

## Zmanim & Services

PARASHAT BESHALAH  
JANUARY 19, 2019

### Friday Night

Shir Hashirim	4:30 pm
Candle Lighting	4:38 pm
Minha	4:40 pm

followed by *Kabbalat Shabbat / Arvit*

### Shabbat Morning

Shaharit	8:30 am
Latest Shema	9:42 am
Minha	4:25 pm
Arvit	5:24 pm
Havdala	5:34 pm

### Weekly Schedule

#### Shaharit

Sunday	8:00 am
Mon/Thu	6:20 am
Tue/Wed/Fri	6:30 am

#### Minha/Arvit

Sunday	4:35 pm
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## Rabbi Haim Jachter

### The Bracha on Papaya - HaEitz or HaAdamah?

As we approach Tu BiShevat, Sephardic Jews focus on the Halachot of Brachot. We will follow suit and discuss a topic on which Sephardic Poskim have taken the lead - the proper Bracha on papaya. We will present the responsum from Teshuvot Rav Pe'alim, Rav Yosef Haim of Baghdad (known as the "Ben Ish Hai") for direction regarding this issue.

**Description of the Growth of the Papaya Tree:** The papaya is a hollow tree, which can grow to the height of twenty feet. If one plants a papaya seed, fruit will be produced within one year. After the third year of growth, the papaya trees' fruits decrease in quality and the tree is no longer economically worthwhile to maintain. The Encyclopaedia Britannica (17:277) notes that "under favorable conditions the life of a [papaya] plant may be five years or more." The papaya tree consists of a stem without branches, has antennae-like leaves emerging from its stem, and fruit emerging from the stem. After the fruit is removed from the stem, fruit will no longer grow from that section of the tree. The stem will grow considerably higher and produce fruit from the newly grown area in the second year. The same occurs in the third year.

**First Thought of the Teshuvot Rav Pealim:** Teshuvot Rav Pealim (2:30) was the first major halachic authority to address the question of which Beracha to recite on papaya. At first, he thought that the proper Beracha for papaya should be Haetz. This followed from the following Talmudic passage and its commentaries. The Talmud (Berachot 40a) states: "Whence do we recite Borei Pri Haetz? In case when one if removes fruit, the Gavza (Rashi: tree branch) remains and subsequently produces fruit. However, in case when the fruit is removed there no longer remains a branch which produces fruit, we do not recite Borei Pri Haetz, instead Borei Pri Haadama is recited." The Rosh (Berachot 6:23) explains that the Gemara teaches that "anything which produces fruit yearly is defined as a tree, and anything that requires yearly replanting is considered a fruit of the land (on which Haadama is recited)." The Rosh adds an additional definition from the Tosefta in the third chapter of Kilayim: Whatever produces leaves [which bears fruit] from its roots requires a Borei Pri Haadama and whatever produces leaves from its branches which produces fruit is considered a tree on which a Borei Pri Haetz is recited.

We see that the Rosh believes that the Gemara's distinction between perennials and annuals is not the sole criterion in determining whether Haetz or Haadama is recited. Other Rishonim, however, disagree with this assumption of the Rosh. For example, the Mordechai (Berachot 131) cites the Maharam of Rothenberg and Rabbeinu Tam who believe that one should recite Haetz on strawberries since strawberries are perennials. Nevertheless, the Mordechai cites opinions which agree with the Rosh. These authorities believe that Haadama is the appropriate Beracha for strawberries, since its leaves emerge from the roots of the plant rather than from branches.

The Tur (Orach Chaim 203) cites both opinions regarding the correct Beracha for strawberries. The Shulchan Aruch (Orach Chaim 203:2 and 3) rules in accordance with the Rosh. The Rama explains that "since the tree collapses in the winter and only subsequently regrows from its roots, the proper Beracha is Borei Pri Haadama." The same Halacha applies to bananas and pineapples, and thus their Beracha is Haadama. Based on the two criteria outlined by the Rosh, the Beracha on papaya should be Haetz. The papaya does not have to be replanted each year and its stem remains intact throughout the winter. Thus, the Rav Pe'alim writes that at first glance it would appear that Haetz should be recited on papaya. The Rav Pe'alim also notes that the fact that the papaya fruit in the second year grows from a newly grown section of the tree is irrelevant, and he understands the aforementioned Gemara's requirement that "the branch remains and later produces fruit" as meaning that if the tree remains through the winter and continues to produce fruit, the correct Beracha is Haetz. However, the Gemara does not require that the same branch produce fruit the next season in order for the Beracha to be Haetz.

**Conclusion of the Teshuvot Rav Pealim - The Eggplant Precedent:** The Rav Pe'alim, however, concludes that Haadama is the correct Beracha for papaya. His conclusion is, for the most part, based on the precedent to recite Haadama on eggplant. He presents sources indicating that there is an old tradition to recite Haadama on eggplant. The first source is the Teshuvot Radvaz (1:296 and 3:531), who discusses the permissibility of eating eggplant. He describes that eggplant grows within a year of planting and continues to produce fruit only for the next two years. Accordingly, all eggplants are from the first three years of growth. Thus, it would seem that eggplants should be forbidden to be consumed, since they appear to be considered Orlah. Indeed, an important authority, the Kaftor Veferach (chapter 56), rules that it is forbidden to eat eggplant for this reason. Nevertheless, the Radvaz notes that the practice among Jews living in the land of Israel is to eat eggplant. Those who ate eggplant include very prominent figures such as Rav Yosef Karo, The Ari, z"l, Rav Chaim Vital, and Rav Moshe Alshich (see Birkei Yosef to Yoreh Deah 294). The Radvaz defends this practice by stating that any plant that produces fruit within a year of planting is considered a vegetable and not a fruit. Only vegetables grow within a year of planting, and thus eggplant must be a vegetable and not subject to the restrictions of Orlah. Accordingly, the Beracha on eggplant is Borei Pri Haadama. The Rav Pealim reasons that the halacha regarding papayas should be the same as that regarding eggplants, since

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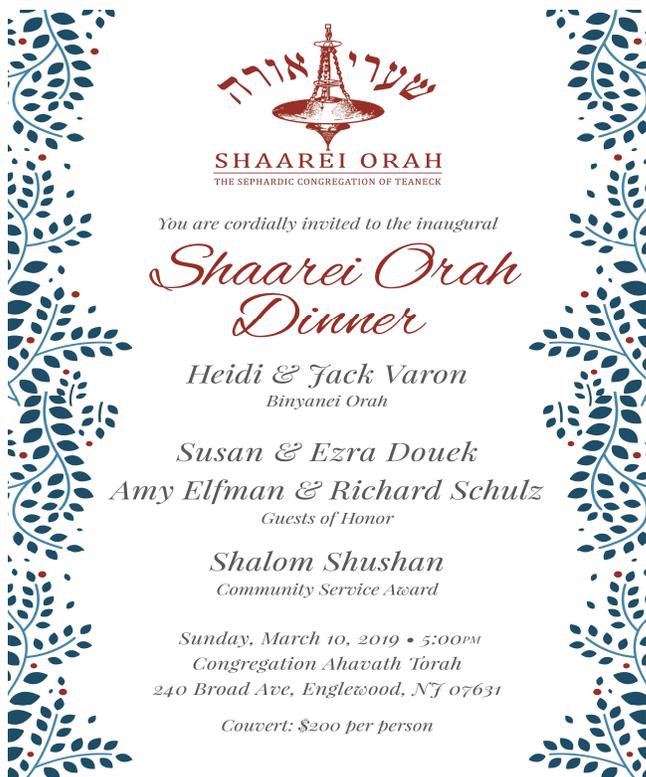
papaya trees also bear fruit within a year of planting its seed. Moreover, the Rav Pe'alim cites that the Teshuvot Halachot Ketanot (83) offers another reason why the Beracha for eggplant is Haadama. Namely, the fact that the eggplant stem is hollow is characteristic of vegetables and not of fruit trees. The Rav Pe'alim notes that the papaya tree is also hollow, thus providing another reason why the Beracha for papaya should be Haadama. Thus, the Rav Pe'alim concludes that the correct Beracha for papaya is Haadama. The Kaf Hachaim, Rav Ovadia Yosef and Rav Mordechai Eliyahu all concur with Rav Pe'alim's decision.

The Rav Pe'alim points out that even if there remains some doubt whether Haadama or Haetz is the proper Beracha for papaya, Haadama should be recited. This is because in any case of doubt whether Haadama or Haetz is the required Beracha, Haadama should be recited since B'dieved (post facto) one has fulfilled his obligation to recite a Beracha even if he uttered Haadama on a food item that one should have said Haetz on (see Rama Orach Chaim 202:18).

## Announcements

- ❖ **Mazal** Tov to Blanche and Larry Silver upon the birth of a grandson born to their children, Michelle and Yehuda Hampel of Washington, D.C. She'yirbu Semahot B'Yisrael!!
- ❖ **Kiddush** this week is sponsored by the kiddush fund. Thanks to all who contribute to the kiddush fund. To donate please visit <https://www.sephardicteaneck.org/form/kiddush-fund-donation.html>.
- ❖ **Seudah** Shelisheet is co-sponsored by Elisa and Naftali Mellul in memory of Nissim's mom's yahrzeit בת קלרה and Abby and Hanan Zarfati in memory of Hanan's grandmother Rivka bat Sara.
  - ❖ **There** is NO Parent Child Learning this Motzei Shabbat due to Yeshiva vacation.
  - ❖ **Thank** you to Morris Abboudi who sponsored Parent Child Learning last week.
- ❖ **Shaarei Orah** will be arranging to have shaimot picked up soon. If you have recently dropped items off in the synagogue office, please remember to send in a donation to Shaarei Orah so that we can cover the cost of pick up and burial. Shaimot can be dropped off at Shaarei Orah for a donation of \$18 per bag/box during office hours (**Monday through Thursday from 9-3 and Friday 9-1**). Please call in advance to confirm that the office is open. **The deadline for Shaimot drop-off is January 30, 2019.**
- ❖ **Happy Birthday** to Sharona Bellin (16 Sh'vat), Nissim Levy (19 Sh'vat), Minette Salzman (Jan 20) & Vivian Kalish (6 Sh'vat).
- ❖ **Come and participate in our wonderful classes. See details below.**

## Shaarei Orah Inaugural Dinner





SHAAREI ORAH  
THE SEPHARDIC CONGREGATION OF TEANECK

*You are cordially invited to the inaugural*

### *Shaarei Orah Dinner*

*Heidi & Jack Varon*  
*Binyanei Orah*

*Susan & Ezra Douek*

*Amy Elfman & Richard Schulz*  
*Guests of Honor*

*Shalom Shushan*  
*Community Service Award*

*Sunday, March 10, 2019 • 5:00PM*  
*Congregation Ahavath Torah*  
*240 Broad Ave, Englewood, NJ 07631*

*Couvert: \$200 per person*

*Dear Members and Friends, It is our pleasure to announce that the Inaugural Shaarei Orah Dinner will take place on Sunday, March 10, 2019, at 5:00pm at Congregation Ahavath Torah in Englewood, New Jersey. We are very excited to recognize the exceptional dedication and meaningful contributions of our Honorees and Awardees.*

*Our Dinner is also an opportunity to celebrate the past, present and future of our wonderful Synagogue and Sephardic community. We hope you will join us in expressing our gratitude to our outstanding Honorees and Awardees and to celebrating Shaarei Orah as the center of the Sephardic community in Teaneck. We look forward to personally greeting you on **March 10, 2019!***

**RSVP to the dinner here: [sephardicteaneck.org/dinner2019](http://sephardicteaneck.org/dinner2019).**

*For more information please contact [dinner@sephardicteaneck.org](mailto:dinner@sephardicteaneck.org).*

## A Story – On Learning a Lesson

### A student asked his teacher, “What is Greed?”

The teacher said, “In order to answer your question, go through the chocolate factory next to our school and pick the one chocolate you like the most.

But there is a rule. As you pass through the factory, you cannot turn back. You must pick the chocolate as you go forward only.”

The student went to the chocolate factory. As he walked through, He saw the one chocolate wrapped nicely, he instantly liked it but he wondered that he may find much bigger one further.

So, He walked further, then he saw another chocolate. But again, he thought the same. When he started to reach near the end of the factory, he couldn't see any chocolates as big as the one he didn't pick earlier and started to regret his decision of letting it go.

Finally, he gave up. He went back to the teacher with an empty hand and gave an explanation of what he did. The teacher told him, “You did like the one chocolate very much but still you kept looking for a bigger one. And later you realized that what you let go off was the best chocolate you could find there. That my dear is called Greed.”

**Moral:** We let go of many good things in our life because of our greed of having even better things. Our Human Nature is such that we always want better and better. But in the search of better, we let go of many good things which could have given us similar satisfaction and made us happy. Learn to make your choices wisely.

## Dvar Torah by Rabbi Zelig Pliskin

The Torah states, "And the Children of Israel came to Marah. And they were not able to drink the water at Marah for they were bitter" (Exodus 15:23).

Why does the Torah use the word "they" were bitter rather than specifying "the waters were bitter"?

The Kotzker Rebbe explains that "they were bitter" refers to the people themselves. When someone is bitter, then everything tastes bitter. To a bitter person nothing in life is positive. He makes himself miserable and those around him suffer. He thinks that he has valid reasons for his bitterness, but the source is within himself.

**Our lesson:** Take responsibility for your own life! Work on seeing the positive -- keep a running list of positive things you have to be grateful for from large to small and then prioritize them. This will focus you on the positive. Sweeten your outlook and you'll live in a much sweeter world! ("You can complain because roses have thorns, or you can rejoice because thorns have roses" -- Ziggy.) **Source – Aish.com**

## Wisdom of The Week by Ezra Ghazal

*If you are not willing to learn, no one can help you. If you are determined to learn, no one can stop you.*

### Weekly Riddle

What occurs once in every minute, twice in every moment, yet never in a thousand years?

Answer is located on the back sheet, guess before you look!!!

### Time to Smile

Doing nothing is hard, you never know when you're done.



## ALLERGY NOTICE

Please be aware that we have children with serious, life-threatening, nut allergies in our synagogue. Due to concerns for nut allergies, Congregation Shaarei Orah is a “nut aware” facility. Accordingly, all food for both public and private events, including our Shabbat youth groups, may not contain nuts or nut products of any kind (this includes products that "may contain" nuts or that were "processed in a facility" that also processes nuts). While each parent is primarily responsible for the safety of his or her children, we do ask that you do not send your children to Shabbat groups with snacks and candy from home and to refrain from bringing in and distributing any food in the synagogue that contains (or may contain) nuts. Your cooperation in keeping our children safe is appreciated.

**Also, candy used for any simha, such as bar mitzvah candy bags, must also abide by these guidelines.**

If you have any questions about what products are safe and what are prohibited, kindly contact the office at [office@sephardicteaneck.org](mailto:office@sephardicteaneck.org), prior to bringing into the synagogue. If your child has life threatening allergies of any kind, please let the office know ASAP so we can alert the congregants and youth leaders to help minimize the risk of any harm.

Congregation Shaarei Orah is an inclusive kehillah, all are welcome regardless of edah or level of observance.

## UPCOMING EVENTS & MORE...

The community is invited to the Ninth Annual Bonnie Berman a"h Yahrzeit Shiur taking place on Shabbos afternoon, **January 19th at 3 PM** at Congregation Rinat Yisrael (389 West Englewood Avenue) in Classrooms D-E. Rabbi Yonah Berman will speak on "Human Angels and Angelic Humans: Encountering the Divine in Breishit, Shemot and Beyond". The shiur is sponsored by the Ladies Shabbos Afternoon Shiur Group and the Berman Family.

**Congregation Bnai Yeshurun's**, 641 W Englewood Ave, Teaneck, Scholar in Residence Shabbat Parshat Yitro/ **January 25-26, 2019** is Professor Daniel Sinclair. **Friday Night: 8:00 pm** - When Halakhic Norms Clash with Human Dignity: Revealed and Concealed Solutions. Shabbat Day: **Approx. 11:00 am** - Bending the Truth for the Sake of Domestic Harmony and Human Dignity: Protecting Penitents, Concealing Scandal and the Dor Reviv's Revolutionary Theory of Universal Morality. **Following 4:35 pm Mincha** - The Lesser of the Two Evils: Beautiful Captives, Kashrut and Conversion to Judaism. Professor Daniel Sinclair is a British-born Israeli scholar of Jewish law who specializes in contemporary Jewish medical ethics. His books include Tradition and the biological revolution and Jewish biomedical law.

**Devorah Kigel** will offer a shiur at **8:00 p.m., on Tuesday, February 5**, at Beth Aaron, 950 Queen Anne Road in Teaneck. Her topic will be "How to Become a Queen in your Home: Lessons Learned from the Three Women in the Purim Story." Devorah prepares brides for marriage (kallah teacher), works as a dating and marriage coach, teaches monthly marriage enhancement classes (Shalom Bayit) in four NYC area communities.

**Bonei Olam Bergen County Event** - A Taste of Hope. Motzei Shabbos **February 23rd 8:30pm** at Congregation Keter Torah. Come join us for a community wide Chopped Competition with Naomi Nachman to benefit Bergen County couples struggling with the costs of infertility. To sign up for a chance to compete [bit.ly/boneiolamchopped](http://bit.ly/boneiolamchopped) No RSVP required. To make a donation : <https://www.boneiolam.org/donation?event=bergencounty18&aff=bc18-email-121918>

**Rabbi Steven Pruzansky** will be leading a Congregation Bnai Yeshurun Jewish Heritage Trip to Latvia, Lithuania and Belarus from May 13-20, 2019. We will be exploring Riga, Dvinsk, Boisk, Vilna, Kovno, Radin and Volozhin, among other places. Shabbat will be celebrated in Vilna. The resident historian will be Rav Avraham Krieger, founder of Shem Olam. There are about ten spots left, and we invite members of the community to join. Those interested should contact Rabbi Pruzansky at [Rabbi@Bnaiyeshurun.org](mailto:Rabbi@Bnaiyeshurun.org) or log onto <http://heritageseminars.org/eventsarchive/congregation-bnei-yeshurun-seminar/>

**Toiletry Collection Drive** - Ongoing collection of full-size shampoo, conditioner, body wash, bar soap, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes and dental floss that is distributed on a regular basis to community members in need. This is a year-round collection and very much needed. Drop off at the Stone residence - **578 Grenville Avenue, Teaneck** - purple collection box located at the right-side door. Questions? Please contact Gila - [gr5thkid@msn.com](mailto:gr5thkid@msn.com).

**Bikur Cholim Bergen County** would like to make the community aware of the opening of our newest facility housed in the Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation at Saddle Brook. The Bikur Cholim kosher food pantry is fully stocked with soft drinks, frozen meals, assorted kosher food and snacks, Shabbat supplies, and seforim. If you or someone you know are at the facility please ask at the front desk and they will be happy to direct you to the room. For any questions please feel free to reach out to Bikur Cholim Bergen County at **201-579-3066**.

We welcome any family member with a loved one suffering from addiction and substance abuse issues to our local support group, which meets every other Wednesday evening in Teaneck. The group is free of charge and is facilitated by clinicians specializing in addiction. For more information and the time/location of the meeting, please email: [Time2TalkAddiction@gmail.com](mailto:Time2TalkAddiction@gmail.com). In addition, for information about vaping, marijuana, opioids, resources for treatment and education, and other important topics, please visit our website: [www.Time2TalkAddiction.org](http://www.Time2TalkAddiction.org).

*\*\*\* Answer to the Weekly Riddle – The letter m... \*\*\**

## WEEKLY SHIURIM @ SHAAREI ORAH

- ❖ **Rabbi Jachter:** - Shabbat morning Pre-Sha'harit Humash Shiur at 8:30am - Shabbat afternoon shiur on Hilchot Shabbat: 40 min before Mincha - Thursday evenings at 7:30pm at 315 Churchill Road on Torah & Science.
- ❖ **Rabbi Michael Chernlck:** Hilchot Yom Tov, Tuesday night, 8:15 pm

### Shaarei Orah Contact Information

Thank YOU for joining Tefilot @ Shaarei Orah. Please mail all donations & payments to:  
Shaarei Orah – 1425 Essex Road, Teaneck, NJ 07666 or online at [www.sephardicteaneck.org](http://www.sephardicteaneck.org)

Tizku L'mitzvot!!! To sponsor any event, send a donation card, place an ad in the newsletter or to receive our weekly newsletter by email please contact [office@sephardicteaneck.org](mailto:office@sephardicteaneck.org) or call 201-833-0800.

*Shorashai Orah, the sisterhood of Shaarei Orah contact: [shorashai.orah@gmail.com](mailto:shorashai.orah@gmail.com)*

**RABBI:** Rav Haim Jachter - [rabbi@sephardicteaneck.org](mailto:rabbi@sephardicteaneck.org)

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**Vice President:** Shlomo Levy | **Treasurer:** Isaac Dayan | **Secretary:** Blanche Silver | **Gabbai:** Shalom Shushan

Billing questions contact: [finance@sephardicteaneck.org](mailto:finance@sephardicteaneck.org)

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