Chullin 31 – Good Morning Raboisai

1️⃣ Length of the Knife

Gemara:

Mishna discusses:

- If one **cuts off the head in one motion**

👉 Depends on the **length of the knife**

📌 רבי זירא

אמר רבי זירא

👉 Knife must be:

- **Width of the neck + extra (חוץ לצואר)**

❓ What does “extra” mean

Two צדדים:

- Exactly **double the neck**
- Or just **slightly more than the neck**

📌 Proof

Case:

- Shechting **two animals at once**

👉 Mishna says:

- Knife = **one neck**

❗ Problem

👉 If one animal needs “neck + extra”

👉 How can two animals need only one neck?

📌 **Resolution**

👉 “One neck” means:

- **One extra neck beyond the animals**

👉 Therefore:

- 2 animals = 2 necks
- +1 extra

👉 Total = **3 neck widths**

📌 **Conclusion**

👉 “Extra” = additional full width

👉 Not just a small amount

2️⃣ **Forward vs Back-and-Forth Motion**

אמר רב אשי

👉 Long knife required only when:

- Cutting in **one direction**

👉 If cutting:

- **Back-and-forth (מוליך ומביא)**

👉 Even a **very small knife** works

📌 **יסוד**

👉 Proper motion = slicing

👉 Length only needed for single stroke

3️⃣ **Decorative Knife (קרניים)**

Case:

- Knife has **protrusions (horn-like edges)**

👉 Concern:

- Might **pierce instead of cut**

📌 **דין**

👉 Problematic for שחיטה

👉 Because:

- Not clean slicing

4️⃣ **Using a Needle**

Case:

- Try to shecht using a **needle**

📌 **Problem**

👉 Needle causes:

- **דריסה (pressing/puncturing)**

👉 Not valid cutting

📌 **Even if scraping**

👉 Back-and-forth with needle

👉 Still risks:

- Puncture → invalid

5️⃣ **Special Needle (Leather Tool)**

Case:

- Flat-edged needle used by leather workers

❗ **Question**

👉 Can it be used?

📌 **Conclusion**

👉 No clear proof

👉 Must be:

- Proper cutting instrument

6️⃣ **Small Knife (כל שהוא)**

Mishna:

👉 Even **very small knife**

👉 כשר

📌 **Clarification**

👉 Refers to:

- Proper כלי (knife)

👉 Not random sharp object

7️⃣ **Falling Knife**

Mishna:

- Knife falls on animal

👉 Even perfect cut

👉 פסול

📌 **Reason**

👉 Requires:

- **כח גברא (human action)**

👉 Not accidental

8️⃣ If Person Dropped It

👉 If he **released it intentionally**

👉 כשר

👉 Even without intent to shecht

📌 יסוד

👉 Requires:

- Human force

👉 Does NOT require:

- Intent for שחיטה

9️⃣ מחלוקת – Need for Kavannah

- **רבי נתן**
  👉 No need for intent
- **חכמים**
  👉 Require intent

📌 Case

- Throwing knife at wall
- It shechts animal

👉 כשר → רבי נתן
👉 פסול → חכמים

🔟 יסוד

👉 According to רבי נתן:

- Need intent to **move knife**

- Not intent to shecht

1️⃣1️⃣ Parallel – Mikvah

Case:

- Person falls into mikvah

📌 מחלוקת

- One view:
  👉 No intent needed
- Other:
  👉 Requires intent

1️⃣2️⃣ חילוק – Levels of Taharah

👉 Lower level (חולין):

- No intent needed

👉 Higher levels (קדשים / תרומה):

- Require intent

1️⃣3️⃣ Proof – Hands in Water

Case:

- Person puts hands in water to grab fruit

👉 Hands become טהור

👉 Even without intent

📌 יסוד

👉 No kavannah required for חולין

1️⃣4️⃣ Limitation

👉 For higher קדושה

👉 Must have intent

1️⃣ 5️⃣ Final יסוד

- Knife must allow proper slicing
- Length depends on motion
- Human force required
- Intent for shechita → מחלוקת
- חולין → no kavannah needed
- קדשים → kavannah required

🔑 Key Takeaways (English)

- Knife must be longer than the neck being cut
- Back-and-forth motion allows even a small knife
- Proper shechita requires slicing, not piercing
- Falling knife is invalid without human force
- Dispute whether intent for shechita is required
- Rabbi Nasan: no intent needed
- Parallel concept in mikvah: intent depends on level
- Chullin does not require intent; higher levels do

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