

# KASHRUT BULLETIN # 8

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)

## **THE PROBLEMS IN THE FIELD OF NIKKUR (PURGING ANIMAL MEAT FROM FORBIDDEN FATS)**

### **A Letter From Rabbi Shlomoh Greenberg of Niedderhaz Regarding the Status of Nikkur (Purging the forbidden fats out of animals) in America**

#### **Truth Will Spring Forth From the Earth**

With a joyful heart and tears of happiness, I offer thanks to the Great Creator, blessed be He, for His kindness, with which He favored us in the recent past. When I had just arrived in America, I looked for work in kosher butcher shops, since I had experience in the old country in the field of Nikkur. To my great astonishment, I discovered that the procedure of Nikkur was much different from what it was years ago. What was called Chelev years ago, is kosher here in America. I went from one establishment to another, but without success; one was not any better than the other. Despite my strong argument that the Geonim, the great Rabbis and menakkerim of yesteryear in the old country were greater scholars and better trained, more pious and more experienced than those in America, To my deep chagrin, all these fell on deaf ears. Not willing to compromise my traditional way of Nikkur, I sought employment in permissible fields and Thank G-d, He did not forsake me.

## **HOW COULD WE HAVE SUNK SO LOW IN KASHRUT OBSERVANCE**

At the same time, however, my conscience bothered me, how during the few years that elapsed since the Holocaust, we had sunk to such a low level, and how holy the eyes of the Tzaddikim of yesterday were, when they said, "in America, even the very stones are treif." Although I would not allow any animal flesh to be brought into my home, I just couldn't bear to see how people go in and out of butcher shops and buy all kinds of meats, including salami, pastrami, frankfurters, etc. not knowing the damage that they are doing to their souls and to the souls of their beloved children.

## **GOOD NEWS: THE VISHNITZER REBBE FORBIDS HIS FOLLOWERS TO EAT MEAT**

Therefore, it is very satisfying indeed to hear the good news that the Vishnitzer Rebbe Shlita of Monsey strictly ordered all his disciples, followers and friends not to eat any animal flesh (ordinary meat, salami, pastrami, frankfurters, etc.) Here you can witness the devotion of chassidim to their rebbi. They took the very morsel of food out of their mouths and threw it away in order to conform with the directive of their rebbi. Hundreds of pounds of stored-up meat found its way in the garbage can, all because of the Rebbe's order;... that "Animal flesh has unquestionable probabilities of containing Torah prohibited Chelev ... which is an issur D'Oraisa."

## **THE JOY OF A MITZVAH TRULY PERFORMED FOR THE SAKE OF HEAVEN**

You should have seen the joy with which this mitzvah was performed! fulfilling a request that would highly please Hashem. It was just like taking an esrog, reciting Hallel, eating matzoh without distinction. I eagerly recited the brocha of Shehechionu, that G-d let us live to experience such a phenomenon: with thanksgiving to the Creator and a prayer for the future that the zeal of the righteous shall increase the fear of Heaven, so that all grand rabbis and their followers roshei yeshivos with their disciples and the entire Jewish people shall emulate their example. This great mitzvah has the power to bring near the complete redemption. Amen

Shlomo Greenberg from Niederhaz

Brooklyn, N.Y. Rosh Chodesh Menachem Av 5742

**IT IS MORE SEVERE TO EAT FORBIDDEN FATS (CHELEV) FROM  
A "KOSHER" ANIMAL THAN TO EAT PORK**

Everyone knows how much the Chafetz Chaim o.b.m. warned our brethren in his time, when they were forced to wander to various places because of the terrible decrees of that period. He warned them that if they have, G-d forbid, no choice but to eat pork OR animals that died without being properly slaughtered, they should, G-d forbid, not eat meat from which the Chelev was not removed, but rather pork and animals that died without being ritually slaughtered, whose prohibition is merely a negative commandment, rather than, G-d forbid, to stumble upon the prohibition of Chelev, which is punishable by Karet. Yet, in our times, the situation has reached such an alarming low that without a decree by the government or any other coercion, they feed our brethren meat from which the Chelev is either not removed at all or at best not properly removed and in their innocence, many innocent G-d-fearing people are trapped in a terrible snare, whose results are so far-reaching, that it is utterly unbelievable even catastrophic in many instances testifying to the terrible occurrences of devastation we daily witness. Heaven have mercy.

**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.

## 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, teref).*

*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**