Gemach for Loans in the Yeshiva

We have a Gemach in the Yeshiva which provides interest-free loans to students and their families.

A blessing will come to anyone who donates in memory or in honor of someone.

(Any amount is appreciated)

Please be in touch if you are interested in donating

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On Purim…

Purim on Motza’ei Shabbat

Question: What are the special Halachot when Purim falls after Shabbat?

Answer: 1. We do not read the Megillah when Purim falls on Shabbat (nowadays only Shushan Purim can fall on Shabbat). It is a decree lest one go to a Rabbi to learn to read the Megillah and carry it in a public domain. There are later authorities (i.e. Aruch Ha-Shulchan, Orach Chaim 693:3) who forbid carrying the Megillah on Shabbat because of muktzeh (something prohibited to carry on Shabbat), but most authorities disagree and permit it (Shulchan Aruch, Orach Chaim 688 and Mishnah Berurah #18), and all the more so on a regular Shabbat which is not Purim. There is, however, a problem of bringing the Megillah to Shul on Shabbat because of the prohibition on preparing on Shabbat for a weekday. One should therefore learn something at Shul from the Megillah on Shabbat itself.

2. For the same reason, children may dress up in a costume on Shabbat before they
come to Shul, since they have enjoyment on the Shabbat itself from the costume; therefore, it is not considered as if one were preparing on Shabbat for a weekday. This is obviously on the condition that there is no part of the costume which is muktzeh, and it does not involve painting, [forbidden] tying, and other similar things.

3. Noisemakers are definitely forbidden on account of muktzeh. And even if they are not muktzeh, it is impossible to bring them because of preparing on Shabbat for a weekday, since it is not possible to rely on the solution of using them on Shabbat itself, since one may not make noise [from any type of instrument, objects, etc...] on Shabbat.

Summary: It is permissible to bring a Megillah to Shul while it is still daytime on Shabbat provided that one learn something from it. It is permissible for children to dress up in a costume while it is still daytime, but it is forbidden to bring noisemakers.

Rav Aviner on…

We’ve Come From Far Off to Fight

[Be-Ahavah U-Be-Emunah – Terumah 5770 – translated by R. Blumberg]

We’ve come from far off, from all the exiles, from all the countries, from all the destructions, from all the suffering.

We’ve come to our army, and we shall love it, for it is ours. We left home, we left a wife, parents, children, friends. Yet in our hearts is a flame that cannot be snuffed out. We’re not afraid of anything, from hunger, or from the enemy. We’ll all go home, proud and happy that we defended our people; that we defended our land. We know what we’re doing and why we’re doing it.

Our enemies are sworn to annihilate us all, but thanks to our soldiers they fail miserably. How truly fortunate we are! The main thing is that we should remain united. Then we won’t fear our enemies. And if they attack us, we’ll show them what for! Our enemies are sworn to liquidate us, but they don’t know our strength. Now they are mortified, humiliated, and in flight. Cowards!

The battle command has gone forth! We don’t like wars! We don’t like battles! Yet when our enemies aim their weapons at us, we’ve got to go into battle, and we’ve got to win. Tremble before us, despicable enemies! Soon you shall pay the price of blood
and tears! For we shall fight on behalf of our living brethren, and on behalf of those who have fallen.

Whoever falls so that his people live on – is alive! We shall avenge your blood and liquidate your murderers.

When we bring peace and freedom to our Nation, you will be with us. When a brother falls and disappears into the shadows, another brother rises up in his place out of the shadows. Some people remain at home, sleeping in their beds, but we go into battle, for your sakes, for our own sakes.

Fallen brethren! We offer you a hand, in the name of our people and our country. We are proud thanks to you. Our hearts get excited when we remember you. We direct our steps according to yours. We claim victory by virtue of your efforts. We don't demand much, just life. Not the enemies' artillery, not the terrorists' bullets. Just life.

And when we return home after our enemies fall, after our murderers are smitten, we'll come back tired and scarred, but better, gentler, kinder, more serious, more faithful, and more loving.

Stories of Rabbenu – Our Rabbi, Ha-Rav Tzvi Yehudah Ha-Cohain Kook

Protest Over Autopsies

Our Rabbi related that Maran Ha-Rav Kook once heard they were planning an autopsy, a violation of Halachah, on a woman who was alone when she died. He called the hospital and said: "This is the Chief Rabbi of Israel, I am a Cohain. It is forbidden for a Cohain to become impure by coming in contact with a corpse, but if need be, I will come and become impure for a met mitzvah" (a corpse which does not have anyone to bury it and even a Cohain is obligated to do so. He was suggesting that, if necessary, he himself would come to bury the body, rather than allow it to be desecrated).

Purim

Control over the intellect

Once on Purim, the students brought all types of alcoholic drinks to our Rabbi and he drank them all, but it did not affect him and he did not say a word. At the end of the
meal, they davened maariv and it was as if he had not had anything to drink and he was as usual. (Ha-Rav Yosef Kelner)

On another Purim, the students gave our Rabbi two bottles of Vodka to drink, but it did not affect him at all, and he continued his class in "Olat Ha-Re'eiyah" (thoughts of Maran Ha-Rav Kook on the siddur). (Ha-Rav Mordechai Sadeh)

Shtreimel
On Purim, a drunken student asked our Rabbi: "Where is the shtreimel of Maran Ha-Rav? We also want a Rebbe with a shtreimel!" Our Rabbi smiled and responded: "One for whom it is proper to wear a shtreimel has a shtreimel."

A blessing
On Purim, a drunken student asked our Rabbi to give him a blessing that he should merit the trait of truth. Our Rabbi smiled, but did not bless him.

The Jew who imitated Rav Shlomo Goren on Purim
On Purim, a tall Jew entered dressed in the uniform of a general of Tzahal: "Shalom, my master, Ha-Rav, I am Rav Goren," and he began imitating Rav Goren, and stating all kinds of halachic rulings. Suddenly, our Rabbi, burst out in awful screaming regarding shaming Torah scholars, and harshly scolded him.

Stupidity on Purim
It once happened that our Rabbi left in the middle on the Purim party. The students ran after him and asked him why he left. He said: "You also need to have awe of Hashem on Purim." (Ha-Rav Binyamin Eisner – Iturei Cohanim #196)

It once occurred on Purim that a student began to say "Purim Torah" and said "Rashi is a woman and Tosafot is a man because it says 'The entire glory of the princess is on the inside' (Tehillim 45:14) and Rashi’s commentary always appears on the inside of a page!" Our Rabbi scolded him.
Family Matters - Ha-Rav writes weekly for
the parashah sheet "Rosh Yehudi" on family relationships

We Don't Have Children

Question: We have been married for many years and do not have children. It causes us great sorrow which explodes into tension between us. What can we do?

Answer: This certainly causes great sorrow, and I am certain that you have done your utmost to try medical treatments. May Hashem bless you and we hope that you will soon have children. But there is no reason for it to create a separation between the two of you. On the contrary, it should cause you to strengthen your relationship against a common distress. It is not by coincidence that our forefathers and foremothers had fertility problems: Avraham and Sarah, Yitzchak and Yaakov and Rachel. There is an amazing midrash on the verse which states that Yitzchak prayed facing his wife (Bereshit 25:21). Our Rabbi explain that Yitzchak said: Master of the Universe, may all the children You give me be from this righteous woman. And Rivka said: Master of the Universe, may all the children You give me be from this righteous man (Midrash Rabbah). We are always together, through all situations, pleasant or less pleasant. We are together in happiness, we are together in hurt. Happiness brings us closer as does hurt. We will overcome all difficulties together.

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