

Beauty in the Eyes of the Beholder

"As he was about to enter Egypt, he said to his wife Sarai, "I know what a beautiful woman you are." (Bereishis 12:11)

"...Abraham did not even look at his own wife, as it is written: "Now I know that you are a beautiful woman" (Genesis 12:11). One may learn by inference that initially he did not know how beautiful she was because he had not gazed at her. (Bava Basra 16a:15)



Chazal tell us (above) that only when Avraham went down to Egypt did he notice that his wife Sarah was pretty. There is a great deal of discussion about this amongst the commentators. One approach which seems to explain this well is that where an item is in great demand, but with little supply, it becomes a highly coveted object. In Egypt, which was a corrupt and immoral country, beautiful women were in short supply and in high demand. Therefore, it was only then that Avraham noticed his wife's beauty.

But, as we see in numerous places in the Torah, beauty is considered a positive attribute. Therefore, why didn't Avraham find out if his wife was pretty before he married her?

There are many things in life which are taken for granted without appreciating their real value. Perhaps one's neighbor is an upstanding and noble person, and also happens to be a big *Talmid chacham*. If someone were to ask him about his neighbor, he might have lots of wonderful things to say, but the fact that he is a *Talmid chacham* might slip his mind. Whereas if he was asked about this neighbor while in the *beis medrash*, he would immediately say he is a great *Talmid chacham* and describe all the different accomplishments in his learning but would probably neglect to mention that he is a fine Jew and an upstanding neighbor. We see from this that even when one has sterling qualities, they may be overlooked when viewed in different contexts.

We understand that *chein* and *yofi* are great attributes, but are only secondary to being a G-d-fearing woman (*Mishlei* 31:30). Therefore, Avraham may have understood that his wife was pretty, but he didn't see this as her outstanding attribute. It was only when he moved to the more decadent environment of Egypt that this attribute become more

(Continued on page 2)

Lifecycles

Mazel Tov to **Shimon and Shira Young** on the bar mitzvah of their son **Daniel**. The *Aliyah l'Torah* will take place this Shabbos at Ahavas Shalom, followed by a Kiddush at the **Motza Mayim** hall (next door).



Mazel Tov to **Yehoshua and Liz Frohlich** on the engagement of their daughter **Rena** to **Mordechai Weinblatt**.



The Kehilla wishes a *Refuah Shelaymah* to Mr. Beer (Moshe Aryeh Ben Chana Baila) after his successful hip operation necessitated after a fall. Mr. Beer is recovering now in his home.



Reminder: If you would like the Gabbai to read the name of a *choleh* on Shabbos during the *Mi SheBeirach*, you must submit it via Email to Mrs. Zakoo by Thursday! Send your list of *Hebrew Names* using *Hebrew Letters* to Mrs. Zakoo at office@ahavasshalom.org.

Shabbos Schedule Parshas Lech Lecha

לוח שבת פרשת לך לך

Erev Shabbos		ערב שבת
Mincha 1	12:30	מנחה א'
Candle Lighting	16:07/16:27	הדלקת נרות
Mincha 2	16:29	מנחה ב'
Sunset	16:47	שקיעה
Shabbos Day		יום השבת
Brachos	08:00	ברכות
Shochin Ad	08:30	שוכן עד
Latest Shema – M. A.	07:57	סוף זמן ק"ש למג"א
Latest Shema – G'ra	08:43	סוף זמן ק"ש לגר"א
Mincha 1	13:00	מנחה א'
Pele Yoetz Shiur	15:45	פלא יועץ
Mincha 2	16:00	מנחה ב'
Sunset	16:46	שקיעה
Ma'ariv 1	17:23	מעריב א'
Ma'ariv 2	17:46	מעריב ב'

בואי בשלום

Boi BeShalom

FOR ALL THE FAMILY TO BRING IN
SHABBOS WITH SIMCHA

NEW EREV SHABBOS PROGRAM FOR KIDS
STARTING 30 MIN. BEFORE MINCHA

Boys 6-12 years in the Beis Medrash
Girls 6-12 years in the Hall
Learning · stories · raffles · prizes · treats
Program run by Rabbi Yitzchak Rubin

NEW!
חדש!

תוכנית חדשה ואיחודת לילדים בגילאי 6-12
בכל ערב שבת 30 דקות לפני זמן מנחה

לימוד מעניין וסיפורים מרתקים, מאתקים והפתעות
בנים: בבית המדרש - ע"י הרב רובין
בנות: באולם - ע"י בנות סמינר

(Continued from page 1)

prominent, which caused him to be take note of it.

The Vilna Gaon said that beauty is a zero. But if you have a 1 before it, it makes you into a 10.

It says in *Pirkei Avos* (2:1): "Which is the proper path that a man should choose for himself? Whatever is a credit to himself and earns the esteem of his fellow man." It is our job in the world that we live in to have two frames of reference; One according to the Torah, and the other reflecting the world in which we live. It is always best if we can be exemplary in both. But if we must choose, then we must prioritize the Torah by which we run our lives.

Avraham and Sarah, who excelled in both Torah and in all other aspects, lived in the sea of Torah, and therefore the non-Torah attributes seemed insignificant. But when Avraham went into an environment where they were important, he then took note of his wife's beauty.

We should merit to live like Avraham *Avinu*, with the Torah viewpoint being predominant in our lives. But if we find ourselves in situations in which we must prioritize other aspects, we should do our best to achieve "high marks" there too and have the *siyata dishmaya* to be viewed in a good light.

אבות ובנים

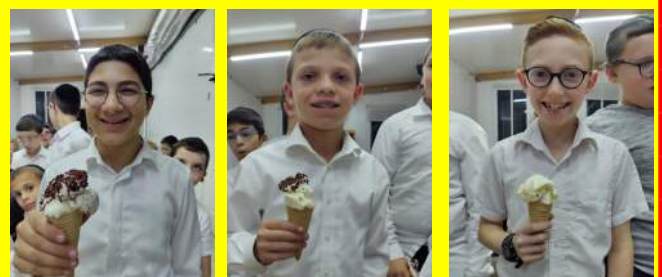


AuB Motza'ei Shabbos
at 19:00!

Boys aged 7+ learn for 1 hour

ICE CREAM and RAFFLE for PRIZES

Ice cream sponsored by the Bodzin family in
the zechut of the safety of Am Yisrael
Prizes sponsored by the Harris Family



We need YOU to sponsor Avos uBanim!

Ice Cream 150₪

Prizes 150₪

COMMUNITY CARE

Do you know someone in our Kehilla who is unwell?
Please let us know so that we can arrange home/hospital visits and meals.
Contact: Alan Rubenstein 054-398-8570

You can also inform the Ahavas Shalom Vaad.



Thoughts on Sefer Zera Shimshon

NEW
SHIUR

Given by
**Rabbi Alan
Freedman**

Wednesday Evenings
19:15-20:00 in the Hall

Text sheets will be provided



Shiurim with the Rav



The Rav will be giving 2 shiurim
this coming week:

SUNDAY 21:15: *Mishnayos - Mikvaos*

TUESDAY 20:15: **HILCHOS CHOL HAMOED**

All shiurim are given in shul and via ZOOM at this link:
cutt.ly/AhavasShalomZoom

Past shiurim are archived at ahavasshalom.org/yt-videos



GMACH SMACHOT

IF YOU SUFFER A LOSS CONTACT THE GMACH TO
BORROW ITEMS NECESSARY FOR A SHIVA HOME,
ahavasshalom.org/smachot
Or call 054-566-5083 OR 050-203-0584



Yeshivas Bein HaZmanim

Thank you to our sponsors
for Tishrei Yeshivas Bein
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Questions that appear in this newsletter come from RBSsemicha.com. Four volumes of questions are now available in print. See rbssemicha.com/books for more information.

Q&A: Cufflinks without Cuffs or Links

Q Pinny Kagan's Uncle Richard gave him a set of beautiful diamond cufflinks for his Bar Mitzvah. A month later, he invited the Kagans to his apartment for a Shabbos meal and Pinny wanted to wear the cufflinks. It was at this time that Pinny realized he needed to purchase a special shirt with "French cuffs" to use the cufflinks properly. He looked around for another way to wear the cufflinks and found a hole in his left lapel. May Pinny insert the two cufflinks in this hole and walk to his uncle's apartment on Shabbos so he can show them off to his uncle, even though he lives in a city without an *eruv*?

A No. This is forbidden. Cufflinks are not normally worn in the lapel hole. Pinny is putting them there to "show off" the expensive cufflinks to his uncle, and therefore walking with them in this hole in the public domain would be considered carrying. However, not all items are forbidden in this hole. While it would not impress his Uncle Richard, Pinny could place an Israeli / American flag pin in this hole, as this is the normal location to place this jewelry. OC 303 M.B. 29

Netziv Hayom

Sponsor *Netziv Hayom* in memory of your loved ones or in honor of a special occasion, and all the learning and davening that take place in our shul during that day will be to your merit. Just 120 ₪ per sponsorship, which is announced via a notice on the "*Netziv Hayom*" board in the shul, as well as an announcement in this newsletter. To sponsor a day please contact Mrs. Zakoo Netziv@ahavasshalom.org.

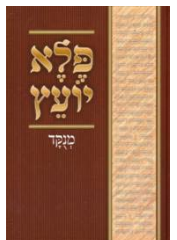


Cheshvan 7 sponsored by the Dissen Family

לע"נ **צביה בת יהושע** ע"ה

Pele Yoetz Shiur

Continuing this Shabbos afternoon, Rav Zachariash will give his shiur for men on **Pele Yoetz**. This week, the shiur will begin at **15:45** in the hall on the topic **חשוד**.



המשך מנצח 4

אברהם ושרה, שהצטיינו בתורה וגם בכל שאר ההיבטים, חיו בים של תורה, ולכן התכונות שאינן תורניות נראו חסרות משמעות. אבל כשנכנסו לסביבה שבה הגשמיים היתה חשובה, הוא שם לב ליופי של אשתו.

שנזכה לחיות כמו אברהם אבינו, עם נקודת המבט התורנית שולטת בחיינו. אבל אם אנו מוצאים את עצמנו במצבים שבהם עלינו לתעדף היבטים אחרים, עלינו לעשות כמיטב יכולתנו להשיג "ציונים גבוהים" גם שם ולזכות בסיעתא דשמיא להיראות באור טוב.

היופי הוא בעיני המתבונן

וְהָיָה כַּאֲשֶׁר הִקְרִיב לְבֹא מִצְרִימָה וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל־שָׂרֵי אֶשְׁתּוֹ הִנֵּה־נָא יִדְעָתִי כִּי אֵשֶׁה יִפְתַּמְרָאָה אֵת: (בראשית יב:יא)
...אברהם – אָפִילוּ בְּדִידָהּ לֹא אִסְתַּכַּל – דְּכָתִיב: "הִנֵּה נָא יִדְעָתִי כִּי אֵשֶׁה יִפְתַּמְרָאָה אֵת" – מְכַלֵּל דְּמַעֲקָרָא לֹא הָיָה יָדַע לָהּ (בבא בתרא טו.)

יש הרבה שכתבו חז"ל כדי להסביר איך אברהם לא הכיר מראש את יופיה של אשתו. גישה אחת שמסבירה זאת היטב, היא שבמקום שלדבר שיש ביקוש גדול עם יצע מועט, הוא הופך לדבר נחשק מאוד. במצרים, שהייתה מדינה מושחתת ולא מוסרית, נשים יפות היו במחסור וביקוש רב. לכן רק אז הבחין אברהם ביופיה של אשתו.

אבל, כפי שאנו רואים במקומות רבים בתורה, יופי נחשב לתכונה חיובית. לכן, מדוע לא גילה אברהם אם אשתו יפה לפני שנישא לה?

יש הרבה דברים בחיים שאנו לוקחים כמובנים מאליהם מבלי להעריך את ערכם האמיתי. למשל השכן הוא אדם מוסרי ומכובד, ובמקרה הוא גם תלמיד חכם גדול. אם היו שואלים אותו על שכנו, אולי היו לו הרבה דברים נפלאים לומר, אבל אפשר שיתעלם מלהזכיר שהוא תלמיד חכם. ואילו אם היו שואלים אותו על שכן זה בבית המדרש, מיד היה אומר שהוא תלמיד חכם גדול ומתאר את כל ההשגים השונים בלימוד התורה שלו, אבל כנראה היה מתעלם מלהזכיר שהוא שכן נפלא ונעלה. אנו רואים מכך שאפילו כשיש לאדם תכונות מדהימות, ניתן להתעלם מהן כאשר מסתכלים בהקשרים שונים.



אנו מבינים שהחן והיופי הם תכונות נהדרות, אבל הם רק משניים להיותה "אישה יראת ה'" (ומשלי לא:ל). לכן, אולי אברהם הבין שאשתו יפה, אבל הוא לא ראה בכך תכונה יוצאת דופן. רק כאשר עבר לסביבה המנוונת של מצרים, התכונה הזו הפכה בולטת יותר, מה שגרם לו לשים לב אליה.

הגאון מווילנה מציין שהיופי הוא "ס". אבל אם מוסיפים "1" לפניו, זה הופך ל-"10".

כתוב בפרקי אבות (ב:א): "רַבִּי אֱלִימִלֵּךְ אִיזוּהִי דְרֶךְ יִשְׂרָאֵל שְׂיָבוֹר לוֹ הָאָדָם, כֹּל שֶׁהָיָה תִפְאָרֶת לְעוֹשֶׂיהָ וְתִפְאָרֶת לוֹ מִן הָאָדָם". התפקיד שלנו בעולם הזה הוא שיהיו לנו שתי נקודות מבט; האחת על פי התורה, והשנייה משקף את העולם הגשמי בו אנו חיים. תמיד עדיף אם נוכל להיות מצויינים בשניהם. אבל אם עלינו לבחור, אז עלינו לתעדף את התורה שלפיה אנו מנהלים את חיינו.

המשך בעמוד 3

יש לי זוג - ושבת שמו

Learning & Oneg Shabbos

Elevate your Leil Shabbos!



SPECIAL
NOSH TABLE
FOR BOCHRIM

20:30 Beis Medrash Learning or
Alshich Hakadosh shiur from R' Avishai Hill

21:30 Oneg Shabbos

עונג שבת לילדים מכיתה ד' ואעלה

סם הרב נפתלי קפלן

20:30 לימודים בבית אדרש

21:00 עונג לבחורים באולם

מחזיקים בתורה ומחזיקים את עם ישראל

Fulfill Your Pledges!

Did you make a pledge for an *Aliyah* or other "Kibud" during the holidays? If so, you can fulfill your obligations quickly and easily using any of the following methods:

- Nedarim Plus terminal next to the front door
- Nedarim Plus online ahavasshalom.org/nedarim
- PayPal.me/ahavasshalom
- Ahavasshalom.com/donate (US Dollars)

Please help our secretary track your payment by either including a note which indicates the purpose of your donation, or sending an email directly to the secretary office@ahavasshalom.org. Thank you!



זמנים לימי חול	יום	(Sun)א'	(Mon)ב'	(Tue)ג'	(Wed)ד'	(Thu)ה'	(Fri)ו'	Weekday times until Parshas Vayeira
שחרית	06:20, 07:15, 08:10	06:20, 07:15, 08:10	06:20, 07:15, 08:10	06:20, 07:15, 08:10	06:20, 07:15, 08:10	06:20, 07:15, 08:10	06:20, 07:15, 08:15	
מנחה	13:00, 15:15	13:00, 15:15	13:00, 15:15	13:00, 15:15	13:00, 15:15	13:00, 15:15	12:30, 16:25	
ערב	19:00, 21:00	19:00, 21:00	19:00, 21:00	19:00, 21:00	19:00, 21:00	19:00, 21:00	*Hall	

HaRav Avrohom Baruch Zachariash, Sh'lita, Rav
Su-Fr 08:30-09:15 and Su-Th 19:15-20
Cellphone: 052-763-5938
Binyomin Rubenstein, Chairman
binyomin@ahavasshalom.org 054-237-0028

Administrative Secretary: Miriam Zakoo
Su & Tu 11:00-13:00 and Th 10:00-12:00
J 058-3263914 office@ahavasshalom.org
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Ramat Beit Shemesh, Israel

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Email Rav: ahavasshalom.org/email-rav

Newsletter Design: Lev Seltzer lev@ahavasshalom.org
Newsletter Contact: Send your lifecycle events, news, comments, etc. to lev@ahavasshalom.org. Remember: If we don't know about your event, we can't publish it!