Zevachim 99 – Good Morning Raboisai

Summary of Reb Eli Stefansky's Shiur

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1 Who Gets a Portion of the Korban? — Ability to Do Zerikah

The Mishnah states:

A Kohen who **cannot perform avodah** does **not** receive a **portion** of the korban.

Source:

"הַכֹּהֵן הַמְּחַטֵּא אֹתָהּ יֹאכְלֶנָּה"

"הַמְּחַטֵּא" refers to **Zerikas HaDam**.
Only a Kohen who is **fit to perform zerikah** may receive a **chelek** (portion).

Important clarification:

- This does **not** mean he must actually do the zerikah.
- It means he must be **eligible** to do it.

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2 Eating vs. Receiving a Portion

A critical distinction runs throughout the daf:

- **Eating (אכילה)** = being fed a piece of meat
- **Receiving a portion (חלוקה)** = ownership of a share of the korban

Examples:

- A **katan** may eat korban meat if given food,
  but may **not receive a portion**.
- The Torah's discussion here is about **receiving a portion**, not eating per se.

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3 Why Do Most Kohanim Get Portions if Only One Kohen Does Zerikah?

Answer:

- All Kohanim in the Azarah are **ra'ui l'zerikah**.
- Only one performs it in practice, but eligibility is what matters.

Excluded:

- **Tevul Yom**
- **Mechusar Kippurim**
  They are **not fit** for zerikah → no portion.

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4 Ba'al Mum — An Exception

A Kohen with a **blemish** cannot perform avodah, yet:

"כָּל זָכָר בַּכֹּהֲנִים יֹאכַל אֹתָהּ"

This pasuk explicitly includes a **Ba'al Mum**.

Why include him?

- Because he **is allowed to eat kodshim**.
- Since he may eat → he may also receive a portion.

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5 Why Not Include a Tevul Yom Instead?

The Gemara asks:
Why assume the pasuk includes a Ba'al Mum rather than a **Tevul Yom**?

Answer:

- A **Tevul Yom may not eat** kodshim.
- A **Ba'al Mum may eat**.
- Portion rights depend on **ability to eat**, not future eligibility.

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6 Core Principle Emerges

From the wording **"יֹאכְלֻנָּהּ"** we learn:

Only one who is fit to eat may receive a portion.

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7 What if the Ba'al Mum Is Tamei?

Question:

- A Ba'al Mum who is **tamei** cannot eat.
- Does he still receive a portion?

Answer:

No.

Even though:

- He is permanently allowed to eat when tahor,
- At this moment he **cannot eat** → no portion.

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8 Proof from the Kohen Gadol (Onen)

The Kohen Gadol:

- Performs avodah even when **Onen**
- But **does not eat**, and does **not receive a portion**

This proves:

Performing avodah alone is insufficient —
fitness to eat is essential.

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9 Tamei by Korban Tzibbur

Case:

- Kohen is tamei,
- But Korban Tzibbur allows him to perform zerikah.

Question:
Does he receive a portion?

Answer:

No, because he cannot eat.

Again:

אין חלוקה בלא אכילה

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10 Onen — Touching vs. Eating Kodshim

The Mishnah says:

- An **Onen** may **touch** kodshim,

- But may **not eat**.

Clarification:

- If he was **mesiach da'as** (not careful about tumah),
  he must go to the mikveh.
- If he was careful, he may touch without immersion.

This introduces a broader concept:

One may guard against **severe tumah** but not lighter tumah.

1️⃣1️⃣ Eating vs. Touching — Rabbinic Distinction

The Gemara proves:

- Chazal distinguished between **touching** and **eating**.

Example:

- A Kohen who became **shlishi l'tumah**:
  - May **touch** terumah,
  - May **not eat** it.

Thus:

Touching and eating operate on **different halachic thresholds**.

1️⃣2️⃣ Onen and Korban Pesach

Seeming contradiction:

- An Onen may eat **Korban Pesach**,
- But generally may not eat kodshim.

Resolution:

- Depends **when the death occurred**:
  - If death occurred **Erev Pesach** → Onen derabbanan at night → allowed to eat Pesach.
  - If death occurred earlier → no aninus at night → permitted.

Chachamim relaxed their issur:

- To avoid **karet** for not eating Korban Pesach.

1️⃣3️⃣ Is Aninus at Night De'Oraisa or Derabbanan?

Machlokes:

- **Rabbi Shimon**: Aninus at night is **derabbanan**.
- Therefore, Chachamim may override it for Pesach.

This underpins the entire heter.

1️⃣4️⃣ Bringing Korbanos While Sad — Simcha Required

A powerful concept:

Shlomim require simcha — wholeness of spirit.

Therefore:

- One who is **Onen** may not bring:
  - Shlomim
  - Todah
  - Other voluntary korbanos

Why?

- A person in mourning is **not "shalem"**.

1️⃣5️⃣ Exception — Korban Pesach

Korban Pesach is different:

- It is **obligatory**
- Failure carries **kores**
- Therefore it overrides rabbinic aninus

The **Chagigah of the 14th** (brought to ensure eating al ha'sova):

- Is **not** overridden
- An Onen may **not** bring it

✨ **Takeaway – Zevachim 99**

- Receiving a korban portion depends on **fitness to eat**, not merely to serve.
- Eating and portion ownership are distinct halachic categories.
- A Ba'al Mum receives a portion only when **able to eat**.
- Tumah blocks portions even if avodah is permitted.
- An Onen may touch kodshim but not eat or receive portions.
- Korban Pesach overrides rabbinic aninus due to kores.
- Simcha is a prerequisite for voluntary korbanos.

לעילוי נשמת אמי מורתי רות בת הרב מנחם מנדל