





What is the textual basis for the prohibition against doing melacha (39 major categories of labor) on Shabbat? The Torah states: "And on the seventh day, you shall cease doing labor," "And the seventh day is a Shabbat for HaShem, your God, you shall not do any work." However, the Torah does not specify exactly which types of labor are forbidden. Chazal knew that every important action which had been performed during the construction of the Mishkan (Tabernacle) is considered a "melacha". For instance, the Mishkan was built — so it is forbidden to build on Shabbat. The goat-skin covering that served as a roof for the Mishkan was dyed — therefore, it is forbidden to dye on Shabbat.

The ליש (39) melachot prohibited on Shabbat are called "Avot Melachot", as they are the overarching categories under which the "toladot" (subsidiary acts of restricted labor) are organized. In other words, many of the actions that are forbidden to carry out on Shabbat were not acts performed in the Mishkan. However, since those actions are similar to melachot performed in the Mishkan, they were prohibited as well. The specific melachot performed in the Mishkan are called "avot", while the similar subsidiary labors are called "toladot."

### 🍑 Daf 3: מָלֵאכֶת הוֹצֵאָה – THE LABOR OF "TRANSPORTING"

One of the לייט (39) Avot Melachot is "Hotza'ah" (transporting). On Shabbat, it is prohibited to transport items from the Reshut ha'Yachid (private domain) into the Reshut Ha'Rabim (public domain), and vice versa, from the Reshut Ha'Rabim into the Reshut Ha'Yachid.

An example of Reshut Ha'Rabim is a public, central, inter-city road that is at least 16 amot (approximately 24 feet) wide, which is not enclosed by a wall or fence. A road traversed by 600,000 people daily is certainly considered a Reshut Ha'Rabim. Reshut Ha'Yachid refers to a private space or domain that is a minimum of 4x4 tefachim (16 inches x 16 inches), surrounded by four walls that are at least 10 tefachim (40 inches) high - e.g., a house, or a yard.

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## FROM THE TALMUD

SEDER MOED **M**ASECHET SHABBAT DAF 3

מן התלמוד: סדר מועד, מסכת שבת דף ג': "והאמר שמואל: כל פטורי דשבת פטור אבל אסור, בר מהני תלת דפטור ומותר - צידת צבי, וצידת נחש ומפיס מורסא."

#### **Explanation**

Shmuel stated: Whenever it is said that a person is "patur" (exemption from punishment) in the realm of Shabbat observance, it means that the action under discussion is permitted under Torah law but nonetheless prohibited by rabbinic law. There are, however, three exceptional cases in which "patur" means that the action is entirely permissible.



### Daf 4: "הַעַבָרָה" – אִיסוּר – THE "TRANSFER" PROHIBITION

It is prohibited to transfer an item from Reshut Ha'Rabim into Reshut Ha'Yachid and vice versa. It is also prohibited to transport an item within the public domain more than  $4 \, amot$  (6 feet) — i.e., to take an item, carry it 4 amot and set it down. Why?

Reshut Ha'Yachid is a single, distinct area regardless of its actual size. For example, a large yard enclosed with fences is considered a single location. In contrast, a Reshut Ha'Rabim is a large, open space, in which every 4 amot legally constitutes a separate location. As such, it is prohibited to carry an item more than 4 amot in a Reshut Ha'Rabim and set it down, because doing so would constitute a transfer from one domain to another.

What is required of a person who unintentionally violated an issur melacha on Shabbat? During the time of the Beit HaMikdash, the inadvertent Sabbath violator would bring a Korban Chatat (Sin-Offering) and confess the wrongdoing.

## Daf 5: "הֹנַחַה" – "PLACEMENT"

On Shabbat, it is prohibited to transfer objects from one domain to another domain. It is also assur (prohibited) to transport an item more than 4 amot within a Reshut Ha'Rabim (Public Domain). A person who transfers an object from one domain to another is chayav (deemed liable for penalty) only if that person performs the act of "hanacha" (setting the item down). However, if that person did not set down the item in a second, different reshut, s/he is patur (exempt).

Where would a person need to set down an item in order to be liable? The chachamim stated that the area of placement must have a minimum size of 4 tefachim by 4 tefachim (16 inches x 16 inches) in order to violate the Torah prohibition. If a person removes an item from one area, carries it 4 amot and places it on something small (e.g., a pillar), that person would not have violated Torah law but would nonetheless be guilty of a transgressing rabbinic law. Despite the fact that placing an item on a small surface (less than 4 tefachim square) does not constitute hanacha, a person who places an item into another person's hand is chayav, because a human hand is considered equal to the size of 4 tefachim square.

## Daf 6: ארבעה סוגי רשויות – FOUR TYPES OF DOMAINS

In the realm of *Hilchot Shabbat*, the Gemara identifies four types of domains:

1) Reshut Ha'Yachid: A private space or domain that is a minimum of 4x4 tefachim (16 inches x 16 inches), surrounded by walls that are at least 10 tefachim (40 inches) high e.g., a house. [Cont'd on p. 3]



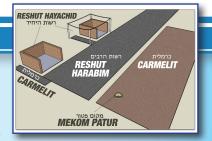
Parashat Ki Tissa opens with a census of Bnei Yisrael. Several times in Tanach, Bnei Yisrael are likened to the stars in the sky, connoting the difficulty or impossibility of counting them. As stated in Tehillim 147:4 "He counts the number of the stars; He calls them all by name."

Why precisely were Bnei Yisrael compared to the stars in the sky? When a person gazes up at the heavens, he sees the sky spread out above, and tens of thousands of stars crowded together, each similar to one another. At a superficial glance, from a distance, the stars all seem small and look alike. However, the truth is that each star is enormous and has very different characteristics compared to its companions. Am Yisrael is a sizeable and diverse people. From a distance, a person could mistakenly see Am Yisrael as insignificant, made up of people who are not special, or different from their fellow Jews. The comparison to the stars in the sky teaches us that each and every Jew is an entire universe, wonderful and distinct in character.





**[Cont'd from p. 2]** 2) Reshut Ha'Rabim: A public, central, inter-city road that is at least 16 amot (approximately 24 feet) wide, which is not enclosed by a wall or fence, and is utilized by many people. Some say that 600,000 people must traverse the road daily in order for it to be considered a Reshut Ha'Rabim.



- Thust traverse the road daily in order for it to be considered a heshat ha habiti
- *a) Carmelit:* A place where the public is not expected walk, and which does not have a wall or a proper fence for example, a forest, a field, or body of water. According to the Torah, it is not prohibited to transfer an item from a *Carmelit* to another domain, or to a *Carmelit* from one of the other types of domain. However, the *Chachamim* prohibited transfer of items to or from a *Carmelit*, so that people would not mistakenly think that since the Torah permitted the transfer of items in this *reshut* that it is also permissible to transfer items to and from a *Reshut Ha'Rabim*.
- 4) Mekom Patur: An area inside a Reshut Ha'Rabim that is more than 3 tefachim (11.5 inches) in height, but less than 4 tefachim (16 inches) wide. Such an area is not considered a "reshut" (domain), and is therefore deemed an exempt space.

### ▶ Daf 7: "זוֹרֵל" – "THROWING"

The Gemara explains that throwing an object violates the prohibition against "ho'tza'ah" (transporting) — albeit, not in every case. For example, a person who throws an object (e.g., a ball): If the ball strikes a wall, and rebounds back to the person who threw it, then no Torah prohibition was violated, since the ball was not set down a distance of 4 amot (approximately 6.5 feet) from the place it was thrown.

However, if the ball that was thrown was sticky (for instance, like molding clay), and that clay stuck to a wall in the *Reshut Ha'Rabim* (public domain), then the person who threw the clay would have violated an *Issur HaTorah*, since s/he would have transferred that clay ball a distance of 4 *amot* inside a *Reshut Ha'Rabim* and placed it on the wall. Rava said: But, if an object that was thrown lands inside a hole in the wall, the thrower did not transgress. As we learned above, a small place that is smaller than 4 *tefachim* is considered a *makom p'tor* (an exempt domain), where the placement of an object does not violate Torah law.

#### Daf 8: ערוב תחומין – ERUV TECHUMIN

A person who found themselves in the desert on Shabbat is permitted to walk 2,000 *amot* (approximately 1 kilometer or .62 miles) in every direction from the location that person stood at the start of Shabbat. However, when visiting a city for Shabbat, that entire city is considered the visitor's place of dwelling. As such, that visitor is permitted to walk 2,000 *amot* in every direction from the outskirts of that city.

What should a person who wishes to visit a friend or relative on Shabbat in another city, which is located more than 2,000 amot away? That person should establish an "eruv techumin" (mixing of domains). If a person has plans to walk to a destination outside of their Techum Shabbat (Shabbat boundary) during Shabbat, that individual should take a food item and place it at the edge of their Techum Shabbat in the direction of the intended destination shortly before Shabbat begins. By doing so, that individual declares their intention to establish a temporary home at the location of the food. This enables that person to travel as much as  $4,000 \ amot -2,000 \ amot$  from the outskirts of the city, and another  $2,000 \ amot$  beyond the spot of the food, as that spot is also considered that person's home.



- 1. Why are the *melachot* prohibited on Shabbat called "Avot Melachot"?
- 2. What characteristics define a "Reshut haRabim"? What characteristics define a "Reshut haYachid"?
- 3. What should a person do who wishes to pay a Shabbat visit to a relative who lives in another city, more than 2,000 amot away?

## \*NUIL ALL ANSWERS CAN BE FOUND IN THIS DAF YOM! PUBLICATION

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# - HISTORY OF ISRAEL \*\*\*\*\*



In October and November 1966, terrorist activity originating in Syria and Jordan began to rise. There were also constant Syrian artillery attacks on kibbutzim (collective settlements) located below the Golan Heights. In April 1967, Israel decided to respond by arial attack of Syrian emplacements on the Golan Heights.

On April 7, 1967, an air-battle took place during which Israel downed six Syrian aircrafts. Following the April attack, the Israeli government warned it would be forced to take further action, unless Syrian terrorism ended. The Soviets then passed false intelligence information to the Egyptians, claiming Israel was massing troops to strike at Syria. Israel denied those claims. U.N. ground observers confirmed Israeli assertions.



On May 15th, 1967, Egypt began to move forces into the Sinai. On May 18th, Egypt requested the U.N. forces stationed on the Egyptian-Israeli border since the 1956 Sinai Campaign be withdrawn from the area. U.N. Secretary U Thant complied immediately. The Egyptians then blockaded the Straits of Tiran, thus cutting off Israeli shipping access to the Port of Eilat.

On May 30th, 1967, mutual defense agreements were signed between Egypt, Syria, Jordan, and Iraq, designed to facilitate their combined attack on Israel. Israel and Jews worldwide prepared for the worst. Many feared a second Holocaust.

Israel first attempted to allow international diplomacy to diffuse the problem. After the United Nations efforts failed, and the United States could not assemble a multinational force to reopen shipping in the Strait of Tiran, it became clear Israel would be forced to take matters into her own hands.



1965 Shalom **Tower Opens** 

1966

**Educational** 

Television

**Established** 



1965 Israel Museum **Opens** 





1966 **New Knesset Building Dedicated** 



1966 Shai Agnon Wins Nobel

The battle against Israel will be total and its object will be the destruction of Israel. We can do this. I could not hve spoken like that five years ago or three years ago ... Today, eleven years after 1956, I say these words because I know what we have in Egypt. And what Syria has, I know the other countries too ... This is Arab power; this is the true rebirth of the Arab nation, which had previously been feeling rather hopeless — Gamal Abdel Nasser Hussein [May 1967]