



Volume 1. Issue 19.

Adnei HaSadeh

The eighth *perek* of *Masechet Kilayim* talks about the types of animals that can and cannot work together in the field due to the *issur* of *Kilayim*. For example, a mule whose mother is a horse may not work with a mule whose mother is a donkey. Yet two mules that both had donkeys for mothers may work together. During this chapter, a wide range of animals are discussed including animals which are no longer found in *Eretz Yisrael* such as elephants and monkeys (see 8:6).

However, no creature is as interesting as the “*Adnei HaSadeh*” that is mentioned in *perek 8 Mishnah 5*. According to the *Tanna Kama*, an *Adnei HaSadeh* is considered an animal in every respect, yet *R’ Yosse* argues that it has the same laws as a human, with regard to *tumah* and *taharah*. But what is an *Adnei HaSadeh*?

The *Tiferet Yisrael* offers the simplest answer. He claims that an *Adnei HaSadeh* is an orangutan, which, as we know, has many characteristics that are similar to humans. However, the *Talmud Yerushalmi* (*Masechet Kilayim* 8:4) claims that an *Adnei HaSadeh* is some type of wild man who lives in the forests or mountains. It is at this point that the answers start to become more magical and mysterious.

The *Rambam* in his *Perush Hamishnayot* (*Kilayim* 8:5) explains that an *Adnei HaSadeh* is a creature that talks constantly even though its speech is unintelligible, and talks similar to a human. The *Rambam* finishes his explanation by adding that much is written about this creature in ‘books’.

Some of these ‘books’ may include the explanation of the *Bartenurah* who explains that the *Adnei HaSadeh* is an animal whose features are similar to

that of humans yet it is connected to the ground by an umbilical cord through which it draws nutrients. Its real name is “*Yaduah*” and it is a fearsome creature that devours any other creature that comes too close. The *Bartenurah* concludes by advising us that the best way to hunt this animal is to shoot arrows directly at the cord – its life source – and once this is damaged, the *Yaduah* will die immediately.

This explanation is somewhat puzzling. If the *Yaduah* is so dangerous, why would anyone risk trying to hunt it? The answer to this lies in *Rashi*’s explanation to *Vayikra* 19:31: “Do not turn to any medium (*Ovot*) or *Yidoni*”. *Rashi* explains that a *Yidoni* gained a supernatural ability to see into the future by inserting a bone of the *Yaduah* into their mouths and either the bone would talk (*Rashi*) or the bone would give them the ability to talk (*Tiferet Yisrael, Rambam*). Another feature of this bone is that according to the *Ra’avad*, you can insert this bone into the mouth of a dead person and conduct a conversation with that person. It is these magical and mysterious features that clearly make the *Yaduah* a very sought after prize.

After evaluating a number of different options as to what is an *Adnei HaSadeh*, it might now be possible to better understand the reasoning behind the views of the *Tanah Kamah* and *R’ Yosse* with regard to this creature’s *halachic* status as a man or a beast. The *Tanah Kamah* would agree with the explanation of the *Tiferet Yisrael* and others who claim that the *Adnei HaSadeh* is much closer to apes and monkeys than humans and therefore has the *din* of an animal. Whereas *R’ Yosse* would agree with the view of the *Yerushalmi* that it is a wild man and therefore would have the same *din* as a human with regard to *Tumah* and *Taharah*.

Ben-Zion Hain

Revision Questions

כלאים ח' :ה' – ט' :י'

- If one cannot identify the parentage of mules, can they be used together for working in the field? (ח' :ה')
- Into what category do the following animals fit?
 - Hedgehog?
 - *Chuldat HaSna'im*? (ח' :ה')
 - Dog?
 - Pig?
 - Elephant and monkey? (ח' :ו')
- Does one transgress the prohibition of *kil'ei behema* if a human being and an ox are used together to pull a wagon? (ח' :ו')
- Which two fabrics when combined constitute the prohibition of *kil'ei begadim*? What two other laws relate specifically to these two fabrics? (ט' :א')
- When is it a problem to have a mattress made with linen and wool? (ט' :ב')
- Does one transgress *kil'ei begadim* if the prohibited garment is worn on top of ten other layers of clothing? (ט' :ב')
- Explain the debate regarding handtowels made from *shatnez*? (ט' :ג')
- Do the laws of *kil'ei begadim* apply to death shrouds? Why? (ט' :ד')
- When can *shatnez* saddles be problematic? (ט' :ד')
- Can a seller of fabrics hang his *shatnez* garments over his shoulder when sampling his products? (ט' :ה')
- Can a tailor rest *shatnez* garments on his lap while mending the garment? (ט' :ו')
- What do the *tznuyim* do in the above two cases? (ט' :ה-ו')
- What three necessary processes are hinted to be the word "*shatnez*"? (ט' :ח')
What does *R' Shimon* learn from this word? (ט' :ח')
- Are felted materials problematic? (ט' :ט')
- Can wool be used to form the edge of a linen material? (ט' :ט')
- Can one make a belt of a strip of linen and wool, separated by leather? (ט' :ט')
- Is it a prohibited to wear a linen garment that has wool connected to it with a single stitch? (ט' :י')
- Who many passes of a needle (stitches) are need, such that one material is considered fixed to the other for *hilchot Shabbat*? (ט' :י')

שביעית א' :א-ב'

- What is the latest time that one can plough a *sde ilan* the year before the *shmittah* year (*erev shvi'it*)? (א' :א')
- What is the definition of a *sde ilan*? (ב' :א')

Local Shiurim

Sunday -Thursday

Between mincha & ma'ariv

Mizrachi Shul

9:50pm (after ma'ariv)

Beit Midrash -

Naftali Herc

Friday & Shabbat

10 minutes before mincha

Mizrachi Shul

Audio Shiurim on-line!

- 613.org/Mishnah.html
- www.shemayisrael.com/Mishna/

DAF YOMI SIYUM

The Melbourne community will be celebrating the 11th completion of the entire Talmud learnt as part of the Daf Yomi (7½ year) program.

Sunday 27th February
At 7:00pm
Carlton Crest Hotel

Guest Speaker
Rabbi Noah Aizik Olbaum

For tickets and information:
email@siyum.info
mishnahyomit@hotmail.com

To add another mishnah yomit shiur send an email to: mishnahyomit@hotmail.com

Next Week's Mishnahyot...

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	שבת קודש
13 th Feb. ד' אדר א'	14 th Feb. ה' אדר א'	15 th Feb. ו' אדר א'	16 th Feb. ז' אדר א'	17 th Feb. ח' אדר א'	18 th Feb. ט' אדר א'	19 th Feb. י' אדר א'
Shvi'it 1: 3-4	Shvi'it 1: 5-6	Shvi'it 1: 7-8	Shvi'it 2: 1-2	Shvi'it 2: 3-4	Shvi'it 2: 5-6	Shvi'it 2: 7-8

