KITZUR HALACHOS

BEDIKAS CHAMETZ - EREV PESACH R'TZVI YAAKOV STEIN

- The night before Pesach, any places that will be lived in on Pesach must be checked for chametz.
- Cleaning should be done before bedikas chametz, not during bedikas chametz.
- Bedikas chametz should be done immediately after nightfall².
- No eating a meal, learning, or any other activities, until after bedikas chametz is done³.
- + Eating a snack is permitted4.
- Ma'ariv can be davened either before or after doing bedikas chametz⁵.
- The brachah should be said while holding the candle. After checking any part of the house with the candle, switch to a flashlight⁶.
- There should be no talking until after the entire bedikas chametz is completed and Kol Chamirah is said ⁷.
- Talking for bedikas chametz necessities is permitted⁸.
- If the brachah was forgotten, then it can still be made until the bedikah is completed⁹.
- If the brachah was forgotten until after bedikas chametz was completed, a brachah can be made the next day before burning the chametz¹⁰.
- The minhag is for someone to put out ten pieces of bread to be searched for during the bedikah¹¹.
- Any place that food could have potentially been brought into needs to be checked¹².
- If one forgot to do bedikas chametz and isn't home, or is unable to do bedikas chametz, then an agent can be used to check on his behalf³.
- If one forgot to, or is unable to, do bedikas chametz at night, then it should be done the next day with a brachah¹⁴.
- After completing bedikas chametz, bittul chametz should be done¹⁵

- Bittul is the process of renouncing ownership of and nullifying any chametz that one may have, wherever it may be.
- You must understand what you're saying when nullifying the chametz¹⁶.
- There's an additional bittul chametz in the morning after burning the chametz¹⁷.
- If checking the entire house will be difficult to do at one time, parts of the house can be done on the nights leading up to Erev Pesach. No brachah is made and no bread needs to be put out. Make sure to leave over at least one room in the house for the night of Erev Pesach so that a brachah can be made on that bedikas chametz¹⁸.

BEDIKAS CHAMETZ FOR THOSE THAT WILL NOT BE HOME FOR PESACH

Leaving For The Entire Pesach Before The Night Of Bedikas Chametz (Fourteenth Night Of Nissan):

Three options:

- Sell the entire house/apartment to the goy except for one room. In that room, do bedikas chametz the night before you leave without a brachah.
- Sell the entire house/apartment to the goy. Rent the room where you are going to be staying on bedikas chametz night from the owner. This will require you to check it that night. A brachah can be said on this bedikah.
- Do both of the above options.

Leaving For The Entire Pesach After The Night Of Bedikas Chametz (Fourteenth Night Of Nissan):

 The entire house/apartment can be sold to the goy except for one room. Bedikas chametz should be made in that room on the night of the fourteenth with a brachah.

Leaving For The Entire Pesach But Lending Out The House/Apartment:

- All closets, dressers, cabinets, etc., can be sold to the goy.
- They must be clearly marked with tape, etc., that they are sold.
- + Floors, countertops, etc., should be cleaned.
- Bedikas chametz should be done the night before leaving the house/apartment, as above.

BURNING THE CHAMETZ

- The chametz can be burned at night but the minhag is to burn it during the day¹⁹.
- The chametz should be burned by the end of the fifth hour into the day²⁰.
- The chametz should be burned until its charred²¹.
- Chametz should preferably not be placed into garbage cans that won't be picked up before six hours into the day.
- The additional bittul chametz should be done before the end of the fifth hour²².

EREV PESACH

- Shaving, haircuts, and cutting nails should be completed before chatzos²³.
- + If one forgot, then a goy can give him a haircut²⁴.
- If a goy isn't available, he can do it himself⁵.
- + If nails weren't cut before chatzos, they can be cut after²⁶.
- No melachah should be done after chatzos (like Chol Hamoed)²⁷.
- The same heterim that permit melachah on Chol

- Hamoed apply on Erev Pesach after chatzos²⁸.
- + A goy can do melachah for you²⁹.
- Regular business is permitted³⁰.
- Laundry shouldn't be done after chatzos, unless it's necessary for Yom Tov³¹.
- Fixing/sewing clothing or buttons, ironing, and shining shoes are permitted³².
- Matzah is not allowed to be eaten starting from the evening of Erev Pesach³³.
- Matzah balls, and any other cooked matzah, is permitted³⁴.
- Cakes and cookies made with matzah meal should preferably not be eaten³⁵.
- Kitniyos should not be eaten on Erev Pesach³⁶.
- "Gebrokts" may be eaten on Erev Pesach³⁷.
- The table should be set before Yom Tov³⁸.

AT THE SEDER

- The minhag is not to eat roasted meat or chicken on the Seder night³⁹.
- This includes pot roast⁴⁰.
- Roasted and then cooked in liquid is allowed⁴¹.
- Cooked and then roasted is not preferable unless necessary⁴².
- Fish and eggs can be roasted⁴³.
- Baked or smoked meat and chicken is not allowed44.
- Cooked is allowed if it has a quarter of an inch of liquid⁴⁵.
- Frying is not preferable unless it has a lot of oil⁴⁶.
- Roasted meat and chicken during the day is fine.

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