Menachos 71 – Good Morning Raboisai

1️⃣ All Five Grains Are Included in Chadash

We learn from a **Gezeirah Shavah of "ראשית–ראשית"** (from Challah):

➡️ Just like all **five grains** are obligated in Challah
➡️ So too, all five grains are included in the איסור of Chadash

Therefore:

• Not only barley, but also **wheat, spelt, oats, and rye** are forbidden before the Omer.

2️⃣ Two Times: Reaping vs. Eating

The Mishnah mentions two separate prohibitions:

• **Reaping (קצירה)** before Pesach
• **Eating (אכילה)** before the Omer

The Gemara clarifies:

• Reaping becomes permitted **earlier (around sunrise / early stage)**
• Eating becomes permitted only after the **bringing of the Omer (later in the day)**

➡️ These are **two distinct halachic timelines**.

3️⃣ When Must Grain Take Root?

Key question:

➡️ By when must grain take root to be permitted that year?

Two opinions:

• **Rebbi:** until the time of **bringing the Omer (daytime)**
• **Rabbi Yosef bar Yehudah:** until **cutting of the Omer (nighttime)**

If it takes root **too late**, it misses the Omer and becomes forbidden until the **next year**.

4️⃣ What Stage Is Needed for the Omer to Permit?

The Gemara works through stages of growth:

• Fully ripe (אביב)
• One-third grown

• Standing grain
• Bendable stalks
• Even earlier stages

Conclusion:

➡️ Even grain that has **just begun to take root** is included and becomes permitted through the Omer.

However:

• Completely unrooted seeds are not yet considered grain (just animal fodder).

5️⃣ Exception – Harvesting Before the Omer

Normally:

➡️ It is forbidden to harvest Chadash before the Omer

Exception:

• **Beis HaShlachin (irrigated fields)** in a **valley**

Reasons:

• The produce is **lower quality**
• Or there is **financial loss**

Therefore:

➡️ One may harvest early in such cases

6️⃣ Limits of the Leniency

Even when harvesting is allowed:

• You may **cut the grain**
• But you may **not pile it into stacks (כריכות)**

This limits the activity to what is necessary and avoids appearing like full harvest.

7️⃣ People of Yericho

The people of **Yericho** followed this leniency:

• They harvested early – and Chazal **did not protest**
• But they **stacked the grain**, and Chazal **did protest**

Lesson:

➡️ Even when something is technically allowed, **going further can be inappropriate**.

8️⃣ Additional Permitted Cases

Harvesting before the Omer is also allowed:

• To **protect young trees**
• To avoid **Kilayim (forbidden mixtures)**
• For **Beis Avel (mourning needs)**
• For **Bittul Beis Midrash (to enable Torah learning)**

➡️ When there is a **need or mitzvah**, leniency applies.

🔑 Yesodos of the Daf

• All **five grains** are included in Chadash (learned from Challah).
• Reaping and eating have **different timelines** of permission.
• Grain must take root **before the Omer cutoff** to be permitted that year.
• Even **very early growth (rooting stage)** is included in the heter of Omer.
• Special cases allow **early harvesting**, especially for loss or mitzvah.
• However, actions should be **limited and controlled**, not full harvest behavior.
• The story of Yericho teaches balance between **halachah and proper conduct**.

לעילוי נשמת אמי מורתי רות בת הרב מנחם מנדל