

Volume 13, Issue 47

# **Waving Bikkurim**

Previously (2:4) we learnt that one of the laws that sets *Bikurim* apart from *terumot* and *maaserot* was the requirement of *tenufah*. In other words, when one brought the *bikurim* to *Yerushalaim* they were waved, in a similar manner to a *lulav* and *etrog*. This week we studied the third *perek* that described how the *bikurim* were brought. The *Mishnah* (3:6) taught:

While the basket (containing the bikurim) was on his shoulders, he would recite from "ve'higadeti ha'yom" until he complete the entire parasha. R' Yehuda explains that he would recite until "arami oved avi". When he reached "arami oved avi", he would then take the basket down from his shoulders and hold them by the rim; and the kohen would then place his hands under the basket and wave it. He would recite from "arami oved avi" until he ends the parasha, leave the basket by the side of the mizbeach and then leave.

From a simple reading of the *Mishnah* the requirement of *tenufah* is debated, with the first opinion omitting it. Considering that the earlier *Mishnah* simply stated that *tenufa* is required, is the *Tana Kama* in our *Mishnah* arguing with the earlier one?

The *Tosfot Yom Tov* however explains that the *Mishnah* is presenting the universal opinion from the point where the *Mishnah* discusses what happened from *arami oved avi*. That being the cases it is unclear what the *Tana Kama* and the *R' Yehuda* are arguing about. The *Tosfot Yom Tov* presents two possibilities.

According to both possibilities, he explains that the debate is whether the *Kohen* is handling the *bikurim* along with the owner as he recites *arami oved avi*. According to the *Chachamim* the *Kohen* first takes the *bikurim* at *arami oved avi* and waves them alone. Then the owner takes the *bikurim*, recites the *parasha* and performs *tenufah* alone (see *Rashi Devarim* 26:4,10). According to *R' Yehuda* however, the *Kohen* holds the basket along with the owner from *arami oved avi* and one *tenufa* is performed at the end together. The *Tosfot Yom Tov*'s second suggestion, based on the *Mizrachi*, reverses the explanation of two positions.

The *Mishnah Rishona* suggests that everyone maintains that the waving was performed during the recital. The debate is whether they paused during the recital for the waving, with

the *Tana Kama* maintaining that he would recite the *parasha* from "beginning to end" without a break.

Returning to the *Tosfot Yom Tov*, he continues that his original suggestions were based on the opinions of the *Rambam* and *Bartenura* that rule according to the opinion of *R' Yehuda*. Implicit in their ruling is the assumption that the *Mishnah* records a debate. The *Tosfot Yom Tov* however continues that in *Mishnayot*, the second opinion recorded is sometimes explaining the first opinion in more detail. That being the case, it is possible that in our *Mishnah* as well, *R' Yehuda* is simply explaining the opinion of the *Tana Kama* and there is no argument regarding *tenufah*.

Common to the explanations thus far, the Tana Kama agrees that tenufa is required. The Tosfot Anshei Shem however directs our attention to the Tosfot (Makkot 18b). The Gemara there discusses whether reciting the parasha (keriya) and/or hanacha (placing the bikurim down by the mizbeach) is me'akev (critical). The Gemara explains that keriya is debated between R' Shimon and the Rabanan while hanacha is debated between R' Yehuda and the Rabanan. R' Yehuda maintains that *hanacha* is not *me 'akev*. The *Gemara* explains that despite the fact the *pesukim* that describe *bikurim* refer to hanacha twice, one of these is understood to be referring to tenufa. Since hanacha is then only understood to be mentioned once, it is not me'akev. The Gemara then asks which opinion disagrees with R' Yehuda. The Gemara cites the opinion of R' Eliezer that learns the requirement of tenufa from a different pasuk ("ve'lakach ha'kohen ha'tena miyadecha). This would presumably thereby leave both references of hanacha to teach that hanacha is me'akev.

The *Tosfot* however comment, based on the *Sifri*, that *R'* Eliezer requires the two reference of "hanacha" to refer to tenufa as the source that the bikurim are waved twice. *R'* Eliezer only argues with *R'* Yehuda regarding the source of the obligation of tenufa. The Tosfot however explains that it is the Tana Kama in our Mishnah that understands the term hanacha to be literal in both cases. The Tana Kama is the one that argues with *R'* Yehuda and maintains that hanacha is meakev. In other words, according to the Tana Kama there is no source for tenufa for bikurim and they must indeed be arguing with the earlier Mishnah.

Yisrael Bankier

## **Revision Questions**

ביכורים גי:אי -די:בי

- How does one separate *bikurim*? (ג': א')
- Describe the process of how the *bikurim* were brought to *Yerushalaim*?
  - O Where was the first stop? (ג':ב')
  - O What did they do when they approached Yerushalaim? (ג':ג')
  - o Describe the procession to temple mount. (ג':ד')
  - What were done with the birds that were carried in their hands?  $(x: \pi)$
  - O Describe what happened when they reached the azarah. (ג':ר')
- What was the decree that the *Chachamim* instituted to counter a problem that turned people away from bringing *bikurim*? (κ': 'λ')
- Wealthy people would bring their *bikurim* in one type of basket, and the poor would bring in another. What types of baskets were they and which were given to the *kohanim*? (ג': 'ח')
- Explain the debate regarding which fruit we use to "decorate" the bikurim? (κ':טי)
- Explain the meaning of these terms: (ג': יג')
  - o Tosefet bikurim
  - o Itur bikurim

Explain two halachic differences between the above two things.

- When is *tosefet bikurim* equivalent to *bikurim*? (ג'י:מיא)
- Explain why *bikurim* is referred to as the *kohen's* property? (ג': יייב)
- Explain the debate between R' Yehuda and Chachamim regarding to which kohen the bikurim must be given. ( $\kappa' : \kappa'' : \kappa' : \kappa'' :$
- What is an *androginus*? (די:א')
- How is an *androginus* similar to men? (די:ביי)

## Melbourne, Australia

Sunday -Thursday 10 minutes before *Mincha* <u>Mizrachi Shul</u> Melbourne, Australia

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Next Week's Mishnayot...

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	שבת קודש
19 February כייג שבט	20 February כייד שבט	21 February כ״ה שבט	22 February כייו שבט	23 February כייז שבט	24 February כ״ח שבט	25 February כייט שבט
Bikurim 4:3-4	Bikurim 4:5 - Shabbat 1:1	Shabbat 1:2-3	Shabbat 1:4-5	Shabbat 1:6-7	Shabbat 1:8-9	Shabbat 1:10- 11

