



Volume 12. Issue 1

Transfer Via Massah

Masechet Keilim begins by introducing us to fundamental concepts in *tumah* necessary for learning this new *Seder - Taharot*. It opens by listing the different *avot* of *tumah*. The term *av* here does not mean an archetype under which similar things share the same exact law (much like *Shabbat*). Instead, the *Tosfot Yom Tov* explains citing the first chapter in *Bava Kama*, that the derivatives do not share the same laws. When *tumah* is transferred from an *av*, the resulting *rishon* is less “potent” and can transfer *tumah* to fewer things (of which we learn). Instead the *avot* here are to be understood as sources of *tumah* that can transfer to people and utensils.

The *Mishnah* mentions the *avot* in groups with each group having extra stringencies than the group listed before it. The second *Mishnah* lists a *neilah* (dead animal) and *mei chatat* (water sanctified with the ashes of the red heffer). The stringency is that these two things transfer *tumah* if they were carried even without direct contact. The *Mishnah* explains that during that time they transfer *tumah* to the clothes worn by the person carrying them.

For a *neveilah* this is learnt for the *pasuk*: “... and one who carries its carcass shall immerse his clothing and remain contaminated until evening.” If the person stopped carrying the *neveilah* he would be defined as a *rishon le'tumah* and no longer be able to transfer *tumah* to clothing.

The *Tifferet Yisrael* notes that while the person is carrying the *neveilah* he is affectively an *av ha'tumah*. When he separates from the *neveilah* he drops down to a *rishon*. How does that work? Where did the *tumah*, i.e. being an *av ha'tumah*, go?

The *Tifferet Yisrael* answers that when the person is carrying the *neveilah* it is not that he himself becomes an *av* for that short period of time. Rather the *neveilah* is the only *av* and it is as if that clothing is in direct contact with the *neveilah* itself.

The *Tifferet Yisrael* also asks why the *Mishnah* only mentions clothing, implying on the clothing he wears at the time become *tameh*. Really, during that period he can transfer *tumah* to *keilim* (utensils). His first answer is that the *Mishnah* was simply reflecting the language of the above cited *pasuk*. Furthermore it teaches that only items similar to *begadim* become *tameh* to the exclusion of people or *klei cheres* (earthenware).

He next proposes an answer based on the position of the *Rosh*. When carrying a *neveilah* a person can transfer *tumah* to clothes and utensils by direct contact. The *Rosh* however understands that all the clothes the person is wearing becomes *tameh* even if they are not in direct contact. Consequently, the *Tifferet Yisrael* understands the *Mishnah* needed to stress the clothing the person is wearing specifically, in order to teach this novel law.

Finally the *Tifferet Yisrael* cites *Rashi* who as a result of this *Mishnah* concludes that the person only transfer *tumah* to the clothing he wears but not any other clothing or *keilim*. He however cites the *Tosfot* that raise numerous difficulties with this position.

Yisrael Bankier

Revision Questions

א: יב סינק-י: ג

- What is the law regarding a *ken* where one of the birds dies? (א: יב)
- What is the law regarding a bird that flew from a group of *kinei chovah* and mixed with another group of *kinei chovah*? (א: יב)
- Regarding the previous question, what example does the *Mishnah* bring where the two groups are of equal size? Explain the ruling. (א: יב)
- What case does the *Mishnah* bring where the groups are different sizes? Explain the ruling? (א: יב)
- What is the law regarding a bird that flew from a *ken stumah* to a *ken mefureshet*? (א: ד)
- What is the law regarding a bird that flew back from that mixture? (א: יב)
- Explain the case of "יעצמאב המותסו נכמ הלועו נכמ תאטח" (א: יב)
- Which birds can be used for bird sacrifices? (א: יב)
- Can a *ken chovah* consist of different birds? (א: יב)
- Explain the debate that relates to the previous question. (א: יב)
- How does the third chapter differ from the previous ones? (א: יג)
- What is the law regarding a mixture of two groups of *kinei stumah* of different sizes where half of the birds were offered as *olah* offerings and the other half were offered as *chatat* offerings? (א: יב)
- What is the general rule given for mixtures of groups of *kinei stumah*? (א: יג)
- What is the rule regarding a mixture of a *chatat* and *olah* where: (א: יג)
 - Both were offered above?
 - One was offered above and the other offered below?
- Explain the case of "תשרופמו המותסו הלועו תאטח" and the ruling provided in the *Mishnah*. (א: ד)
- What is the law regarding a *chatat* that mixed with a *ken chovah* (*stumah*)? (Consider both cases.) (א: יג)
- Explain the case in the last *Mishnah*. (א: ד)
- What case does *R' Yehoshua* bring that is similar to the ruling in the final *Mishnah*? (א: ד)
- What is the difference between *Torah* elders and the elder *Amei Ha'Aretz*? (א: ד)

סילכ א: א-יג

- What are the five *avot ha'tumah* and to what items do they transfer *tumah*? (א: א)
- What are the two more severe sources of *tumah* that can transfer *tumah* by virtue of being carried? How else is it more severe? (א: ב)
- What source of *tumah* is even more severe and how so? (א: ג)
- How is *dam niddah* even more severe and what other sources are on that level? (א: ג)
- What are *merkav* and *mishkav* and how are they more severe? (א: ג)

Local Shiurim

Melbourne, Australia

Sunday -Thursday

10 minutes before *Mincha*
Mizrachi Shul
Melbourne, Australia

Friday & Shabbat

10 minutes before *Mincha*
Beit Ha'Roeh
Melbourne, Australia

Efrat, Israel

Shiur in English

Sunday -Thursday

Rabbi Mordechai Scharf
9:00am
Kollel Magen Avraham
Reemon Neighbourhood

ONLINE SHIURIM

Rabbi Chaim Brown
www.shemayisrael.com/mishna/

Rav Meir Pogrow
613.org/mishnah.html

Rabbi E. Kornfeld
Rabbi C. Brown
<http://www.dafyomi.co.il/calendars/myomi/myomi-thisweek.htm>

SHIUR ON KOL HALOSHON

Rabbi Moshe Meir Weiss
In US dial: 718 906 6400
Then select: 1 – 2 – 4

Next Week's Mishnayot...

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | שדוק תבש |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| 16 th November ג"כ נושא | 17 th November ד"כ נושא | 18 th November ו"שח ה"כ | 19 th November ז"שח ו"כ | 20 th November ז"כ נושא | 21 st November ו"שח ח"כ | 22 nd November כ"ן נושא ט |
| Keilim 1:4-5 | Keilim 1:6-7 | Keilim 1:8-9 | Keilim 2:1-2 | Keilim 2:3-4 | Keilim 2:5-6 | Keilim 2:7-8 |

