



Parshas Vayishlach 5762

November 30, '01
Volume I Issue 2

Chazora

Last week we learned that in order to do chazora ¹ one has to comply with certain conditions. What if I did not comply with all of them, may I still do chazora?

It depends which conditions were not adhered to.

For example: I had in mind to return the food to the blech ² but I placed the pot onto the counter.

The *Mishna B'rura* ³ says that in your case when the food is needed one may return it (in compliance with the other conditions).

Also if you are still holding it in your hands, even if you did not have in mind to return it to the fire, if the food is needed, it may be returned.

What if I forgot to cover the flames with a blech?

Then you cannot do *chazora*. One is only allowed to return food to a covered fire or to a Shabbos hot plate. However you can take the food to a neighbor's *blech* or hot plate, after complying with all the other conditions.

¹ Returning food to the fire

² A metal sheet placed over the flames.

³ *Simon* 253:56

Bishul

If the pot's lid was removed, may I cover the pot?

It depends; if the food is not yet fully cooked you may not cover the pot, as a closed pot cooks more rapidly than an uncovered pot, thereby being liable for the *melacha* of *Bishul* – cooking.

If the food is fully cooked – some *poskim* hold that it is *muter* to cover the pot. Others hold that one must first remove the pot from the fire, cover it, and then return it to the fire. ⁴

Which foods may one heat up on Shabbos itself, and how?

Foods with no liquid or gravy, i.e. kugel, schnitzel, rice, and are fully cooked may be placed on top of a pot that is on the fire. ⁵

⁴ *T'shuvos V'Hanbagos* (vol.1 207-3). *Sh'miras Shabbos Kehilchasa* (1-35). *Iggros Moshe* (Orach Chayim vol.4 74-10).

⁵ *Simon* 253 *se'if* 5

What if gravy is also in the dish?

If the gravy is cold you are not allowed to heat it above the temperature of *yad soledes bo*,⁶ which is (for *hilchos* Shabbos) approx. 40°– 45°C.

If by placing the dish with gravy on the urn etc. it will not be able to reach *yad soledes bo* even if you leave it there for a long period of time, you may put it there. But if eventually it would reach *yad soledes bo* if left there long enough, you may not place it there even if you intend removing it before it reaches *yad soledes bo*.

A Word on the Parsha

When Ya'akov Avinu met his dear brother Eisav, he said to him "*Im Lavan garti ...*". *Rashi* says that since *Garty* is the numerical value of *taryag* = 613, he meant to relate to him that he had observed all 613 *mitzvos*. The question is that what interest does Eisav have whether Ya'akov observed them or not, Eisav certainly does not abide by them. Harav Sternbuch shlita answers that, since in the blessings received by the brothers, it says that if Ya'akov would not adhere to the *mitzvos*, only then would Eisav (*chas v'shalom*) have any power over Ya'akov, Ya'akov forewarned Eisav saying that Eisav has no power over him whatsoever as he had adhered to all 613 *mitzvos*.

⁶ This is the degree *Chazal* (our sages) say that foods and liquids cook.

Food For Thought

Is it muter to move pots on the blech closer to the flames?

If after closing a pot I realized that the food was not yet fully cooked, may the food be eaten?

By mistake I took the cholent pot off the blech thinking that it was the soup pot, may I put the cholent pot back?

Are there any halachos as to how one is allowed to wrap towels around pots on the blech?

Answers coming next week.

For Your Information

The following cities have Shabbos Shiurim:

Minneapolis - R' Moshe Tuvia Lief
Johannesburg - R' Furman
Lakewood - R' Menchem Mendel Lerner
Leeds, England - R' Sedley
Miami, Fla - R' Dovid Botton
Boston - R' Aaron Hamouie

Many woman have taken the initiative to start weekly classes to learn the Halachos of Shabbos. There are many fine Seforim available and it is an area that most of us need to learn and review.

In memory of Yehudah ben Hanania Benklifa, Dallas, Texas

One may receive and distribute these weekly shiurim by calling or writing: Office 99 Rechov Bayit Vegan, Yerushalayim,
Phone Numbers: U.S. and Canada 732-370-3344 Israel 972-8-974-4177
South Africa 2711-728-4275 England 44161-792-2492 Australia 61-296835626
• e-mail: shabbosweekly@shemayisrael.com, or www.shemayisrael.com,
weekly sponsorships are available as well.

Note: The purpose of this series is intended solely for the clarification of the topics discussed and not to render halachic decisions. It is intended to heighten everyone's awareness of important practical questions which do arise on this topic. One must consult with a proper halachic authority in order to receive p'sak.