

Monday, October 6, 2014
יום ראשון, 6 תשרי תשע"ד

מסכת
יבמות
דף ב

DAF YOMI4 KIDS

מסכת יבמות FACT FILE:

NAME: יבמות
נשים: סדר (Women)
PAGES: 122
CHAPTERS: 16
RANK: 24th in ס"ט
TOPICS: Levirate marriage, conversion, "chained" women

Inside the Daf

Welcome to סדר נשים, the third of six orders of the Talmud. Many of the tractates that make up this order deal with the laws of marriage, married life and divorce.

The first tractate of סדר נשים is called יבמות and deals with the rules of **levirate marriage***, or **יבום**.

The Torah says one may not marry his brother's wife (see ויקרא יח, טו, Lev. 18,16). But there is an exception to this rule. The Torah says:

"כי ישבו אחים יחדו ומת אחד מהם ויבן אין לו לא תהיה אשת המת החוצה לאיש זר יבמה יבא עליה ולקחה לו לאשה ויבמה" (דברים כה, ה).

"When brothers will live together and one of them dies who has no child, the wife of the dead on shall not [marry] out to a strange man, her brother-in-law shall come to [marry] her and take her to him as a wife to perform a levirate marriage" (Deut. 25,5).

If someone's brother dies without having fathered children, the living brother must marry the dead brother's wife. This marriage is called, "יבום."

יבום marriage is no longer practiced in Ashkenazic communities, but some Sephardic communities still perform it. When יבום is not done, חליצה, a shoe removal ceremony, must be performed between the living brother and his dead brother's wife (see pg. 13).



Did You Know...

Of the four types of death penalty, burning is the harshest and stoning is the second harshest, according to רבי שמעון.



Levirate marriage.

This term comes from the Latin word, "levir" which means "brother-in-law." So "levirate marriage" means the "marriage of a brother-in-law."

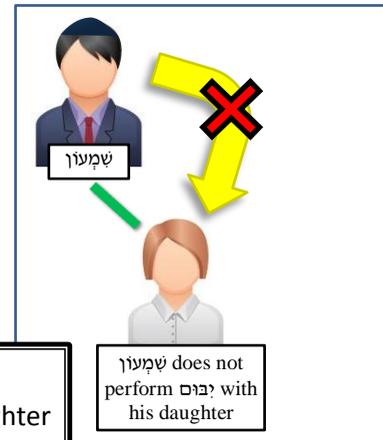
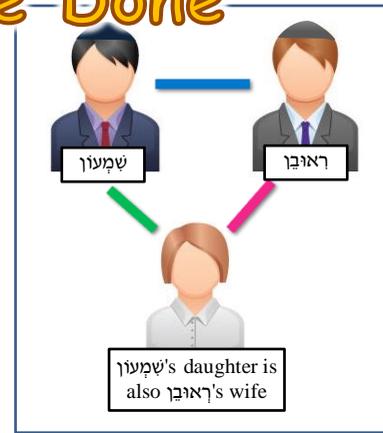
When Can't Be Done - יבום

We learned (pg.11) that even though the Torah says that one may not marry his brother's wife, if one's brother dies childless, the living brother is commanded to marry his dead brother's wife. This marriage is called יבום.

But there are times when יבום may not be performed. If the living brother is related to his dead brother's wife, he is not allowed to perform יבום.

For example, it was not uncommon in the days of the Talmud for one's daughter to marry one's brother. Let's say שמעון's daughter married his brother, ראובן. If ראובן dies, שמעון would not perform יבום with his daughter, even though she is also his brother's wife.

Since שמעון is related to his brother's wife already, he does not perform יבום with her.



- wife
- daughter
- brother

WORD OF THE DAY:

הָרִי

"BEYOND"

A Moment מְדוּת

"Oh look, there goes the Balizinski family. What a strange bunch of people. What are they even here for?" asked Yerachmiel

"Hashem doesn't want any Jewish household to be lost from the Jewish community. He therefore commands the brother of a dead man to marry that man's widow, since the brothers are of the same household. Every Jewish family has something unique to contribute to the Jewish people and if even one is lost, it is like a crown jewel that will forever be missing. So don't underestimate the importance of the Balizinski family," explained his friend.

(based on תולדות יצחק לדברים כה,ה)

Games

יבמות דף ב' - Review Questions

1. What is יבום?

2. Give an example of when יבום would not be performed.

3. Which death penalty is the harshest according to רבי שמעון?



Use the letters below to fill in the phrase from today's daf

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