

KASHRUT BULLETIN # 27

WHOEVER GUARD HIS MOUTH AND HIS TONGUE, GUARDS
AS WELL HIS SOUL FROM SUFFERING (Mishle 21:23)

There is no sin so severe as forbidden foods, since entire Jewish communities were lost and turned to evil ways because of eating treifos and neveilos.

(Divrei Chayim-Yoreh Deah)

***What's wrong with the kosher meat industry today?
Why do you say that it's almost impossible to find 1 lb.
of kosher meat today?***

As it is known the main problem today with the process of slaughtering is the great quantities that are slaughtered. In an average day, close to 1000 cows are slaughtered and tens of thousands of fowl are slaughtered in a single place.

The owners of the Slaughterhouses are businesspeople whose sole objective is to make profits the more the better, and this is normal for that's why they are in business. Problem is that speed efficiency and profits don't go hand in hand with Kashrut observance. To increase profits and output, you must decrease carefulness and hence Kashrut compliance.

It's obvious to any person that it's not the same the way a giant Slaughterhouse slaughters close to 1000 cows in a day, to the way a single person slaughters a cow in his backyard. The single person arranges the Shechita in order that the meat will end up being Kosher to the fullest extent. He has little pressure to put speed to his work for he has not a great quantity to slaughter and he doesn't loose whether he works fast or slow.

But due to our many sins in the great slaughterhouses the things are very different, there they use the same criteria as in any other large factories. The Rabbonim and the Shochatim all of them are under the rule of the owner of the Slaughterhouse, the owner is the one who establishes the parameters of the work to be done in his factory. He determines how much a Shochet must slaughter, speed is very important for him, and since he has much money to make or loose for each animal, the Shochet becomes like any other worker who must follow the instructions of the owner and if he interferes with the plan, he risks loosing his job.

And if the Shochet for any reason delays the Shechita [the production line], the owner will no doubt fire him. The owner doesn't care whether the Shochet is G-d fearing and trustworthy to follow the laws of the Shechita, all that is important to the owner is that this Shochet delayed the Shechita [production output] and consequently he will have to be fired.

The final and obvious objective of the Slaughterhouses is to slaughter as many animals as possible at the greatest possible speed in order to make as much money as possible. Every Shochet must devise his own way of complying with the intentions of the owner. And the Shochet is no angel. If he has to slaughter such a large quantity and he can't even rest to use the bathroom, then you can be sure that he will not check the knives as it is required by Jewish law. He will not be meticulous about any aspect of the law of Shechita. All he will be meticulous about is to perform his job with great speed in order not to lose his position and his salary. He will not care about the knife, he will not care about clearing the hair from the neck where the cut is going to be made, He will always obviate things required by the Shulchan Aruch in order to comply with the wishes of the owners of the Slaughter house.

The Shochet who has already become a killing machine must slaughter great quantities of animals in the least possible time, and must declare Kosher the largest possible percentage of animals. And if he slows down the owner threatens him that he will be fired because the greater speed and quantity brings in more profit for the owner.

Throughout time the Rabbis who supervised the Slaughterers were forbidden to take money for their supervision. As it's clearly brought down in the Shulchan Aruch [Yore Deah Siman 18]: "It's forbidden for the Rabbi to receive any compensation" This rule lays bare the fact that if the Rabbi receives money he will tend to declare Kosher what is not Kosher, for if he really disqualifies what he should, the owner of the animal will lose money for Kosher meat is more expensive than Non Kosher meat.

The one who hires the Shochet is not the community (as it was in Europe) but the owner of the Shechita or in other cases the meat wholesaler and / or importer who behaves towards the Shochet as if he was any other regular worker, more like an expense that must be minimized by making him produce more meat, faster without much regard for following strictly the laws of Hashem.

Nowadays, the Rabbonim are handsomely compensated to supervise and give their Hechsher [Certification of Kashrut] to large Slaughter houses that in some cases pay these Rabbis more than 1 million Dollars a year to issue their certificates to what the factories produce and sometimes the Rabbonim are partners in the business. And it's known to all that money blinds the eye of the person, even of the wise and honest person.

In the books Elbonah shel Torah, Kedat shel Torah and Emek ha Bacha [All in Hebrew] you will see how far the crookedness of Some of the Rabbis involved in the meat business reaches. In those books you will learn how once those Rabbis went so far so as to change the Laws and falsify the signatures of Great Rabbis in order to lighten the purging of forbidden fats. But thank G-d some brave Rabbis came out and fought against those mafias and exposed their plot and for this they were forced to run away and hide to save their lives for they wanted to kill them. Don't forget that there's a lot of money involved in the meat business and whoever interferes with the Rabbis who profit handsomely from it, risks loosing his life. Great Tzaddikim like the Kloizenburg Rebbe, the Kasho Rebe and the Admor of Vishnitz came out in public and denounced the fact that Jews were being fed Terefot and Nevelot and Chelev [forbidden fats]

DO YOU KNOW WHO THE SHOCHATIM WHO SLAUGHTER THE ANIMALS THAT YOU EAT MEAT FROM ARE? DO YOU IF THEY ARE G-D FEARING? WOULD YOU TRUST THEM WITH YOUR MONEY? NO? THEN WHY DO YOU TRUST THEM WITH YOUR SOULS AND THAT OF YOUR WIFE AND CHILDREN? WHY DO YOU TRUST THEM WITH YOUR SHARE IN THE LIFE OF THE WORLD TO COME?

NOWADAYS YOU ALSO NEED TO TRUST THE OWNER OF THE FACTORY WHERE THE ANIMALS ARE SLAUGHTERED AND YOU ALSO NEED TO TRUST THE BUTCHER WHO SELLS THE MEAT TO YOU

ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT TO RELY ON THESE PEOPLE?

THE MOST UPRIGHT BUTCHER IS A PARTNER OF AMALEK

See further the last chapter of Kiddushin (82a): "The most upright butcher is a partner of Amalek." Rashi explains that many cases of questionable kashrut come to his hand, and in trying to save money, declares them kosher, and - sell them as such. We can see to what extent the Rabbis evaluate the pitfalls resulting from the butchers, that they did not hesitate to use the sharpest epithet when referring to them. The expression, "partner of Amalek," is, by far, the sharpest epithet used in the Talmud. One's hair can stand on end when one thinks about how far this matter extends. For a question of doubtful kashrut the Rabbis called him such a name, and not only a usual butcher, but "the most upright butcher " so that no one can be confident in himself and say that since he appointed a reliable butcher, no pitfalls can result from him, and it is accepted that a Torah scholar does not allow any pitfall to result from his doings, especially if the butcher is really learned, since the Rabbis say that a Torah scholar will commit a minor infraction in order to prevent an ignorant person from committing a major infraction.

The Cause of Increasing Daily Catastrophes

We read in Sefer Imrei Tzaddikim, (Divrei Geonim p 5): Where the shochet is honest, the shechitah is good and Elijah the prophet is in town. But, if the shochet feeds the people neveilos and trefos, he causes the Angel of Death to come to town [And Jews suffer tragic deaths, G-d save us]

From the aforementioned books we see that all catastrophes that befall us today are caused by shoachim who feed Nevelot (see also Shabbos 33b, Or Hachaim Shmini 11:43, Warnings of Mahartza, Mikdash Melech, Zivchei Shelamim, Darchei Teshuvah 60:5).

In the story of Purim we are told that Haman (A descendant of Amalek) got the strength to issue the decree to annihilate all Jews from the fact that Jews sinned when they enjoyed forbidden foods in the banquet of Achashverosh. I am sure that the reason there are shechitah gezeros (Jews being slaughtered by the Goyim) in our times is because we did not keep our eyes on the shoachim as we should. (Tiyul bapardes, concerning shechitah, by Shamlauer Rav)

AN IGNORANT PERSON IS FORBIDDEN FOR HIM TO
EAT MEAT (PESACHIM 49b)

WHO CAN CONTRADICT THE WORDS OF THE PELE YOETZ?

It is extremely difficult to find meat that is kosher according to all views. I, therefore, derive much pleasure from the pious that are careful not to eat meat. (Pele Yoetz, taref).

Whoever wishes to avoid all risks, should be smart to eat only fowl (poultry) and not bovine meats - because the pitfalls are all too common and numerous with them. [And for eating the forbidden fat of bovine meat we become liable to the punishment of karet and this punishment does not apply to the consumption of poultry] (Shulchan Hatahor, Rabbi Aaron Roth o.b.m. (author of Shomer Emunim, Tohoras HaKodesh, etc)

ARE YOU REALLY WILLING TO RISK YOUR LIFE BY CONSUMING FOODS THAT ARE NOT KOSHER ACCORDING TO ALL OPINIONS, AND ARE BASED ON ALL POSSIBLE LENIENCIES IN KASHRUT LAWS USED BY THOSE WHO MANUFACTURE THEM? DID YOU KNOW THAT THE RABBIS OF THE EREV RAV ARE IMMERSSED IN THE BUSINESS OF ISSUING KASHRUT CERTIFICATES TO ALL KINDS OF FOODS? DO YOU KNOW THAT A LOT OF MONEY AND CORRUPTION EXISTS IN THE FIELD OF KASHRUT? PURE AND SIMPLE JEWS HAVE FALLEN PREY TOO MANY TIMES TO THE WRONGDOINGS OF THE EREV RAV! SAVE YOUR SOULS AND WATCH WHAT YOU EAT SO THAT YOUR EMUNA IN HASHEM WILL BE LEFT PURE AND NOT BE CONFUSED BY FOOLISH NOTIONS THAT ARE TOO PREVALENT IN OUR TIMES. MAY HASHEM GIVE US THE STRENGTH TO AVOID ALL THE DAMAGE THAT THE RABBANIM OF THE EREV RAV TRY TO INFLICT ON THE JEWISH PEOPLE, AMEN