

Panorama *of* Halacha



Shiurim on a wide range of Halacha

Dayan L. Y. Raskin

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One may wear a hearing aid on Shabbos, but there is room for a stricter view.



56) May one recite the brachos on the lighting of a menorah in a studio to be broadcast live on national media?

No one fulfills his obligation with the menorah lit in shul. There is a discussion as to why then a menorah should be lit in shul. The primary reasonings which are brought are:

שולחן ערוך: 167

ובבית הכנסת .. ומדליקין ומברכין משום פרסומי ניסא:

In shul the candles are lit and brachos are made because of publicizing the miracle.

בית יוסף: 168

נראה שתקנו כן מפני האורחים שאין להם בית להדליק בו.

It appears this [lighting in shul] was established for the guests who don't have a house to light in.

The reasoning of the *Bais Yosef* is puzzling as the one who lights the menorah in the shul doesn't even fulfill *his* obligation.

The Gemara¹⁶⁹ says that if a person – who will not light a menorah at home – sees a menorah, he should say the brachah *SheOsoh Nisim laAvoseinu*. Although he doesn't fulfill his obligation thereby, but he has engaged with the “publicity of the miracle”.

This is the rationale for the lighting of the menorah in shul with a brachah.

Sources & Notes

167. או"ח סי' תער"א ס"ז.

168. שם סי' י"ח.

169. שבת כ"ג ע"א.

שער יורה דעה

68) We use organic eggs. I find that most eggs have blood spots. Any solutions?

To clarify: 'Organic' only means that the feed for the chickens is organic, whereas 'free-range' means that the chickens are allowed to run around more freely.

If the eggs are free-range, there is a possibility that the chickens mated, in which case if a blood spot is found, the egg must be disposed of¹⁸³.

If the eggs are grown in battery farms, not free-range, the blood must be removed, but the egg is permitted¹⁸⁴. Nevertheless, the accepted custom is to dispose of the whole egg.

Egg farms candle their eggs to try and identify blood spots or other defects, and they remove those eggs before sale. Brown eggs are harder to candle, therefore many more eggs with blood spots will reach the customer.



69) May we have fish together with cottage cheese?

ש"ך:185

כתב העט"ז וז"ל ומ"מ אין לאכול דגים בחלב מפני הסכנה כמו שנתבאר בא"ח סימן קע"ג, עכ"ל. ובאמת נמשך אחר הב"י שכתב בן, אבל הוא טעות, כי לא נזכר שם אלא דדגים עם בשר אסור משום סכנה, אבל בחלב לא שמענו ולא ראינו, וכל יומא ויומא נהגינן הכי לבשל דגים בחלב ולאכול. גם בד"מ השיג על הב"י

Sources & Notes

183. Being that it has begun to form into a chick and that chick wasn't shechted.

184. As there is no possibility that the egg is actually fertilized, rather the stimulation only came from rubbing against the ground.

185. יו"ד סי' פ"ז סק"ד.

this is how it was spelled on the letters to the family from the Friediker Rebbe, and the Rebbe. After this yechidus, the Rebbe's letters began to be addressed to לויטנסקי, with the name לוי clearly spelled out.



88) There is controversy over whether “mainstream” doctors should be trusted when their treatments may carry significant risk, and alternative medicine may be as, or more effective. What is the Torah approach?

ספר 'ומלאה הארץ פארבריינגען'ס:²²⁰

Rabbi Mendel Gluckowski relates, there is a Jew in my community by the name of Elimelech Shachar²²¹. He once had a growth that he was concerned about and went to a doctor to have it checked out. The doctor said it was malignant and it was necessary to remove it before it grows worse. R' Shachar went to other experts and most gave the same response. However, one of the doctors he visited was more homeopathically-inclined and felt it could be treated with various supplements and the like. Rabbi Gluckowski would follow up with him from time to time and found out that he chose to follow the homeopathic doctor, and that there was no improvement. Although the pain and the growth worsened, the said doctor continued to assure R' Shachar that he has nothing to worry about.

One day Mrs. Shachar called R' Glukowski and explained that she has 12 children, and her husband's condition is worsening, which is putting serious pressure on her; she is concerned about her husband's health, and she felt R' Glukowski was the only person he would listen to.