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# Yeshivat Ateret Yerushalayim

IN THE HEART OF THE OLD CITY OF JERUSALEM

## The Torah of Ha-Rav Shlomo Aviner

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Parashat Emor 5768

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Would you like to ask Rav Aviner a question? E-mail [mororly@bezeqint.net](mailto:mororly@bezeqint.net) and the question will be brought to Ha-Rav and I will e-mail you the answer.

Yom Ha-Atzmaut – 60 Years since the establishment of the State of Israel

### For His Kindness is Everlasting (based on Psalm 136)

Give thanks to Hashem for He is good.....for His kindness is everlasting  
To the One who establishes a state for His Nation.....for His kindness is everlasting  
To the One who sustains an ancient idea.....for His kindness is everlasting  
For which we dreamt during all of the exiles.....for His kindness is everlasting  
For these bones which were resurrected.....for His kindness is everlasting  
And which will be resurrected.....for His kindness is everlasting  
For the Exodus from Egypt of our time.....for His kindness is everlasting  
For our return home.....for His kindness is everlasting  
To the One who built our Land for us.....for His kindness is everlasting  
And who returned our exiles to it.....for His kindness is everlasting  
And who was victorious in the War of Independence....for His kindness is everlasting  
And all of the wars of Israel.....for His kindness is everlasting  
To the one who awakened the Zionist movement.....for His kindness is everlasting  
Which slaughtered the Angel of Death.....for His kindness is everlasting

Not completely but mostly.....for His kindness is everlasting  
The movement which contains light and darkness.....for His kindness is everlasting  
We give thanks for the light.....for His kindness is everlasting  
And we repair the darkness.....for His kindness is everlasting  
Since it not only saves the Nation.....for His kindness is everlasting  
But it also saves our Torah.....for His kindness is everlasting  
Since our Land is being filled with Torah.....for His kindness is everlasting

Blessing is the One who returns His Divine Presence to Zion  
for His kindness is everlasting



Ha-Rav answers hundreds of text message questions a week. Some appear in the parashah sheets "Ma'ayanei Ha-Yeshu'ah" and "Olam Ha-Katan." Here's a sample:

Q: Is it permissible to shave and get a haircut for Yom Ha-Atzmaut? Are all of the laws of mourning of Sefirat Ha-Omer suspended on Yom Ha-Atzmaut?

A: One should shave before Maariv on Yom Ha-Atzmaut and wear holiday clothing. The entire day of Yom Ha-Atzmaut is considered a holiday including this year when it is moved up.

Q: Is it permissible to steal in order to save your life?

A: With the condition that you return the stole items.

Q: Why do some people who learn Torah not recite the "Korbanot – Sacrifices" in the prayers?

A: The order of the sacrifices is recited as an atonement as is learning Torah (Lev Chaim of Rav Chaim Palagi), but the basic ruling is that one should recite them.

Q: Is it permissible to volunteer for Magen David Adom on Shabbat?

A: Yes, but you must observe all of the laws of Shabbat. You should receive exact instructions regarding what is permissible and what is forbidden.

Q: I did not sell my chametz on Pesach. Can I use products such as sugar, oil, salt, etc... which I had during Pesach?

A: It is forbidden to benefit from chametz which was owned by a Jew during Pesach, but if something is doubtful chametz it is permissible. Many times the Rabbi of a community or neighborhood will sell chametz for one who forgets.

Q: Is it permissible to eat before Havdalah?

A: No.

Q: Can a waiter shave during the period of Sefirat Ha-Omer in order to work?

A: Yes, since it is for his livelihood.

Q: It is permissible to buy a laptop computer during Sefirat Ha-Omer?

A: Yes and you should say the blessing of "Shehechyanu." If more than one person will use it the blessing is "Ha-Tov Ve-Ha-Meitiv."

## Stories of Rabbenu – Our Rabbi

### Ha-Rav Tzvi Yehudah Ha-Cohain Kook

#### Learning from the Secular

There was once a meeting on one of the secular kibbutzim with students of the yeshiva. One of the kibbutzniks asked what the "Religious" can learn from the "Secular," and the students did not respond. When this was related to our Rabbi, he said: There is certainly what to learn from the "Secular": courage, self-sacrifice, settling the Land of Israel, etc... (Amnon Bardat from Ha-Rav Oded Valensky – Iturei Cohanim #57)

#### Glasses

Our Rabbi related that Maran (our revered mentor) Rav Kook needed glasses, but he did not wear them and he said: For a Jew, the essence is to learn Torah, and I am able to do so without glasses and it is not so terrible that I cannot see at a distance. When he was chosen as Chief Rabbi of the Land of Israel, he was forced to wear glasses, since the consulate was across the street from the building of the Chief Rabbinate, and one must properly relate to these dignitaries. (Iturei Cohanim #57)

#### Guarding the sick

Ha-Rav Natan Ra'anan was sick and one of the students was appointed to take care of him. Our Rabbi saw the student in the hallway and scolded him: "Why did you abandon him - a sick person needs to be guarded (Berachot 54b)!!" When the student was putting tefillin on Rav Ra'anan, our Rabbi scolded him: "A sick person is exempt from mitzvot." The student responded: "When Ha-Rav (i.e. our Rabbi) was sick, he put on tefillin." Our Rabbi answered forcefully: "A sick person is exempt from mitzvot." (Rav Eitan Eisman – Iturei Cohanim #57)

#### Young students

When our Rabbi gave permission for students to attend a protest (since there are times when nullifying learning Torah leads to greater observance of Torah), this ruling was for older students and not younger students. (Iturei Cohanim #57)

#### Netilat Yadayim (ritually washing hands) for a baby

Our Rabbi said that there is no need for netilat yadayim for a baby. The obligation is only for a child who reaches the age when we begin to educate him (This is also the ruling in Shulchan Aruch Ha-Rav, Orach Chaim 4:2). (Ha-Rav Yosef Kelner – Iturei Cohanim #236)

## **Shut She'eilat Shlomo - Questions of Jewish Law**

### Tipping

Q: Is one obligated to give a tip and how much?

A: It depends on what is the accepted custom in any given place. When everyone gives a tip, it is as if there is a condition for every individual to give as well. In such a case, the tip is like a part of the salary. These are the general rules and each individual situation must to be looked into.

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