



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

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- [www.shemayisrael.com/Mishna/](http://www.shemayisrael.com/Mishna/)

**DAF YOMI SIYUM**

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

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> February  
At 7:00pm  
Carlton Crest Hotel

Guest Speaker  
**Rabbi Noah Aizik Olbaum**

For tickets and information:  
[email@siyum.info](mailto:email@siyum.info)  
[mishnahyomit@hotmail.com](mailto:mishnahyomit@hotmail.com)

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**Next Week's Mishnahyot...**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	שבת קודש
13 <sup>th</sup> Feb. ד' אדר א'	14 <sup>th</sup> Feb. ה' אדר א'	15 <sup>th</sup> Feb. ו' אדר א'	16 <sup>th</sup> Feb. ז' אדר א'	17 <sup>th</sup> Feb. ח' אדר א'	18 <sup>th</sup> Feb. ט' אדר א'	19 <sup>th</sup> 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

