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Text Message Q&A #65

Ask Rav Aviner: [mororly@bezeqint.net](mailto:mororly@bezeqint.net)

Prepared by Rabbi Mordechai Tzion

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Ha-Rav answers hundreds of text message questions a day! Here's a sample:

10 Shekels!

Q: I found 10 Shekels on an empty bus. Does it belong to the driver or to the bus company?

A: It belongs to you.

Tap Water

Q: Should we buy healthy mineral water instead of drinking unhealthy tap water?

A: There is no scientific evidence that tap water is unhealthy.

Kiddush Hashem

Q: If someone performs a Mitzvah privately, is it still considered a sanctification of Hashem's Name?

A: If it involves self-sacrifice. See Rambam, Yesodei Ha-Torah 5:10.

Chabad

Q: Is it permissible to read a Chabad newspaper which refers to the Rebbe Shlit"a (May he have a good and long life), even though he died?

A: Yes, these are Divrei Torah.

Arabs

Q: Is there a problem with hanging signs that say: "Death to Arabs"?

A: It is a desecration of Hashem's Name. We must wage war against our enemies who threaten our lives, and this is Tzahal's role. But G-d Forbid that we should express such ideas against all Arabs. They are human beings. Maran Ha-Rav Kook wrote in his letters that one must stir not stir up hatred against the Arabs.

#### 40 Days at the Kotel

Q: What is the source of the Segulah of davening at the Kotel 40 days in a row?

A: There is none. It is new (see the words of Ha-Rav Yosef Shalom Elyashiv in Ha-Shakdan vol. 2, p. 109).

#### Na-Nach-Nachma-Nachman

Q: Ha-Rav wrote that the expression Na-Nach-Nachma-Nachman has no source. The source is the note of Rabbi Yisrael Odesser!

A: That is known. But there is no source for the contents of the note.

Q: He himself is the source.

A: There needs to be a source in the Torah. When a Tanna makes a statement, they ask what is his source in the Torah. And when an Amora makes a statement, they ask what is his source in the Mishnah, etc.

#### Taanit Dibur (Talking Fast)

Q: What is the source for a Ta'anit Dibur?

A: There is no source. It is contemporary. The Mishnah Berurah writes that he saw it in one book. Shulchan Aruch, Orach Chaim 571:1.

Q: Is it recommended?

A: One should talk naturally with people, saying Shalom and guarding one's tongue.

#### Over-Eating

Q: I have an inclination to over eat. Is there a solution?

A: Support group, O.A.: over-eaters anonymous.

#### Mixed Youth Group

Q: What prohibition is there against a mixed youth group?

A: Kitzur Shulchan Aruch 152:8-10.

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**Yeshivat Ateret Yerushalayim** P.O.B. 1076 Jerusalem 91009 Tel.02-6284101 Fax.02-6261528  
**www.ateret.org.il** To subscribe, send e-mail to: [mororly@bezeqint.net](mailto:mororly@bezeqint.net)

