



DAF NOTES: At the recent RC/RFR Conference, Rabbi Luban spoke about the proper use of email. The editor of the Daf asked Rabbi Luban to share an adaptation of his remarks with our readers.

E-MAIL - לברכה ולא לקללה

BY RABBI YAAKOV LUBAN
Executive Rabbinic Coordinator

In today's fast paced business world, e-mail has emerged as the communication of choice. No wonder! It has great advantages. E-mail is easy to format and save, it arrives instantaneously, and, best of all, it's free and does not require a postage stamp.

That said, e-mail carries its own serious pitfalls. If used improperly, it can wreak havoc and be a destructive force. Following are a series of recommendations for the savvy RC and RFR of ways to use, and not abuse, e-mail communications.

- 1. If you do not want your e-mail published in the N.Y. Times, don't send it.** It is a general truism that if you want to keep a secret, don't share it with anyone, or as Mark Twain phrased it more pointedly, "Three men can keep a secret if two of them are dead." Yet, the risk of a breach of confidentiality is far greater with e-mail than with other conventional modes of communication. An e-mail is always just one click away from landing in the wrong person's in-box. Remember too, that deleting an e-mail from your desktop does not mean that a copy is not available in the corporate back-up drive. Caution is mandatory when sending sensitive and confidential material through e-mail.
- 2. If you want to spread loshon hora to a large audience and engage in character assassination in the fastest and most**

continued on page 44

MESORAH CONFERENCE IV

OU Kosher to Present Mesorah Conference IV, on Kedushas Ha'aretz and Its Mitzvos at Lander College, June 15

OU Kosher will provide a halachic, historic and archeological perspective of Eretz Yisrael, the Land of Israel, Jerusalem, the Temple Mount and the special *mitzvos* that are connected to this holy land when it presents *Kedushas Ha'Aretz and its Mitzvos*, Sunday, June 15 from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p. m. at Lander College in Kew Gardens Hills, Queens.

The program, *The Harry H. Beren ASKOU Mesorah Conference IV*, follows previous *mesorah* conferences presented at Lander College – a division of Touro College – to large and enthusiastic audiences, *The Mesorah of Kosher Birds and Animals*, and *The Pareve Mesorahs*. In addition, the kosher birds and animals conference was presented last summer in Los Angeles to another large group.

As with the case of many OU Kosher programs, the conference is made possible by a grant from the Harry H. Beren Foundation of Lakewood, NJ in memory of Harry H. Beren, z"l. Admission to the conference, which is open to both men and women, is \$10, except for OU members and staff for whom it is complimentary. An OU certified box lunch will be available for \$10.

As with the previous conferences, *Mesorah IV* will feature "The Two Ari's," Rabbi Dr. Ari Zivotofsky and Dr. Ari Greenspan. Not only are they experts on the *mesorah* (tradition) of kosher food, but they are experts on the archeology of Israel and serve as tour guides to the *Kotel* tunnels and to *Ir David* (City of David) one of Jerusalem's archeological sites, which dates back to the time of King David.

continued on page 42

TWO DISTINGUISHED GUESTS FROM OVERSEAS AT THE OU

Left Photo: HaGaon Rav Yakov Blau is seen giving a shiur Halacha to the OU's Rabbinic staff. To his right is Rabbi Menachem Genack. Rav Blau is a Dayan of the Bedatz Eidoh HaChareidis and a prolific writer whose Seforim include the very popular פתחי הושן, a multi volume encyclopedic work on Choshen Mishpat and the author of the sefer יהודה רבית on ברית יהודה רבית. *Right Photo:* Chief Rabbi of the United Kingdom Sir Jonathan Sacks is seen addressing the OU's staff at OU headquarters in NYC. Rabbi Sacks, one of the most articulate spokesman and prolific writers that Orthodoxy has today spoke on the difference between



hope and optimism. To his right is Rabbi Dr. Tzvi Hersh Weimreb, the OU's Executive Vice President. Rabbi Sacks was accompanied to the OU by his wife Lady Elaine Sacks.

Unlike the previous *mesorah* conferences, which dealt specifically with food, OU Kosher has expanded the boundaries of this seminar beyond food, but still with *kashrut* implications.

According to Rabbi Yosef Grossman, Director of Kashrut Education and conference coordinator, “This program also has to do with *kashrut*, because foods that come from Israel are governed by specific *mitzvot* that apply only to *Eretz Yisrael*. Before an orange or tomato comes from Israel, for example, some of the crop must be set aside as *terumah*, the portion once given to the *kohen*, and *ma’aser*, the tithe once given to the *Levi*, and since there is no Temple, the portion that we may not eat is left to decay and disposed of in a respectful manner. In Israel, a religious person will only shop in a store which has a reliable *kashrut* certification that this has been done.”

Conference sessions are:

- **Mitzvos Hateluyos Ba’aretz Bazman Hazeh**, with Rabbi Yisroel Belsky, OU Kosher *halachic posek*, on the *mitzvot*, such as *terumah*, *ma’aser* and *shmita*, which can only be performed in *Eretz Yisrael*;
- **Korbonos Today?** with Rabbi Menachem Genack, CEO of OU Kosher, exploring whether we are permitted to bring sacrifices that were brought when the Temples were standing;
- **The Unique Halachot of Yerushalayim: A Mikdash Extension**, with Rabbi Dr. Zivotofsky, on the extension of the holiness of the Temple to Jerusalem;
- **The Shape of the Menorah and its Base**, with Rabbi Dr. Seth Mandel, OU Kosher Rabbinic Coordinator, on the different opinions regarding this question;
- **The Heter Mechira of Shmita**, with Rabbi Genack, on whether land can be sold to gentiles during the *shmita* year, thus allowing work to be done on this land;
- **Seeing the Exact Boundaries of Eretz Yisrael Through Google**, with Dr. Shalom Kelman, an ophthalmologist who is also a Talmudic scholar, and who will use the website projected on to a screen to define the boundaries;
- **Shmitas Kesofim**, with Rabbi Hershel Schachter, OU Kosher *halachic* decisor, on the nullification of loans during the *shmita* year except when there is a written *pruzbol*;
- **Kedushas Ha’aretz and its Ramifications**, with Rabbi Noach Isaac Oelbaum of Congregation Nachlas Yitzchok in Kew Gardens Hills, on the *halachic* ramifications of the concept that the land is holy;
- **Har Habayit – a Halachic and Archeological Tour**, with Dr. Greenspan, featuring a slide show;
- **The Precise Location of the Mizbeach HaChitzon**, with Rabbi Liebel Reznick, a former Rosh Yeshiva at Yeshiva Shaarei Torah, Suffern, NY, who has written and lectured extensively on many of the conference topics, on the location of the outer altar;
- **Unearthing Tanach – the Message of “Yerushalayim Shel Matah,”** with Rabbi Dr. Zivotofsky, on archeological excavations in Jerusalem which validate Torah; and
- **Halachic Archeology – “When I Was in Rome I Saw the Menorah,”** with Dr. Greenspan, referring to the menorah on the Arch of Titus.

Two other presentations which have been added to the program are “The Expanding Boundaries of Eretz Yisrael Found in

Tanach” with Rabbi Menachem Leibtag, another noted scholar from Israel who will be joining the program; and “The Schulchan and Schulchanot of Shlomo HaMelech,” with Dr. Kelman.

Rabbi Grossman pointed out that a newly created ASKOU DVD, for use on computers with DVD drives, will be distributed free of charge to all ASK OU *Mesorah* Conference participants. This DVD contains 91 major ASKOU presentations by OU experts, including past *Mesorah* Conferences, the Los Angeles Halachic *Seudah* at Prime Grill restaurant, as well as *shiurim* and *divrei chizuk* by such noted Roshei Ha Yeshiva and Rabbonim as Rav Shmuel Kaminetsky, Rav Asher Weiss and the Nirbater Rav, Rav Ahron Teitelbaum.

To pre-register contact Rabbi Grossman at grossman@ou.org, 212-613-8212, or register online at www.ou.org.

KASHERING A BEN YOMO KLI

BY RABBI ELI GERSTEN,
RC, Recorder of OU Psak and Policy

We know that in general before kashering a utensil one must make sure that it is an *aino ben yomo*. The reason for this is because

otherwise the utensil will reabsorb the *ta’am issur* that it expelled. Since we say Chanan by *sha’ar issurim* even *lach b’lach* (unless there is a *hefsed mirubah*) all the kashering water will become *assur* and will reenter the pot.

If one is *magil a ben yomo kli* in water that is 60 times its volume, the *kli* will be kashered. However, the Rema (O.C. 452:2) says that the *minhag lichatchila* is not to kasher any *kli* unless it is an *aino ben yomo*. Since calculating *bitul* is not always easy, we are concerned that the amount of water needed will be miscalculated. In cases of great need or financial loss we are lenient (K4).

If one kashers using water that is *pagum ligamrei*, then any *ta’am issur* that enters the water will become *batel* and cannot *assur* the *kli* upon reentry. However, often this water is not fit to be used as a *lichatchila* medium for *hagalah*. Therefore, we must kasher the *kli* again using clear water. Rav Schachter said that although the *minhag* of the Rema not to kasher a *ben yomo* applies to being *pogem* as well, in cases of great need we may be lenient.

The Darchei Teshuva 113:92 quotes the Teshuvos Minchas Yehuda Y.D. 154 that one is permitted to do *hagalah* on a *kli* that absorbed *ta’am* from *bishul akum* even when it is a *ben yomo*. Since *bishul akum* is *botel b’rov*, the water that is cooked in the pot will not become *assur*, since there is surely always more water than the volume of the *kli*. The *issur* that is expelled from the *kli* will become *botel* in the water and will not *assur* the *kli* upon reentry.

Similarly, since *yayin nesech* is *botel* in 6 parts water, one can do *hagalah* on a *kli* that absorbed *ta’am* of *yayin nesech* even when it is a *ben yomo*, provided that there is clearly much more than 6 times water than the volume of the *kli*.

When kashering from Chalav *stam* to *pareve* or for Chalav *Yisroel*, one can do *hagalah* when the *kli* is a *ben yomo* provided that they perform the *hagalah* twice. This is based on the ruling of the Pri Migadim S.D. 97:1 that we do not say Chanan on Chalav *Stam*. Rav Moshe Feinstein Ztz”l (Igros Moshe Y.D. II:31) explained that using this principle one can kasher a Chalav *stam* pasteurizer when it is a *ben yomo* by repeating the *hagalah*. If the first *hagalah* has at least 8 times more water than the volume of the *kli*, since we don’t say Chanan, the *issur* that is reabsorbed will only be 1/8 of

continued on page 44

OU KOSHER EDUCATIONAL DVD

OU Kosher Releases Educational DVD Containing 91 Harry H. Beren ASK OU Kashrut Presentations

If you “ASK OU” Kosher about the intricacies of kashrut, you are going to get a very substantial answer, almost 55 hours worth.

That became perfectly clear today as the Orthodox Union Kosher Division announced the release of a DVD containing 91 presentations of ASKOU programs – kashrut education seminars presented by OU Kosher and made possible by a grant from the Harry H. Beren Foundation of Lakewood, NJ, in memory of Harry H. Beren z”l. Played end to end, the DVD would provide 25 hours of video and 29 hours of audio presentations.

Recorded from 2004 until early 2008, the 91 presentations – some of which were stand-alone sessions and others which were part of larger events – reflect the wisdom of OU kosher senior rabbis and guest lecturers on a wide variety of aspects of kosher law and its practical applications to today’s evolving food technology.

“The range of learning encompassed in these sessions is truly remarkable,” declared Rabbi Menachem Genack, CEO of OU Kosher. “Even those with a lifetime of study of kosher law will find their horizons expanded by this DVD, because the topics that are included reflect the particular expertise of the presenters, rather than general kashrut knowledge.”

The sessions are intended for use on a computer, rather than a DVD player. The project was suggested by Rabbi Yonatan Kaganoff, an OU Kosher rabbinic consultant with a special expertise in technical matters.

“These are major and comprehensive sessions which run anywhere from a half hour to four hours apiece and were recorded at OU headquarters or other venues,” declared Rabbi Yosef Grossman, OU Director of Kashrut Education and the coordinator of the programs and sessions included on the DVD. According to Rabbi Grossman, the sessions are intended for an audience ranging from advanced Talmudic scholars to high school students with a basic grounding in the laws of kashrut, extending as well to kosher consumers interested in learning about the kashrut of the products they purchase.

“It is possible to appreciate these sessions on a variety of levels,” Rabbi Grossman declared. “Certainly, the kollel member, who already has semicha, will have a range of understanding going beyond what a much younger student would have, but by picking and choosing sessions, everyone can be comfortable with the enormous level of learning included on this DVD.”

Presenters include Rabbi Menachem Genack, CEO of OU Kosher; the two Halachic Decisors of OU Kosher, Rabbis Hershel Schachter and Yisroel Belsky; Roshei HaYeshiva such as Rav Shmuel Kamenetsky of Philadelphia and Rav Asher Weiss of Jerusalem; the “Two Ari’s,” Rabbi Dr. Ari Zivotofsky and Dr. Ari Greenspan, who conceived the four ASKOU Mesorah Conferences, three of which have already been held, with the fourth scheduled for June 15 at Lander College in Kew Gardens Hills, NY; Rav Ahron Teitelbaum, the Nirbater Rav; and senior staff members of OU Kosher speaking on their various specialties.



Rabbi Steven Weil of Beth Jacob Congregation in Beverly Hills, CA, the newly appointed OU Executive Vice President, effective July 1, 2009, is included in the DVD, addressing the subject of “A Rabbi/Farmer’s Perspective on the Challenges of Producing Kosher Cattle.” Rabbi Weil grew up in a small farming community in upstate New York.

The DVD will be sent to all OU member congregations across North America for congregational use. It will also be distributed at all upcoming ASKOU events, including the June 15 ASK OU Mesorah conference, Kedushas Ha’Aretz and its Mitzvos. Upon request OU members will receive a complimentary copy of the DVD; non-members may obtain it for \$10.

“I see the DVD serving at the synagogue level in many ways,” declared Rabbi Bini Maryles, Director of the PePa and Rabbi Joseph Karasick Department of Synagogue Services of the OU. “These include supplying leadership with ‘hands-on’ visuals of areas in halacha that may have only existed in the theoretical, to enhance their Torah knowledge, which benefits us all.”

He added, “The material can be used to supplement and/or boost an already existing curriculum in kashrut education in the shul, or spur the leadership to begin discussions and learning in a wide range of kashrut areas.”

Session highlights include:

- Shiurim with Rav Kamenetsky and Rav Weiss;
- Shiur on Shaylos in Treifus and Nikkur given by Rav Belsky and Reb Shimon Mendlowitz in Lakewood, NJ before an audience of close to 1,000;
- A Study Guide for Hilchos Treifus, with Rav Belsky and produced by Reb Eli Teitelbaum z”l of the Torah Communications Network, who before his recent passing gave permission for this segment to be included;
- A variety of presentations made at Mesorah Conference I: Kosher Birds and Animals; and Mesorah Conference II: the Pareve Mesorahs;
- The Halachic Seudah at the Prime Grill Restaurant in Beverly Hills, CA, a highlight of Mesorah Conference III, the Los Angeles Halachic Adventure;
- Shiurim to a group of rabbinic students from the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary of Yeshiva University during their VISIT OU program at OU headquarters;
- A three-part presentation on nikkur (deveining) given to 70 of the leading kashrut rabbis in New York and New Jersey by OU experts, utilizing 600 pounds of meat;
- Presentations on the kosher slaughterhouse, bishul akum and on numerous industries by OU experts during VISIT OU, ASK OU and ASK OUTREACH programs.

“Those of us who spend so many hours of our lives in front of texts now have the option to use technology to supplement our textual study and to enrich this learning in a variety of ways,” Rabbi Grossman said. “This DVD is an extraordinary resource for those who want to apply centuries of commentary to present day applications of kosher law. It is the wisdom of the ages adapted to the 21st century.”

To obtain this fascinating DVD for computer use, contact Rabbi Grossman at 212.613.8212 or kleina@ou.org.

E-MAIL

continued from page 41

efficient manner, use e-mail. E-mail spreads like wildfire. E-mail users love to forward e-mails to large groups of contacts. In the amount of time it takes to spread *loshon hora* by word of mouth to one person, e-mail can reach thousands around the globe. Though there are legitimate allowances to share *loshon hora* when it is "litoelas", it is not wise to do so through e-mail, which can easily be forwarded and do great harm.

- E-mail is an inefficient and ineffective tool to resolve conflicts and settle problems.** E-mail is a great way to transmit information, but it works poorly when interactive communication is called for. E-mail lacks inflection, nuance, facial expression and body language, which are important cues when having a real dialogue. When a meeting of minds is needed, pick up the phone, or better yet, meet in person and talk it out. In the end, this saves time, and the result is far superior.
- Beware of e-mail tircha di tzibura.** Chazal were extremely sensitive to wasting people's time, even when only a few moments were involved. Think twice before sending e-mails to large groups with inquiries (anyone out there know when Shabbos starts in Zimbabwe on June 29th, 2013), inspirational stories (with the predictable conclusion, "Please forward to at least 22 friends"), and the latest joke (the stressed-out recipient may not think it's funny). We are all taxed by e-mail overload and should not do to others what we don't want done to us.
- Observe e-mail etiquette.** It is usually a good idea to start your e-mail with the name of the recipient. This shows a measure of respect to the reader. Be cautious when using bold or CAPITAL letters or highlighting phrases in color for emphasis. Also, use punctuation sparingly. **DO YOU GET MY POINT?????!!!!!!** Many an insult has come about from using these techniques.
- Don't send the wrong message to the wrong person.** Unfortunately, this is not as uncommon as you would think. Some mistakes would be funny if not for the tragic consequences that followed. A classic error is to accidentally press "Reply to All", and think you are replying only to the sender. (Imagine not realizing you hit "Reply to All" and beginning an e-mail to 200 people, "This is extremely confidential and I know I can trust you not to tell a soul.") Another great faux pas is to forget to erase a string of sensitive e-mails when the intent is to only forward the last communication.

In conclusion, let me borrow from the words of Chazal and formulate an appropriate dictum: **חכמים הזהירו באי-מייל!**

KASHRUTH alert!

ASARO PESTO SAUCE produced by A. Pensabene Agroalimentari bears an unauthorized © symbol and is being withdrawn from the marketplace. Consumers spotting this product are requested to contact the Orthodox Union at 212-613-8241 or via email at kshalerts@ou.org.

בואכם לשלום...

To RABBI AHARON YITZCHOK SHAPIRO of San Diego, CA who will be a full time RFR as of June 1, 2008.

BEN YOMO

continued from page 42

the original issuer. The second *hagalah* will then have more than 60 times the remaining issuer.

If one kashers with *libun kal* in place of *hagalah* then one can kasher even when the *kli* is a *ben yomo* (K-142). If *libun kal* is being done in situations where *hagalah* would not be sufficient then a *shailah* should be asked.

In summary:

Although it is best to only kasher a *kli* that is an *aino ben yomo*, in cases of great need or financial loss, we allow *hagalah* for a *ben yomo kli* using water in which the issuer will be *batel* or *nifgam*.

One can kasher a *ben yomo kli* from *bishul akum* and *yayin nesech* when the volume of the walls are clearly *batel*.

One can kasher a *ben yomo kli* from *chalav stam* by kashering two times.

One can kasher a *ben yomo kli* with *libun kal*.

KASHRUTH advisory!



In a recent ad listing APPLE & EVE JUICE PRODUCTS both

POMEGRANATE BLUEBERRY and POMEGRANATE BLUEBERRY COCKTAIL were listed as being non-kosher. This is incorrect. The Apple & Eve 16 oz. Pomegranate Blueberry

Cocktail is in fact © certified. However, the 64 oz. Northland Pomegranate Blueberry Plus 100% Juice (an Apple & Eve brand) remains non-kosher.

MAZAL TOV TO ...

our dedicated Rabbinic Coordinator RABBI GAVRIEL PRICE AND HIS WIFE on the birth of their daughter Adina.

our devoted administrative assistant LEEBA LEIDER on her engagement to Yudell Reiz from Overland Park, KS.

our dedicated RFR in Lomita, CA RABBI SAADYA KAUFMANN AND HIS WIFE on the recent birth of their daughter Malka. Mazal Tov to the proud grandparents our own dedicated Senior RFR Rabbi Reuven Nathanson and his wife of Los Angeles, CA.

CONDOLENCES TO...

MRS. SURI KAHN, wife of Leon Kahn (Data Entry, Kashrus) upon the loss of her father, Rabbi Israel Post, a"h, who was formerly the Rav Hamachshir at Empire Poultry. Rabbi Post was one of the sadly diminishing number of Mirrer Yeshiva students who found refuge in Shanghai, China during World War II.

המקום ינחם אתכם בתוך שאר אבלי ציון וירושלים