food.

The middle layer:

- Combines if it is complete
- But not if it is torn or perforated.

The outer layer:

- Does not combine
- Even when complete.

📌 **Why?**

👉 The further the layer is from the actual food:

- The weaker its status as direct protection.

This demonstrates:

- A second protector protecting the first protector does not receive the same status.

2️⃣1️⃣ Rav Oshaya's Actual Question

👉 Rav Oshaya is therefore asking about:

- Separate pieces of food
- Each with its own direct shomer

Can the separate shomrim:

- Combine together

To complete the required amount?

The Gemara examines several possible proofs.

Wheat Kernels

2️⃣2️⃣ Protective Coverings of Wheat

👉 The Gemara brings:

- Wheat kernels with their coverings

The Torah recognizes:

- The natural protective covering of a seed

As part of its Tumah status.

But if many kernels are needed:

- To reach a kabeitzah

The question is:

How can their separate coverings:

- Combine together?

This appears relevant to:

- Rav Oshaya's question.

2️⃣ 3️⃣ One Row Protects Another

👉 The Gemara suggests:

Perhaps the case involves:

- Kernels arranged together on one row of the stalk

Each helps:

- Protect and support the others.

Therefore:

- They are not merely unrelated individual shomrim.

2️⃣ 4️⃣ The Wheat of Shimon ben Shetach

👉 The Gemara then suggests an unusual case:

- The enormous wheat kernels from the days of Shimon ben Shetach.

These kernels were so large that:

- The usual problem of combining many tiny kernels may not apply.

The Gemara therefore cannot conclusively prove:

- Rav Oshaya's question from here.

Returning to the Two Bones

2️⃣ 5️⃣ Two Half-Kezaysim

👉 The Gemara returns to the earlier case:

- Two bones

- Each carrying half a kezayis of human flesh
- Their ends entering a house

The Tanna Kama:

- Makes the house tamei

Rebbe Yehudah ben Nekusa:

- Says the house remains tahor.

The issue again revolves around:

- Whether the bones can serve as conduits
- Allowing the separate pieces of Tumah to combine.

Hair as a Yad or Shomer

2️⃣6️⃣ Hair Attached to Skin

👉 The Gemara discusses:

- Hair attached to the hide of an animal

Hair can potentially serve as:

- A connection through which Tumah travels.

The question is:

Is the hair considered:

- A shomer
- Or a yad?

2️⃣7️⃣ Isn't Hair a Shomer on Top of a Shomer?

👉 If hair protects:

- The skin

And the skin protects:

- The meat

Then hair appears to be:

- A shomer on top of a shomer

Which should not count.

📌 **Answer**

👉 Hair penetrates:

- Through the skin

It therefore has:

- A more direct connection to the flesh

Than an ordinary second layer of protection.

Tefillin and Tiny Hair Holes

2️⃣ 8️⃣ **Writing on Parchment**

👉 The Gemara asks:

If hair penetrates through the hide:

- The parchment should contain tiny holes where the hairs grew

How can:

- Tefillin

Be written properly on such parchment?

The letters must be:

- Complete.

📌 **Answer**

👉 In Eretz Yisrael they explained:

If a hole is small enough that:

- Ink covers and fills it

It is not considered:

- A problematic hole

For writing the letters.

2️⃣ 9️⃣ **Hair Can Function as a Handle**

👉 Another explanation is:

Hair is not being treated as:

- A shomer

Rather:

- It functions as a yad.

📌 **But Can One Hair Hold the Food?**

👉 The Gemara explains that we are not necessarily discussing:

- One individual hair

Rather:

- Several hairs together.

A group of hairs can be strong enough:

- To lift and hold the attached item

Therefore:

- They can function as a genuine handle.

The same principle applies to:

- Hair-like strands attached to grain.

📌 **Key Chazarah**

- Rav holds that a yad works for Tumah but not for Hechsher; Rebbe Yochanan says it works for both.
- Their machlokes can depend on the pasuk or whether Hechsher is considered the beginning of the Tumah process.
- Rav requires at least a kezayis for a yad and a pol for a shomer; Rebbe Yochanan allows a smaller amount for yad and no minimum amount for shomer.
- Two bones, each with half a kezayis of human flesh outside a house, raise the question whether their handles can carry and combine the Tumah inside.
- A femur can function as a shomer because it protects the marrow inside.
- Achirim's mention of a pol may simply mean that a full kezayis is unnecessary, rather than establishing an exact minimum.

- A pod can protect small beans because they are difficult to clean, or the attached stem can function as a yad for several pods.
- A complete small food, such as a lentil, can have significance despite being below the normal shiur.
- Rav Oshaya asks whether separate shomrim protecting separate pieces of food can combine toward the required amount.
- With an onion, the inner layer combines even when damaged, the middle layer only when complete, and the outer layer does not combine – demonstrating the limits of a shomer on top of a shomer.
- The Gemara attempts to resolve Rav Oshaya's question from wheat kernels but does not obtain a conclusive proof.
- Hair can transmit Tumah because it penetrates the skin or because several hairs together can function as a yad.
- Tiny hair holes do not invalidate parchment if they are small enough for the ink to cover them.

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