

## Not "Under The Influence"

"Assemble and hearken, O sons of Jacob;  
Hearken to Israel your father." (Bereishis  
49:2)

I once heard an amazing explanation from a world-renowned speaker on why there are so many different strands of original Judaism? Litvaks. Chasidim. Sefardim. Teimanim. And more! If you take away the 'spice', they are all exactly the same. The differences between each of these sects are really rather small when you look at the totality of what a "frum" Jew is supposed to do. Despite that, there seems to always be a bit of tension between the different sects. However, on the higher levels of the *Gedolei Yisrael*, we find that they were and are able to work together without any impediments.

About 40 years ago I heard an explanation of this from a wise man, who said, "The Jews of every community tend to absorb some of the secular mindset of where they live. The *gedolim*, however, rebuff any such influence, and remain true to the Torah. Therefore, on the lower levels there may be some kind of a conflict based on where each sect existed. But, on the truly religious levels, where there is no secular impact, they are all able to get along."

Rav Yaakov Kamenetsky (1891-1986) addressed this exact point at the Agudah Convention in Jerusalem in the year 1980. He said that when Yaakov had his sons come to him, before he gave each one their individual blessing, they all said, "*Shema Yisrael Hashem Elokeinu Hashem Echad!*" They were saying to their father that they had no secular influences regarding their individual means of service to Hashem. They said this because even though he was about to send them off in 12 different directions of *Avodas Hashem*, they wanted Yaakov to know that at the core, they would be serving one G-d with no exterior influences.

We know from the *Arizal* that there are really 12 *nuschaos* of prayer, as each tribe had its own way of serving Hashem and had a corresponding *nusach*. This seems to contradict the *Medrash* which states that when the princes of each tribe brought their offerings in the beginning of the month of Nisan, they all brought the exact same offering, while they each had different *kavanos* which

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AHAVAS SHALOM  
25TH ANNIVERSARYMELAVEH  
MALKAH

HONORING

MR. AITAN ZACHARIN

THE HALL AT KEHILLAS

AHAVAS TZION

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## Shabbos Schedule Parshas Vayechi

## לוח שבת פרשת ויחי

Erev Shabbos		ערב שבת
Mincha 1	12:30	מנחה א'
Candle Lighting	16:17/16:37	הדלקת נרות
Mincha 2	16:25	מנחה ב'
Sunset	16:57	שקיעה
Shabbos Day		יום השבת
Brachos	08:00	ברכות
Shochein Ad	08:30	שוכן עד
Latest Shema – M. A.	08:27	סוף זמן ק"ש למג"א
Latest Shema – G'ra	09:14	סוף זמן ק"ש לגר"א
Mincha 1	13:00	מנחה א'
Pele Yoetz Shiur	16:00	פלא יועץ
Mincha 2	16:15	מנחה ב'
Sunset	16:58	שקיעה
Ma'ariv 1	17:35	מעריב א'
Ma'ariv 2	17:58	מעריב ב'

(Continued from page 1)

corresponded to their unique ways of service. However, if this is true, why do the 12 tribes have to have different nuschaos of prayer? Why not just pray the same words with different *kavanas*? It seems to me that since prayer is the ultimate "service of the heart", therefore what is in one's heart must be expressed with words, whereas offerings are an act of physical service, and not a "service of the heart". Therefore, what one was thinking was enough to impact his action.

When we say "*Shema Yisrael*", our goal should be that our service of Hashem is pure and not impacted by secular culture and ideas. With that in place, we can all find our own self-expression. However, it is usually difficult for most people to tread their own path in the service of Hashem. Therefore, by and large for most of us, it is worthwhile to just follow the trodden path laid out by the *gedolei Yisrael*. This way we will surely be on a non-externally influenced path of *avodas Hashem* and be part of the "*shema Yisrael*" of the 12 tribes.

May we merit that our service to Hashem is totally holy with no foreign influences.



המשך מעמוד 4

בדיוק, בעוד שלכל אחד היו כוונות שונות התואמות את דרכי עבודתם הייחודיות. אבל, אם כן, מדוע כל השבטים צריכים נוסחאות תפילה שונות? למה לא להתפלל את אותן המילים עם כוונות שונות? נראה לי שמאחר שתפילה היא הדוגמא למופת של עבודת הלב, לכן יש לבטא את מה שבלב במילים, ואילו הקרבנות הם מעשה של עבודה פיזית, ולא עבודת הלב. לכן, מה שחשב כל נשיא היה מספיק כדי להשפיע על עבודתו.

כאשר אנו אומרים "שמע ישראל", המטרה שלנו צריכה להיות שעבודת ה' שלנו תהיה טהורה ולא מושפעת מתרבות ורעיונות חילוניים. כשזה יציב ומבוסס, כולנו יכולים למצוא את הביטוי העצמי שלנו. עם זאת, בדרך כלל קשה לרוב האנשים לצעוד בעצמם בעבודת ה'. לכן, באופן כללי לרובנו, כדאי פשוט ללכת בשביל הכבוש שקבעו גדולי ישראל. כך בוודאי נהיה בנתיב של עבודת ה' שאינו מושפע מחיצוניות, ונהיה חלק מ"שמע ישראל" של שנים עשר השבטים.

שנזכה לכך שעבודתנו לה' תהיה טהורה לחלוטין ללא שום השפעות זרות.

# אבות ובנים



**AuB Motza'ei Shabbos at 19:00:**  
Boys aged 7+ learn for 1 hour

Thank you to this week's sponsors:  
**Prizes: Zev Kornbluh and Family**

You can also sponsor the  
Prizes, Treats or Ice Cream for just 150 ILS  
contact Shlomo Hollander for details





## 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 **16:00** in the hall on the topic **חרש**.



## 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 in the merit of your choosing. Just 120 naper 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](mailto:Netziv@ahavasshalom.org).



3 Teves sponsored by the Albert Family

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## Mi Shebeirach for Cholim

**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](mailto:office@ahavasshalom.org).



**Did you make a pledge to the shul?**  
**Fulfill your pledge online with ease!**

## TOP 3 METHODS PAYMENT METHODS:

- Nedarim Plus terminal next to the front door
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Please help our **bookkeeper** by always writing a note—or sending a separate email—which explains the purpose of your payment/donation. For example, include the **parsha** or **pledge date** if applicable. Thank you!!

## Shiurim with the Rav

The Rav will be giving 2 shiurim this coming week:



SUNDAY 21:15: *Mishnayos - Mikvaos*

TUESDAY 20:15: **NEW!!** *Hilchos Yom Tov*

All shiurim are given in shul and via ZOOM at this link: [cutt.ly/AhavasShalomZoom](https://cutt.ly/AhavasShalomZoom)

Shiurim are archived at [ahavasshalom.org/youtube](http://ahavasshalom.org/youtube)

Questions that appear in this newsletter come from **RBSsemicha.com**. Four volumes of questions are now available in print. See [rbssemicha.com/books](http://rbssemicha.com/books) for more information.

## Q&A: Ordering Shabbos Lunch

**Q** Reuven and Sarah went on an anniversary trip to Israel and stayed at the Jerusalem Plaza Hotel. On Friday, Reuven ordered the Shabbos dinner and *shalosh seudos*, but not the Shabbos luncheon. He hoped to wake up early with his wife and daven at sunrise at the Kosel, then come back and eat the free breakfast as their second meal. Unfortunately, it didn't work out as planned, as they both woke up late. They decided to daven at The Great Synagogue across the street, but by the time the lengthy service was finished, the breakfast was over. May Reuven go to the dining room for Shabbos lunch at 1:30pm and tell the Arab *maitre d'* to charge the lunch to his room, which Reuven would pay for when he checks out of the hotel later in the week?

**A** Yes. Reuven may obligate himself for the cost of the luncheon because it is a Shabbos necessity. However, he may not discuss the cost of the lunch, transfer money, or make any official *kinyon*.

OC 306 M.B. 55

## Belinda The Gentile Bottle Opener

**Q** Dovid Lipshitz hosted a Kiddush at The Boca Shul to thank Hashem for his recovery from his latest accident on Sawgrass Circle. He hired Belinda Ortega, a gentile, to come on Shabbos day to set up the food. Before he recovered, Dovid decided to "take on" the stringency of not opening plastic soda bottles on Shabbos. However, on Friday afternoon, he had 100 bottles of soda set aside for the Kiddush and was not looking forward to opening them. Instead, may he wait until Shabbos day and directly ask Belinda Ortega to open the bottles as she puts them on the table — even though Dovid himself is stringent and holds that they may not be opened due to the disagreement among *poskim* in this matter?



**A** Yes. Dovid may ask Belinda to open the bottles. Even though Dovid would not open up the bottles himself, this is due to a stringency that he has adopted, and he may therefore ask the gentile to open the bottles for him.

OC 307 M.B. 8

## COMMUNITY CARE

Do you know someone in our Kehilla who is unwell?

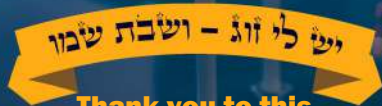
Please let us know so that we can arrange home/hospital visits and meals.

Contact: Alan Rubenstein 054-398-8570

You can also inform the Ahavas Shalom Vaad.



Leil Shabbos Learning and Onegs



Thank you to this week's sponsor:

**Family Bodzin**

Dozens of Men and Boys are learning every Leil Shabbos in our Beis Medrash

**Sponsor all the programs over one Shabbos for just 250 ₪**



Our sons have been learning **Hilchos Shabbos** at the special Leil Shabbos program.

**Please sponsor a prize for them for just 250 ₪**

Contact Yisroel Harris 058-327-4800 or [Yisroel@ahavasshalom.org](mailto:Yisroel@ahavasshalom.org)

## Don't Be Left Out!

When you have a simcha (or R"L a sad event), it is so easy to have it included in the next newsletter! Just send an email to [lev@ahavasshalom.org](mailto:lev@ahavasshalom.org)! *Deadline is 11:00 Thurs.*



Reminder: Sending an instant message, an email, or speaking to anyone else will probably result in your announcement not making it to the newsletter!



## GMACH SMACHOT

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

משולחנו של הרב אברהם ברוך זכריש

## אל תהיו "תחת ההשפעה"

הקבצו ושמעו בני יעקב ושמעו אל ישראל אביכם: (בראשית מט:ב)

שמעתי פעם הסבר מדהים מנאם מפורסם מדוע יש כל כך הרבה זרמים שונים של יהדות מקורית? ליטאים, חסידים, ספרדים, תימנים ועוד! אם מסירים את ה"תבלין", כולם זהים לחלוטין. ההבדלים בין כל אחד מהזרמים הללו הם באמת די קטנים כשמסתכלים על המכלול של מה שיהודי שומר תורה ומצוות אמור לעשות. למרות זאת, נראה שתמיד יש קצת מתח בין הפלגים השונים. אולם בדרגה הגבוהה של גדולי ישראל אנו מוצאים שתמיד היו ויהיו מוכנים לעבוד יחד ללא כל מניעה.

לפני כ-40 שנה שמעתי הסבר על כך מפי איש חכם, שאמר, "היהודים בכל עדה נוטים לספוג חלק מהתרבות החילונית שבה הם חיים. אולם הגדולים דוחים כל השפעה כזו, ונשארים נאמנים לתורה. לכן, ברמות הנמוכות עשוי להיות סוג של מאבק המבוסס על היכן גרים כל כת. אבל, ברמות הרוחניות העליונות, שבהן אין השפעה חילונית, כולם מסוגלים להסתדר".

הרב יעקב קמנצקי התייחס לנקודה הזו בדיוק בכינוס אגודת ישראל בירושלים בשנת 1980. הוא אמר שכאשר יעקב אסף אליו את בניו כדי לתת לכל אחד את ברכתו האישית, לפני כן כולם אמרו ביחד, "שמע ישראל ה' אלוהינו ה' אחד!" עם זה הם אמרו לאביהם שאין להם השפעות חילוניות בנוגע לעבודת ה' שלהם. הם אמרו את זה כי למרות שהוא עמד לשלוח אותם ל-12 כיוונים שונים של עבודת ה', הם רצו שיעקב ידע שבבסיסם, הם יעבדו את ה' אחד ללא השפעות חיצוניות.

אנו יודעים מהאריז"ל שיש באמת 12 נוסחאות של תפילה, שכן לכל שבט הייתה דרך משלו לעבוד את ה', עם נוסח תואם. נראה שזה סותר את המדרש שאומר שכאשר הנשיאים של כל שבט הביאו את קרבנותיהם בתחילת חודש ניסן, כולם הביאו את אותו הקרבן

המשך בעמוד 2

## Learning and Oneg Shabbos

**16:07 CANCELLED DUE TO FAST:**

Boi BeShalom Kids' programs (Girls and Boys)

*All other programs are happening as scheduled!*

**20:30 Boys:** Learning followed by Oneg Shabbos at **21:00**

**20:30-21:30 Bochorim:** Learning with special snack table

**20:30 Adults:** Beis Medrash Learning or *Alshich Hakadosh* shiur from R' Avishai Hill followed by Oneg Shabbos **21:30**

Weekday times until Parshas Shemos	ו' (Fri)	ה' (Thu)	ד' (Wed)	ג' (Tue)	ב' (Mon)	א' (Sun)	יום שחרית	זמנים לימי חול עד פרשת שמות
	06:20, 07:15, 08:15	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	שחרית	
	12:30, 16:45	13:00, 15:15	13:00, 15:15	13:00, 15:15	13:00, 15:15	13:00, 15:15	מנחה	
	*Hall	19:00, 21:00	19:00, 21:00	19:00, 21:00	19:00, 21:00	19:00, 21:00	מעריב	

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](mailto:binyomin@ahavasshalom.org) 054-237-0028

Administrative Secretary: Miriam Zakoo Su & Tu 11:00-13:00 and Th 10:00-12:00  
058-3263914 [office@ahavasshalom.org](mailto:office@ahavasshalom.org)  
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Email Rav: [ahavasshalom.org/email-rav](mailto:ahavasshalom.org/email-rav)

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