# **Practical** Modern-Day **Erev Pesach** Controversies In Hilchos that falls out on om To Shabbos You have heard the shaylos . . . Now learn the issues & the opinions

A summary of the weekly Wednesday night shiur by Rabbi Shmuel Stein at the Miami Beach Community Kollel / To receive a copy send an email to InHilchosShabbos@gmail.com

The Netai Gavriel<sup>1</sup> writes that "erev Pesach that falls out on Shabbos is a rare occurrence and it is common for a person to have forgotten many of these halachos from the last time erev Pesach fell out on Shabbos. Therefore, a person must study these halachos to know the proper way for him and his family to conduct themselves on this Shabbos, both regarding the halachos of Shabbos and the halachos of Pesach." In this chapter we will review the halachos and minhagim of this special occurrence of erev Pesach that falls out on Shabbos.

### A likely time for the arrival of Mashiach

The Chasam Sofer<sup>2</sup> writes that "The final redemption is more likely to occur on a year that erev Pesach falls out on Shabbos. When the Jewish people entered Eretz Yisroel, the first Pesach which they observed occurred when erev Pesach fell out on Shabbos; so too, the final redemption will occur in this fashion when erev Pesach falls out on Shabbos."3

# When Erev Pesach Falls out on Shabbos

When erev Pesach falls out on Shabbos there are many differences in the halachos and minhagim from other years which are outlined in the Shulchan Aruch, Mishna Berura and later poskim. In the following paragraphs we will discuss the proper way to fulfill the halachos of erev Pesach that falls out on Shabbos. We will discuss these halachos in time order.

# Shabbos Ha'Gadol - 7th of Nissan

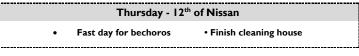
#### . Shabbos Ha'Gadol Derasha

The Shabbos before Pesach is referred to as "Shabbos Ha'Gadol" - The Great Shabbos. There are two reasons why this Shabbos is given this unique title:

I. Remembering the great miracle that occurred. The Shulchan Aruch<sup>4</sup> writes that "the Shabbos before Pesach is called 'Shabbos Ha'Gadol,' because of the great miracle that occurred on that Shabbos." The Mishna Berura<sup>5</sup> explains that "on the year that the Jewish people left Mitzrayim, on the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month of Nissan, they tied their sheep to their bedposts. As the verse<sup>6</sup> states "On the tenth of this month each man should take a sheep for his household." That year, the 10<sup>th</sup> of Nissan fell out on Shabbos. When the Egyptians asked the Jews about this practice, they Jews responded that they were commanded to slaughter the sheep to Hashem. Although the Egyptians worshiped sheep and this would normally put the lives of the Jews in danger, a miracle occurred and the Egyptians were unable to say anything to them. Since this great miracle occurred on the 10<sup>th</sup> of Nissan, which was the Shabbos before Pesach, we call the Shabbos before Pesach 'The Great Shabbos'

2. We gather to discuss the halachos of Pesach. Rashi<sup>8</sup> writes that "On this Shabbos the people gather in shul to discuss the halachos of Pesach and to discuss the great miracles which Hakadosh baruch Hu performed in Mitzrayim. Since they remain in shul for a long time and in their eyes, it seems like a long day, it is referred to as the Shabbos HaGadol.

The Mishna Berura<sup>9</sup> writes that this year, when erev Pesach falls out on Shabbos, the 'Shabbos Ha'Gadol Derasha' is given by the Rav on the previous Shabbos (7th of Nissan).<sup>10</sup> Delivering a derasha on erev Pesach would be too late to begin discussing the halachos of Pesach, and therefore the Rav delivers his derasha the previous week.11



# Ta'anis Bechoros - The Fast of the Firstborn

The Shulchan Aruch<sup>12</sup> writes that "on erev Pesach the bechorim fast." The Mishna Berura<sup>13</sup> explains that this is done to commemorate the miracle which occurred to the lewish firstborns who were spared in Mitzrayim." The Mishna Berura<sup>14</sup> writes that "the custom today in many places is for the bechorim to eat at a seudos mitzvoh, such as a siyum on a mesechto, which will exempt them from fasting even if they themselves did not finish the mesechta."

The Rema<sup>15</sup> writes that when erev Pesach falls out on Shabbos one is prohibited to fast (on Shabbos), and thus the fast is pushed earlier to Thursday. The Aruch HaShulchan<sup>16</sup> explains that we do not push the fast to Friday, because we do not want to enter Shabbos while fasting. Therefore, those who have the custom to partake in a siyum should this year eat at a siyum on Thursday.  $^{\rm 17}$ 

# Cleaning one's house for bedikas chametz

The Rema<sup>18</sup> writes that before performing bedikas chametz one should ensure that his house is clean, because one can only perform bedikas chametz properly if his house is cleaned beforehand.<sup>19</sup> The Mishna Berura<sup>20</sup> writes that the custom is to complete cleaning one's home on the day of bedikas chametz so that he can begin bedikas chametz immediately as nighttime arrives. Similarly, this year, when bedikas chametz takes place on Thursday night (as we will soon discuss), one should spend time cleaning his house on Thursday to ensure that it is ready for bedikas chametz on Thursday night21

# Thursday Night – 13<sup>th</sup> of Nissan

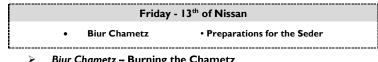
# Bedikas Chametz

#### $\triangleright$ Bedikas Chametz - Searching for the Chametz

On a regular year, bedikas chametz is performed on the eve of erev Pesach (i.e., the 14th of Nissan). However, the Shulchan Aruch<sup>22</sup> writes that this year, when erev Pesach falls out on Shabbos we cannot perform bedikas chametz on Friday night (the 14th of Nissan), because it is prohibited to carry a candle on Shabbos.23 Therefore, this year we perform bedikas chametz a day early on Thursday night (the 13th of Nissan). All the halachos of bedikas chametz that apply on a regular year apply to this year as well. Accordingly:

- One should begin bedikas chametz as soon as nightfall arrives.24
- One recites a beracha before beginning bedikas chametz.25
- One must check all the rooms where chametz is brought, including the rooms that he will still be using on erev Shabbos or on Shabbos to eat chametz.26
- After completing bedikas chametz one recites kol chamira which is a declaration of bitul which disowns any chametz that one did not find.27

One should set aside the chametz and challah which he will use on erev Shabbos and during the Shabbos meals. The Mishna Berura<sup>28</sup> writes that he must put the *chametz* aside in a place that is well hidden, so that it will not be moved and scattered around the house. Bay Moshe Shternbauch<sup>29</sup> writes that one must be especially careful about this when there are young children in the house. If the chametz is moved and scattered around the house, then the first bedikas chametz is invalid and a new bedikas chametz is required.<sup>30</sup> Rav Yisroel Dovid Harfenis<sup>31</sup> writes "if after performing bedikas chametz one gives his child chametz to eat, he is required to stand over them to ensure that they do not carry any chametz around the house. All the chametz should be put away in a safe place and eaten in a designated area.'



# **Biur Chametz - Burning the Chametz**

On a regular year, the chametz is burned on erev Pesach (the 14th on Nissan) before the sixth hour of the day.32 This year however, when erev Pesach falls out on Shabbos, one may not burn the chametz on erev Pesach, because it is prohibited to burn the chametz on Shabbos. Rather, the Shulchan Aruch<sup>33</sup> writes that one should burn his *chametz* on Friday (the 14<sup>th</sup> of Nissan) and sets aside any bread or challah that he will need for Shabbos. The Shulchan Aruch  $^{\rm 34}$  adds that "it is appropriate to burn the *chametz* before the sixth hour just as it is burned every year.<sup>35</sup> Although this year it is technically permissible to burn the chametz later in the day (since chametz does not become prohibited at that time), we nevertheless burn the chametz before the sixth hour so that people will not get confused on other years and forget that they must burn the chametz before the sixth hour."<sup>36</sup> One sets aside the challah that he will need for the Shabbos meals and burns the rest of his chametz.37

After burning the chametz one does not recite kol chamira (where he gives up ownership of any chametz in his possession) as he does on a typical year, because he still owns the chametz which he set aside for the Shabbos meals.<sup>38</sup> Rather, Kol chamira is recited on Shabbos,<sup>39</sup> as we will later discuss. However, the teffilah of "Yehi ratzon" (composed by the Chida, as a prayer to aid in burning one's yetzer hara) which is commonly said immediately after burning the chametz, is said this year as well after burning the chametz.40

1 Erev Pesach she'chal b'Shabbos, Introduction 2 Derashos on Shabbos Hagadol 5588 p. 247 3 Moreover, sefer Ateres Yehoshuah (cited in Netai Gavriel, Erev Pesach she'chal b'Shabbos, Introduction) writes, "The Gemara (Shabbos 118b) teaches that "if the Jewish people would observe two Shabboss they would immediately be redeemed. Besides for the Shabbos that occurs each week, the Torah (Vayikra 23:15) also refers to the first day of Pesach as "Shabbos," Therefore, when *erev Pesach* falls out on Shabbos there are two consecutive days of Shabbos, and in a year that there is two consecutive days of Shabbos the final redemption is more *mesugal* to occur." 4430:1 5 430:1 6 Shemos 12:3 7 The Aruch HaShuchan (430:2-4) asks that if this miracle occurred on the 10<sup>th</sup> of Nissan, why do we attribute this miracle to Shabbos? He gives several answers. One answer is that Shabbos and Pesach are connected and are dependent on each other. Shabbos is a sign about Hashem running the world and how His love to the Jewish people. And one without the other is futile. 8 Sefer HaPardes, p. 343 9 430:2 10 Rav Moshe Shternbach (*Erev Pesach she'dhal b'Shabbos*, because it too discusses many of the halachos of Pesach which would be given on *erev Pesach*) the ruling of the Mishna Berura is the accepted ruling. The Aruch HaShulchan (430:5) rules that on the Shabbos of *erev Pesach* the Ray should give a *derash* to a valken his congregants about the holmes of the days of Pesach. Regarding the piyutim that are said on Shabbos, because it too discusses many of the halachos of Pesach which would be too late to be reviewed on *erev Pesach*. While others say these *piyutim* on the Shabbos of *erev Pesach*. While others omit these piyutim on the Shabbos of *erev Pesach*. While others omit these piyutim this year. See also Kovetz Halachos (*Fesach she'chal b'Shabbos*, I (Rav Yisroel Dovid Harfenes) who also cites several on pincing the beginning on the revise piyutim on the Shabbos of *erev Pesach*. While others can'k the Bagadad hor Shabbos has custom to read the Haggadah on Shabbos Ha'Gadol at Mincha time. The Mishna Berura (430:2) explains that since the beginning of the redemption and of the miracles began at that time, we recite the Haggadah then. [The Vilia Goan (cited in the Biur Halacha, 430) did not agree with this custom, because we say in the Haggadah that 'You may have thought to begin reciting the Haggadah during the day, but the verse teaches us that we only begin reciting the Haggadah on the night of Pesach,' if so, one should not recite the Haggadah that time arrives.] The Mishna Berura (430:2) writes that when erev Pesach falls out on Shabbos, those who have this custom recite the Haggadah on erev Pesach. **12** 470:1 **13** 470:1 **14** 470:10 **15** 470:2. The Shulchan Aruch (470:2) 430) did not agree with this custom, because we say in the Haggadah that "You may have thought to begin reciting the Haggadah during the day, but the verse teaches us that we only begin reciting the Haggadah on the night of Pesach, if so, one should not recite the Haggadah that time arrives.] The Mishna Berura (430:2) writes that when erev Pesach falls out on Shabbos, those who have this custom recite the Haggadah not the performance with the opinion that the fast is pushed earlier to Thursday while others say that the fast is pushed earlier to Thursday while others say that the bechors do not fast this year. The Rema rules in accordance with the opinion that the fast is pushed earlier to Thursday. If 470:1 17 (Arc).
Moshe Shternbach (*Erev Pesach she'chal b'Shabbos I*) writes that some have the custom to partale in a syum on both Thursday and Friday. See also Kovetz Halachos l'erev *Pesach she'chal b'Shabbos A* (Rav Yisreel Dovid Harfenes) who also brings opinions that the primary day to fast is Friday. He adds that some suggest saving some of the food from the syum on Thursday and ating it on Friday. But, Rabbis Harfenes concludes that these seem to be an extra stringency as one may assume that the primary day to fast is on Thursday and store seconds. *20* (43:4):
18 433:11 19 Mishna Berura 43:46
20 43:46
21 Netai Gavriel 2:15. Netai Gavriel 2:13. Netai Gavriel 2:21. Sheatos l'erev Pesach she'chal b'Shabbos, 7 (Rav Yisroel Dovid Harfenes)
24 Kovetz Halachos l'erev Pesach she'chal b'Shabbos, 7 (Rav Yisroel Dovid Harfenes)
24 Note Gavriel 3:6
27 Mishna Berura 44:1:
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# How much chametz should one set aside for the Shabbos meals?

The Shulchan Aruch<sup>41</sup> writes "when one burns the *chametz*, he sets aside enough *chametz* food for the Shabbos meals."<sup>42</sup> To understand how much *chametz* one should set aside it is important to discuss how much *chametz* one must need for Shabbos. We will discuss two points: 1. How much challah must one set aside?

How much challah must one set aside?
 Should one have *chametz* food (aside from challah) on Shabbos?

### I. How much challah must one set aside?

The Shulchan Aruch<sup>43</sup> writes that on this Shabbos one has only two meals with bread. Since, as we will later discuss, one must finish eating *chametz* on Shabbos at the *z'man achila* which is early in the morning, one may not eat challah at *shalosh seudos* which is generally eaten in the afternoon. Therefore, the Shulchan Aruch writes that on this Shabbos since one cannot eat bread in the afternoon, he must fulfill *shalosh seudos* in other *b'dieved* ways.<sup>44</sup> For example, the Rema<sup>45</sup> writes that to fulfill his obligation of *shalosh seudos* one may eat meat or fish, or even fruit.<sup>46</sup> The Mishna Berura<sup>47</sup> explains that although on a typical Shabbos one should not rely on the opinions who permit fulfilling the mitzvah of *shalosh seudos* with meat , fish or fruit, on this Shabbos where one may not eat bread he may rely on these opinions.<sup>48</sup> The Mishna Berura<sup>49</sup> adds that one should be careful not to fill himself too much so that he will have a good appetite to eat the matzah.

Based on what we have discussed, one should set aside enough challah for only two meals. He should be careful to set aside only the exact amount needed (to have *lechem mishna* at each meal and for everyone in his family to eat a *k'beitza* of challah at each meal). This way he will ensure that all the *chametz* will certainly be consumed on Shabbos.<sup>50</sup>

# 2. Should one have chametz food (aside from challah) on Shabbos?

The Shulchan Aruch<sup>51</sup> writes that one should not prepare cooked dishes which have *chametz*, because the *chametz* may stick to the walls of the pot and will not be able to be cleaned on Shabbos since the cleaning is not needed for Shabbos (and thus cleaning it violates the prohibition of Hachana<sup>52</sup>). For example, one should not prepare *lokshen* kugel, *kneidleach*, cholent with barley, etc., for this Shabbos.<sup>53</sup> The best practice for this Shabbos is to only cook and use foods that are kosher for Pesach.<sup>54</sup> The kosher for Pesach.<sup>55</sup> Similarly, all of the salt and spices that one uses on Shabbos should be kosher for Pesach.<sup>56</sup> It is preferable to use (nice) disposable dishes, silverware and tablecloths, because they can be disposed of after they are used.<sup>57</sup>

# > Preparations for the Night of the Seder

On Friday one should take care of all the preparations for the Seder including preparing all the items needed for the Seder plate. There are two reasons for this: Firstly, many of these preparations are more complicated to perform on Yom Tov when certain *mealchos* are prohibited. Secondly, if all the preparations are completed on Friday it allows one to begin the Seder as soon as he gets home from shul on Yom Tov, and the Shulchan Aruch<sup>58</sup> writes that one should begin the Pesach Seder as soon as he arrives home from shul on Pesach night so that the children will be awake for the Seder. Therefore,

- One should prepare the charoses on Friday.<sup>59</sup>
- One should roast the Zero'ah (Shank bone) and the egg on Friday.<sup>60</sup>
- One should check the lettuce for Maror on Friday.<sup>61</sup>
- One should grate the Maror on Friday but must make sure to store it in a container that is tightly closed so that the Maror does not lose its bitter taste.<sup>62</sup>
- One should check for whole matzos on Friday and set them aside from broken ones.<sup>63</sup>
- One should prepare the saltwater on Friday.<sup>64</sup>

# Friday Night - 14<sup>th</sup> of Nissan

# Friday Night Meal - Eating chametz carefully

#### The Friday Night Meal

As we discussed above, it is preferable to use a minimal amount of challah for this Friday night meal. One must nevertheless have enough challah for *lechem mishna* and for everyone at the meal to eat a *k'beitza<sup>65</sup>* of bread. One must be careful that the crumbs of the challah are not scattered around the house. There are two ways that this can be accomplished:

I. Eating the Seuda outdoors. To avoid having crumbs in one's house some people eat the challah outside their house.<sup>66</sup> One may eat the entire seuda outdoors.<sup>67</sup> or he may recite Kiddush and Hamotzie outside and then return inside the house to eat the rest of the meal.<sup>68</sup> Before one comes back inside his house, he should make sure that he and his family shake off the crumbs from their clothing.<sup>69</sup> One must return to the place where he ate Hamotzie (i.e., outside) to recite Birchas Hamazon.<sup>70</sup>

**2. Eating the Seuda indoors.** One may eat the entire seuda indoors but must be careful that the challah is not scattered around the house. The poskim write that one who eats indoors should keep in mind the following points:

- One should only bring the challah to the table immediately before the seuda; especially in a house where there are young children.<sup>71</sup>
- The challah should be eaten carefully over a napkin and the table should be covered with a plastic tablecloth.<sup>72</sup>
- After eating the challah, one should wrap the remaining crumbs and dispose of them in a toilet or in a place that is ownerless.<sup>73</sup> One should not dispose of the *chametz* in a garbage bin which he owns.<sup>74</sup>
- One should hide the remaining challah that will be used for tomorrow's seuda.<sup>75</sup>
- One must be careful not to disregard the mitzva of oneg Shabbos even on this Shabbos.<sup>76</sup>
   For example, it is a mitzvah to serve hot food for the Friday night seuda.<sup>77</sup>

	Shabbos Morning - 14 <sup>th</sup> of Nissan		
e	• Daven Early	• The Shabbos Morning Meal	Shalosh Seudos

#### Daven early

The Mishna Berura<sup>78</sup> writes that "on this Shabbos one must wake up early to daven so that he will have time to eat the *chametz* and not cause one to inadvertently eat *chametz* after the *zman achila*. The *teffilos* should also not be dragged out."<sup>79</sup> Yet, at the same time one should not rush through the davening.<sup>80</sup>

#### > The Shabbos morning meal

One eats challah again at the Shabbos morning meal and must be careful that challah is not scattered around the house just as during the Friday night meal.<sup>81</sup> One must be sure to finish eating all the challah (and any other *chametz*) before the *z'man achila* (the time by which one must finish eating *chametz*).<sup>82</sup>

#### > Brushing one's teeth after eating chametz

To ensure that one has no *chametz* remaining in his mouth one should brush his teeth before the *z'man achila.*<sup>83</sup> One may use a dry toothbrush to brush his teeth on Shabbos, but may not use a wet toothbrush (due to the prohibition of *S'chita*, wringing) or toothpaste (due to the prohibition of *Memarei'ach*, smoothing).<sup>84</sup> After one is finished brushing his teeth, he should not rinse off the toothbrush (due to the prohibition of *Hachana*, preparing for after Shabbos).<sup>85</sup> One may floss his teeth if doing so will not cause his gums to bleed.<sup>86</sup> He must cut the floss before Shabbos or use Plackers.<sup>87</sup> Someone who has braces must be careful to clean his mouth well, while at the same time he must be careful not to cause his gums to bleed. One may continue eating the rest of his non-*chametz* meal after the *z'man achila.*<sup>88</sup>

Biur Chametz – Destroying the remaining crumbs or pieces of chametz Any remaining crumbs or pieces of challah must be disposed of before the z'man Biur (the time by which one must destroy all his chametz). This may be done by disposing of the remaining crumbs in a toilet or in a place which is ownerless.<sup>89</sup> One should not dispose of the chametz in a garbage bin which he owns.<sup>90</sup>

#### Kol Chamira – Bitul Chametz

After one disposed of all his *chametz*, he recites *Kol Chamira* where he declares that any *chametz* which he owns is *hefker* (ownerless).<sup>91</sup> One must recite *Kol Chamira* before the *z'man Biur*.

#### > Taking a nap on Shabbos

It is appropriate for one to take a nap on *erev Pesach* and encourage his family to do so as well so that they will be well rested for the Seder.<sup>92</sup> One may take a nap on Shabbos but should not verbalize that his intention is to be rested for after Shabbos.<sup>93</sup> However, when trying to get a child to take a nap for the Seder one may tell the child to 'take a nap for the Seder' if there is no other way to get the child to take a nap.<sup>94</sup>

#### Shalosh Seudos

As we mentioned earlier, the Rema<sup>95</sup> writes that since it is prohibited to eat *chametz* (and matzah) on Shabbos afternoon one should fulfill the mitzvah of eating *Shalosh Seudos* by eating meat, fish, or fruits.

#### Preparing for the Seder

On Shabbos, one may not prepare for the Seder which will take place on *Motzai Shabbos* as this involves the prohibition of *Hachana*, preparing for after Shabbos.<sup>96</sup> For example, one may not set the table, set up chairs or pillows, or prepare the wines, etc., for the Seder.<sup>97</sup> On Motzai Shabbos one must say '*Baruch haMavdil bein Kodesh l'Kodesh*' before preparing for the Seder or doing any *melacha* (e.g., cooking or lighting the Yom Tov candles) [instead of the regular statement that is made on *Motzai Shabbos* of '*Baruch haMavdil bein Kodesh l'Chol*].<sup>98</sup>

the regular statement that is made on *Matzia* Shabobs of 'Baruch had/wold bein Kodesh (Chof].<sup>35</sup> **35** E Gevent, if one din out pure the such hour he may control to the may control to harmet. (Statubile to Rave Active Astronome Statuber and the control of the day just as it is do over vy set (Tabub, derahos 37 control of the just as its as do never year. (Tabub, derahos 37 control of the just as its as do never year. (Tabub, derahos 37 control of the just as its as do never year. (Tabub, derahos 37 control of the just as its as do never year. (Tabub, derahos 37 control of the just as a much derahes 13 fulkation.) (Never Hababos in the statubes (see Kever Hababos inter Pesch sheld b) Shabbos. (J. (J. War Yarcel Dovid Harfness).) (Never Hababos inter Pesch sheld b) Shabbos. (J. (J. War Yarcel Dovid Harfness).) (Never Hababos inter Pesch sheld b) Shabbos. (J. (J. War Yarcel Dovid Harfness).) (Never Hababos inter Pesch sheld b) Shabbos. (J. (J. War Yarcel Dovid Harfness).) (Never Hababos inter Pesch sheld b) Shabbos. (J. (J. War Yarcel Dovid Harfness).) (Never Hababos inter Pesch sheld b) Shabbos. (J. (J. War Yarcel Dovid Harfness).) (Never Hababos inter Pesch sheld b) Shabbos. (J. (J. War Yarcel Dovid Harfness).) (Never Hababos inter Pesch sheld b) Shabbos. (J. (J. War Yarcel Dovid Harfness).) (Never Hababos inter Pesch sheld b) Shabbos. (J. (J. War Yarcel Dovid Harfness).) (Never Hababos inter Pesch sheld b) Shabbos. (J. (J. War Yarcel Dovid Harfness).) (Never Hababos inter Pesch sheld b) Shabbos. (J. (J. Warter Shabbos inter Pesch held b) Shabbos. (J. (J. Warter Shabbos inter Pesch held b) Shabbos. (J. (J. Warter Shabbos inter Shabbos inte

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