

# The Dee Pirkei Avot Project

Dedicated  
to those who have tragically been murdered,  
for the safe return of those missing or held hostage,  
for the refuah of those injured,  
the continued strength and bravery of our chyalim in the IDF  
and safety of all those in our homeland of Israel.

**אַרְבַּע מְדוֹת בְּדַעוֹת. נוֹחַ לְכַעַס וְנוֹחַ לְרִצּוֹת, יֵצֵא אַרְבַּע מְדוֹת בְּתַלְמִידִים. מֵהָר לְשִׁמְעַ וּמֵהָר לְאַבֵּד, יֵצֵא שְׂכָרוֹ בְּהֶפְסְדוֹ. קָשָׁה לְשִׁמְעַ וְקָשָׁה לְאַבֵּד, יֵצֵא הֶפְסְדוֹ בְּשִׂכְרוֹ. מֵהָר לְשִׁמְעַ וְקָשָׁה לְאַבֵּד, חָכָם. קָשָׁה לְשִׁמְעַ וּמֵהָר לְאַבֵּד, זֶה חֵלֶק רָע:**

There are four temperaments among students: Quick to understand and quick to forget -- his gain is canceled by his loss. [A student who is] slow to understand and slow to forget -- his loss is canceled by his gain. [A student who is] quick to understand and slow to forget -- he is a sage. [A student who is] slow to understand and quick to forget -- that is a bad portion.

The Mishna above seemingly explores the differing characters of four students, each with distinct learning methods and ways of recalling taught information. The Mishna describes the capacities of these students in terms of both how long it takes them to understand taught content alongside their ability to remember it, or as the Mishna phrases, the time it takes them to forget. The Mishna then seems to evaluate each student, looking at the metric of time taken to learn and time taken to forget.

Quick to understand, quick to forget: While this student learns rapidly, their inability to retain knowledge stunts their progress. This teaches us that knowledge is most valuable when it is sustained.

Slow to understand, slow to forget: Although they struggle initially, their persistence ensures long-term gains. Their journey emphasises the importance of patience and hard work in learning. This teaches us that although one may be slow to understand, this frustration can ultimately be matched with the ability to retain information.

Quick to understand, slow to forget: This is the ideal student, the Chacham (sage), who embodies both sharp comprehension and solid retention.

Slow to understand, quick to forget: This is considered a "bad portion," as neither effort nor outcome benefits this student meaningfully.

This Mishna teaches us that success in learning requires a level of balance in both understanding and remembering, highlighting the importance of the two to become considered a Chacham. This balance between comprehension, understanding what one has learnt thoroughly, as well as retention, how long we are able to remember these teachings for, gives us an insight into the optimal way to learn Torah and live your life.

The optimal of being "quick to understand and slow to forget" reflects the importance of Torah study as a lifelong pursuit. Rabbi Shimshon Raphael Hirsch notes that the Chacham is praised because of their combination of qualities ensuring that Torah knowledge will guide their actions consistently throughout their life. This connection reminds us of the importance of Torah knowledge and how optimal retention allows us to live Torah-observant lives. To be able to live a life full of Torah and Mitzvot, we must ensure we are able to both learn and remember as much Torah as we can!

#### Discussion Points:

Is there always a correlation between how much time we spend learning something and how long we can remember it for?

Is memory innate or rather is it something we can work on?

Idea by Joel Herman

לעילוי נשמת:

לאה בת רפאל הכהן וציפורה

מאיה אסתר בת הרב אריה מרדכי ולאה

רינה מרים בת הרב אריה מרדכי ולאה



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**Missing or Held Hostage:**

Itai ben Michal Zipporah  
 Rivka Levy  
 סביון חן בת רבקה  
 רינת זגדון  
 אביה בת יפעת  
 Sharona shmunis harel  
 Itai zamir  
 Ben Menashe Ben Dikla  
 יובל בוים  
 ענר אליקים בן שירה  
 אליסף בן פורת , גבריאל בראל  
 Gal Navon (Gal Ben Naama)  
 עווד בן בלהה , יוכבד בת לאה  
 אבינתן בן דיצה תרצה  
 Ben Shimoni  
 הירש בן שרה  
 אבינתן בן דיצה תרצה  
 מיכאל בן רחל  
 עילי עזר בן אפרת  
 עידן אלכסנדר בן יעל  
 נריה בן שרון  
 מוריה בת סנדרה  
 יהונתן בן לימור  
 דביר חיים בן רוית  
 הדר בת גליה  
 אליהו בן בת שבע  
 בועז מנשה בן עטרה  
 אלקנה בוחבוט בן רוחמה  
 שגיא בן נעמית  
 דור בן דורית  
 תומר שגב  
 אברהם בן רפאל  
 אורי בן סיגלית  
 אוריאל ביבי בן יעל ג'וליה  
 אושר בן רחל  
 איתמר בן מיכל  
 רינת הודיה בת מיכולה  
 הירש גולדברג פולין  
 Adi Margalit bat Elka Chana  
 עומר מקסים בן אורנה אסתר ורון  
 doreen attias bat tali  
 אופיר אנגל  
 נעמה בת איילת  
 איתי בן חגית  
 תמיר בן חרות  
 שגיא בן נעמית  
 Matan ben Anat

Ada bat Esther  
 Adi bat Shoshan  
 Adina bat Eida  
 Agam Ben Chen  
 Alma bat Yonat  
 Amelia bat Daniella  
 Avigail bat Smadar  
 Aviva bat Golit  
 Chana bat Jesse  
 Chana bat Rivka  
 Chen bat Giora  
 Clara bat Tanya  
 Dafna bat Maayan  
 Danielle bat Rivka  
 Ditzza bat Leah Heiman  
 Doron Bat Efrat  
 Eitan ben Batsheva  
 Ella bat Maayan  
 Elma bat Leah  
 Emma bat Sharon  
 Emily bat Narkis  
 Erez Ben Hadas  
 Gal Ben Chen  
 Gavriela bat Tanya  
 Hagar Brodetz  
 Hila bat Raaya  
 Karina bat Eera  
 Keren bat Rut  
 Margalit bat Lita  
 Maya bat Gavriella  
 Maya bat Mirit Regev  
 Meirav bat Rachel  
 Mika bat Karina  
 Naveh ben Adi  
 Noam bat Sharone  
 Noam ben Yonat  
 Noga bat Shiri  
 Ofelia bat Rosinta  
 Ofry bat Hagar  
 Ohad Ben Keren  
 Or ben Renana  
 Ori ben Hagar  
 Rimon bat Avital  
 Roni ben Marina  
 Ruth bat Chedva  
 Sahar bat Hadas  
 Sharon bat Rivka  
 Sharon bat Ruti  
 Shiri bat Tamar  
 Shoshan bat Rina  
 Tal Ben Chen  
 Tamar Metzger  
 Yaffa bat Tova  
 Yagil ben Renana  
 Yahel Neri bat Adi  
 Yuli bat Sharon  
 Yuval ben Karina  
 Yuval Ben Hagar

**L'ilui Nishmat:**

אריאל בן אחיה ועידית אליהו הי"ד  
 רועי ויזר  
 רועי חיים בן נעמי וישראל  
 תומר בן מיכל  
 Yishai ben Yitzchak  
 Avraham Ben Yaffa  
 חנן (חנניה) בן יולנדה  
 יונתן צור בן רבקה  
 Nathanel Abraham Shalom ben Nahoum Maimon  
 ישי בן ענבל  
 רועי חיים בן ישראל מאיר ונעמי  
 אור מלכה  
 Ro'ee Ben yaron  
 אריה בן דבורה  
 Sgt. Roey Chaim Ben Yisrael Meir  
 מתן בן מירי וארז  
 רועי חיים בן נעמי וימי  
 אריאל בן אחיה ועידית  
 יוסף מרדכי בן דינה  
 אלחנן קלמנזון  
 אריאל בן עידית ואחיה  
 דביר חיים בן ישראל עמיחי  
 יוסף מלאכי בן דינה ודוד  
 דביר חיים בן ישראל עמיחי  
 יהונתן אהרון שטינברג  
 Paul Kessler  
 Sharona shumnit harel  
 אלחנן אריאל בן יהודה הי"ד  
 Elisheva Rose Ida Lubin  
 לורן בת חוה  
 אוריה בן ריטה  
 Daniel Shimon ben Doron  
 Zecharia Pesach ben Aharon Baruch  
 ilan Cohen  
**Refuah:**  
 יונתן צבי בן שרון  
 מיחי שמעון בן בתיה  
 איתי בן ליז  
 מיכאל בן אסתר  
 יאיר בן דרורה  
 נתנאל בן חיה אסתר  
 עמיחי שמעון בן בתיה  
 יאיר יונה בן דרורה ציפורה מלכה  
 Kinneret D  
 Hadar bat Galiya  
 ענר שפירא  
 Natalie  
 בת יהודית and יהודית בת תמר  
 נועה בת עדי מרציאנו  
 נבו בן מירב  
 דביר בן אורית  
 יונה בצלאל בן חוה שושנה  
 Shlomo Yair Chaim Ben Gittle Sara  
 רז בן דליה  
 Yonatan tzvi Ben Sharon  
 Nadav Ephraim Ben Shulamit Leah  
 יאיר בן דרורה

These lists are not comprehensive and only include names sent by people connected to this project.

We pray for the welfare of those released from captivity (who may be in the hostage list).

May our learning be in the zechut of ALL those in need in Israel.