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Cancelling Future Nedarim

The third *perek* opens by listing the four types of *nedarim* that the *Chachamim* were *matir*. In other words, these *nedarim* are automatically cancelled and are not binding. The first, is *nidrei zeiruzim*. The *Mishnah* (3:1) explains that these *nedarim* were not sincere and only made to encourage or influence another party. According to the *Chachamim*, these are *nederim* made during bargaining, while *R' Elazar ben Yaakov* also includes those made when trying to persuade a potential a guest. The *Mishnah* continues that if one declared that all future *nedarim* are null and void, then the condition would be effective provided that "he remembers the condition and the time he makes the future *neder*". How does this declaration works and what relevance does it have to *nidrei zeiruzim*?

The Gemara asks that if the person remembered the condition at the time of the future neder, then it should be considered as if he cancelled that condition and the neder should be binding. Abaye responds that the Mishnah should be understood as ruling that the condition works as long as he does **not** remember the condition at the time of the *neder*. Rava however maintains the version of the Mishnah that we have and explains that in our case, the person remembered that he made the condition but does not remember the details, i.e. which nedarim were covered by the declaration. Consequently, at the time of the neder he declares that he is doing so based on the condition he made previously. If however does not say that this neder is based on the previous condition, since he remembers that he made that condition, it would be considered as if he is annulling that stipulation and the neder would work.

The *Ran* explains that *Rava* agrees with *Abaye* that if the person does not remember the condition at the time of the *neder*, then the *neder* does not take hold. They continue that this explains the practice of reciting *kol nidrei* as constituting such a stipulation that would apply to future *nedarim*. (The *Ran* finds the *kol nidrei* text difficult as it appears the

declaration applies to past *nedarim* as well, for which this declaration would not effect. Ultimately the *Ran* is against the practice as it runs the risk of people treating *nedarim* lightly.)

The *Tosfot*, citing the *Ri* however explains that *Rava* argues that only if he remembered the condition at the time of the *neder* would the condition work. If he however forgot the condition, the *neder* would be binding since it is clear his intention now is for the *neder* to take hold. This appears to be the opinion of the *Bartenura* also, who adds that if however at the time of the *neder* he remembers and intends to undo that condition, then the *neder* would work. The *Tosfot* however find this position difficult, because the *Gemara* raised the argument that if one remembered the condition at the time of the *neder*, it would be considered as if he cancelled the condition. The *Tosfot* understands that this position is assumed, and it is difficult to understand that *Rava* is arguing with this premise. Consequently, the *Tosfot* ultimately adopts the position of the (*Rabeinu Tam* and) *Ran* above.¹

The Chatam Sofer questions the relevance this law has to the focus of our Mishnah – nidrei zeiruzim. The Chatam Sofer answers that this category of nedarim, that are automatically considered cancelled, relies on this law. In other words, the only way that the Chachamim could cancel nidrei zeiruzim is because it is as if Yisrael and Beit Din stipulated from the outset that all nedarim that people would make in order to influence or convince others are considered cancelled. Consequently, any nedarim made are considered as if they are based on that condition. Even if he is unaware of that condition, "lev beit din matne", Beit Din apply it to all nedarim. The Chatam Sofer argues that one must understand nidrei zeiruzim in this way, since we do not find a direct source for this exception recorded in the Torah.²

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¹ See *Shulchan Aruch* YD 211:2, that appears to be concerned for both understandings of *Rava*'s opinion. Similarly see the *Rama* YD 211:1 that cautions against relying on *kol nidrei* to cancel *nedarim*.

² One might suggest that this supports the position of the *Ran* because the general condition of the *nidrei zeiruzim* applies even though one is not aware of existence. Nevertheless, one could argue that this condition is different since the *Chatam Sofer* explains that it works universally through *lev beit din matne*.

Revision Questions

יו: *י*גי − גי: וי

- When making a *neder* what are the three *kinyan* for: (א':ב'י)
 - o Korban?
 - o Cherem?
 - o Nazir?
 - o Shvuah?
- Is the following a valid *neder*: (א':ג'י)
 - ס "יפיגול יהא מאכלד עליי"?
 - o יייהא מאכלך עלי כאמראיי?
 - ייירושלים דבר זה עלייי?
- Explain the debate regarding the following *neder*: "עולה איני אוכל לך". (אי:די). "עולה איני אוכל לדי".
- Is the following a valid neder: אי:די) אולי:די? (אי:די)
- Is the following a valid neder: (בי:אי) (ייחלין שאכל לך כבשר חזיריי)
- What is the law regarding a man the makes the following *neder* to his wife:
 "יהרי את עלי כאמאיי? (ב':אי)
- What is the difference between one who says "ישבועה and יישבועה and יישבועה (בי:אי)
- In what respect is a *shvuah* more strict than a *neder*? (ב':ב')
- In what two ways is a *neder* more strict than a *shvuah*? (ב':ב'-ג')
- Provide two examples of the following principle: (בי:די) ייסתם נדרים להחמיר ופרושם להקליי
- Explain the debate regarding a case where one used "cherem" when making a neder then later explained he was referring to fish nets (charmo shel yam). (בי:הי)
- What are the four categories of *neder* that are automatically cancelled? (ג':אי)
- Which category of *neder* is one that is made:
 - o In the heat of a commercial transaction? (ג':א')
 - o As follows: (גי:בי) ייקונם אם לא ראיתי בדרך הזה כיוצאי מצריםי?
 - Based on the fact that he had not eaten, then later he remembers he ate?(ע: :בי)
- What are *nidrei onsin*? (ג': ג'-ד')
- Explain the debate regarding whether the law apply to *nidrei onsin* also applies to *shvu'ot*? ('ז:'ז')
- What are the three points of debate between *Beit Shammai* and *Beit Hillel* regarding *nidrei onsin*? ('ד:'ג')
- With respect to *nidrei hekdesh*, if one was *noder* a *tallit* after what wording
 of the *neder* can the *tallit* be redeemed, and when can it not be redeemed?
 (ג':ה')
- If someone made a neder from benefiting from "yoshvei yabasha" can he get benefit from "yordei yam"? (יו: ווי)

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Next Week's Mishnayot...

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	שבת קודש
3 June כי סיון	4 June כייא סיון	5 June כייב סיון	6 June כייג סיון	7 June כייד סיון	8 June כייה סיון	9 June כייו סיון
Nedarim 3:7-	Nedarim 3:9- 10	Nedarim 3:11- 4:1	Nedarim 4:2-3	Nedarim 4:4- 5	Nedarim 4:6-7	Nedarim 4:8- 5:1