

Shabbos Times

Friday, July 17

Mincha/Maariv: 7:00

Candle Lighting: 8:08

Shabbos, July 18

Shacharis: 9:00

Krias Shema: 9:26

Youth Groups: 10:00

Chavrusa Learning
with the Kollel: 7:15

Mincha / Shalosh Seudos: 8:00

Shekiah: 8:26

Nightfall/Maariv: 9:08

Weekday Times

Shacharis

Daf Yomi: 8:00

Sunday: 8:30

Weekday Shacharis

Monday & Thursday: 6:40

Tuesday, Wednesday
& Friday: 6:45

Mincha

Sunday -Tuesday: 8:05

Wednesday & Thursday:

See Tisha B'Av flyer

Friday: 7:00

Candle Lighting next Shabbos:
8:03

Please Note: Rabbi Federgrun
is away for Shabbos.

Kiddush & Shalosh Seudos

Kiddush sponsorship is still available

We are excited to have weekly fresh cholent from shul volunteers! It is starting this shabbos! Please let Rabbi Federgrun know if you are interested in being in the rotation.

Shalosh Seudos sponsorship is still available.

Mazel Tov

Mazel tov to Avromi and Adina Braun upon the birth of a boy!

Upcoming Programs

July 6-21: Women's Virtual Learning Program

July 12 - August 6: Summer Kollel

July 23: Tisha B'av

July 25: Motzei Shabbos Nachamu Kumzit

July 26: Daf Hashavua starts Meseches Nazir

August 5: Women's Speaker, Gevurah Davis

August 26: Women's speaker, Ariella Kamen on the topic

"Something from Nothing."

Week's Reflections

Shoshana Friedman, Managing Editor of Mishpacha Magazine, writes [here](#) a powerful reflection on how Tishah B'Av invites us to connect the ancient pain of exile with the quiet, deeply personal brokenness we carry today.

Rabbi Dr. Ari Berman shares [here](#) a thought-provoking examination of how AI's quiet omission of religion may shape the next generation's understanding of meaning, morality, and Jewish life.

Rav Moshe Gantz issues [here](#) an urgent plea for Jews across Israel's political and hashkafic divides to rediscover their shared brotherhood, listen honestly to opposing views, and replace hostility with respectful dialogue.

It's Membership Month!

Our annual renewal campaign is officially underway, and we are already at 14% renewed! Help us keep the momentum going for the coming year.

How to renew: Check your email for your personal link, or visit biozshul.org/re to access our simple and secure payment page.

Flexible Payment Options: Choose an automatic 12-month payment plan (we recommend scheduling your first payment for July), or pay in full by July 31 to receive a 2% discount.

M'SHULCHAN HAPARSHA - FRESH TORAH FOR YOUR SHABBOS TABLE

This Week, That Thought

A powerful thought crossed my mind this week, though it is not intended as criticism of any particular individual. Baruch Hashem, our Summer Kollel has gotten off to an extraordinary start. During the day, one can walk into the shul and hear the vibrant sounds of Torah as chavrusas question, debate, and engage with the sugya. Each evening, twelve learning slots give members of our community the opportunity to experience that same energy.

As I sent texts and made phone calls encouraging people to participate, and Baruch Hashem many have, I found myself reflecting on a broader reality. It is possible for someone to be committed, shomer Shabbos, and even have a strong yeshivah background, yet no longer have genuine toil and debate in Torah as part of daily or weekly life. Torah is our lifeblood. We are called upon not only to attend a shiur or read a sefer, but to ask, challenge, debate, and wrestle with its ideas. It is through that active engagement that Torah comes alive and its values become part of who we are.

We often use the term shomer Shabbos as a defining measure of religious commitment, and rightly so. But why has regular toil in Torah not become an equally defining part of our identity? After all, one of the questions we will be asked after 120 years is: **קבעת עתים לתורה**? Perhaps we need to ask ourselves honestly: Is Torah merely something we respect and support, or is it something with which we personally struggle, engage, and live?



THE SHABBOS READER IS A PROJECT OF B'NAI ISRAEL OHEV ZEDEK
PHILADELPHIA, PA

Between the Lines

In addition to fasting and the other expressions of mourning on Tisha B'Av, we are generally prohibited from studying Torah. The same restriction applies to an individual mourning the loss of a close relative. At first glance, this is difficult to understand. Are we meant to distance ourselves from Hashem at a time of grief? Is this a day to pause our relationship with Him?

Certainly not. Tisha B'Av is called a **מועד**, a designated time of encounter and connection with Hashem, even if that encounter is painful and filled with mourning.

"Please, Hashem, make the words of Your Torah sweet in our mouths and in the mouths of Your people, the House of Israel."

Borchas Hatorah

The Gemara explains that the prohibition is based upon the verse, **פקודי ה' ישרים משמחי לב**, "The precepts of Hashem are upright, gladdening the heart." Torah naturally brings joy to the neshamah. There are many styles of learning and countless areas of Torah, but genuine Torah study is never meant to be lifeless or dull. It is vibrant, demanding, and deeply fulfilling.

Tisha B'Av is a day to be with Hashem, but not in a state of ordinary joy. The restriction itself therefore reveals something profound: Torah is not merely an obligation that we must fulfill. It is one of the greatest sources of happiness available to us, an opportunity that should be pursued with excitement and longing.

Thank you to Gavi and Ada Beigel for sponsoring this week's Shabbos Reader in honor of Rabbi Federgrun for his guidance and support.

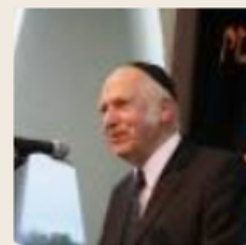
To sponsor or for comments/suggestions, email Rabbifedergrun@gmail.com.

Pages of the Past

At the levayah of Rav Aharon Lichtenstein, zt"l, one of his children recalled that Tisha B'Av was perhaps the most difficult day of the year for him. Rav Aharon loved learning Torah, and the prohibition against ordinary Torah study left him feeling deeply deprived. While others hurried to eat and drink when the fast ended, he would first rush to the bookshelf, take out a Gemara, and begin learning. He had thirsted for Torah throughout the day.

A similar story is told of his father-in-law, Rav Yosef Dov Soloveitchik, zt"l. One night, there was a considerable amount of noise from a party nearby. At two o'clock in the morning, there was a knock at the door. The neighbors opened it to find Rav Soloveitchik standing there. He looked at them and said, "Do you not realize that some of us are trying to learn?"

These stories reflect the meaning of **והגית בו יומם ולילה**, a life shaped by Torah day and night. Perhaps the prohibition against Torah study on Tisha B'Av is itself a reminder of the extraordinary privilege available during the rest of the year: the opportunity to find meaning, vitality, and genuine simchah through Torah.



For the Table

- Do you experience Torah as the sweetest and most desirable pursuit in the world? If not yet, do you at least daven for that feeling and work to make it a reality?
- Do you learn consistently with a chavrusa? If not, what is standing in the way?