Zevachim 113 – Good Morning Raboisai

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1 Parah Adumah — Where Is It Done?

The daf focuses on the **Parah Adumah** and its unique avodah.

Key rule:

- The Parah Adumah is **not done in Yerushalayim**
- It is done **outside the walls**, specifically on **Har HaZeisim**, **facing the entrance of the Heichal**

Even though today Har HaZeisim is part of Yerushalayim, halachically:

Yerushalayim ends at the wall — beyond that is "outside".

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2 Why No Kares for Parah Adumah Outside?

Unlike:

- An **Olah** slaughtered outside → **chayav kares**

The Parah Adumah:

- Has its avodah **outside by definition**
- Therefore:

Doing it "outside its place" does **not** create kares

The Mishnah's case is not "outside Yerushalayim,"
but **outside its designated location**.

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3 What Makes the Parah Pasul? Facing the Heichal

The Torah says:

- The blood must be sprinkled **toward the opening of the Ohel Moed**

Through a **hekesh**:

- Just as **hazayah** must face the Heichal
- So too **shechitah** must face the Heichal

If:

- The Parah is slaughtered **not facing the entrance**
  → it is **pasul**

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4 Why Mention "Burn It With Its Waste"?

The Torah unusually says:

"וְשָׂרַף… אֶת עֹרָהּ וְאֶת בְּשָׂרָהּ… וְאֶת פִּרְשָׁהּ"

Why mention waste?

Answer:

- It teaches that the Parah is burned **where it lies**
- We do **not** move it to a different location
- Even though an animal can convulse after death

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5 Tumah Concerns — Were There Bones in Eretz Yisrael?

A major machlokes:

- **Reish Lakish**:
  There **was** a Mabul in Eretz Yisrael
- **Rabbi Yochanan**:
  There was **no Mabul** in Eretz Yisrael

Nafka mina:

- Are we concerned about **unknown graves (קבר התהום)** everywhere?

Rabbi Yochanan:

Eretz Yisrael was checked — no concern of buried remains

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6 But If So — Why All the Extreme Precautions?

The Gemara describes extraordinary measures:

- Special courtyards built **hollow**
- Pregnant women brought there to give birth
- Children raised without any tumah
- Children transported on **doors placed on bulls**

- Drawing water only with **stone vessels**

Question:

If Eretz Yisrael is tahor, why all this?

7️⃣ Answer — To Oppose the Tzedukim

Background:

- **Tzedukim** claimed:
    - Only a fully tahor Kohen may perform the Parah
- **Chachamim** held:
    - Even a **Tevul Yom** may perform the avodah

To prove the Tzedukim wrong:

- Chachamim intentionally used a Tevul Yom

But to prevent people from:

- Treating the Parah lightly,

They went to the **opposite extreme**:

Demonstrating maximum chumrah everywhere else

8️⃣ Children Born "Tahor" — How Is That Possible?

Question:

- A woman giving birth becomes tamei —
  so how can children be "born tahor"?

Answer (Tosafos):

- These precautions were **not strictly required**
- They were done **for public perception**
- The real concern was:
    - Tum'as Meis
    - Tum'as Keri (which does not apply to young children)

9️⃣ The Mabul Debate Returns

Reish Lakish challenges Rabbi Yochanan:

- The Torah says:

“All that was on dry land died”

Rabbi Yochanan answers:

- They died not from flooding,
- But from **heat / steam (הֶבֶל)**

Proof:

- The water of the Mabul was **boiling**
- Fish survived only because:
    - The oceans remained cool

🔟 The Re’eim (Giant Animal) and the Teivah

A famous Aggadic passage:

- The **Re’eim** was too large for the Teivah

Solutions offered:

- Only its **head** entered
- Or only its **nostrils**
- Or it was tied to the Teivah

This leads back to the debate:

- If there was no Mabul in Eretz Yisrael,
  the Re’eim could survive on land there

1️⃣1️⃣ Final Resolution — Two Deaths, Two Reasons

The Gemara distinguishes:

- Those who died in the **Mabul**
- Those who died in later destructions (e.g. Nevuchadnezzar)

Dead bodies were:

- Cleared and buried in inhabited areas
- Not necessarily removed everywhere

Thus:

- Even according to Reish Lakish,
  certain areas required checking for tumah
- Especially **outside Yerushalayim**

✨ **Takeaway – Zevachim 113**

- Parah Adumah is done **outside Yerushalayim**, on Har HaZeisim
- It must be slaughtered **facing the Heichal**
- Its avodah does **not** generate kares
- Extreme taharah measures were partly **symbolic**
- The Tzeduki–Chachamim dispute shaped public practice
- Machlokes whether the Mabul affected Eretz Yisrael
- Heat, not water, explains universal death
- Aggadah and halacha intertwine deeply in this daf

לעילוי נשמת אמי מורתי רות בת הרב מנחם מנדל