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Sukkot Edition

Chag HaSukkot

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### ***Mindblower!!!!***

Is it daytime or nighttime in space? When you are in space, both the sun and the moon are present. So what time is it?

### **Awesome Aliyah**

#### **Aliyah 7**

- G-d commands the Festival of Sukkot, seven days long, beginning on the 15th of Tishrei.  
- On the first day, the nation is told to take the "fruit of a beautiful tree" (Etrog), palm branches, myrtle boughs, and willows, and rejoice before Him for 7 days.

*Enjoy this paper?*

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### **D'var Torah On The Parsha**

#### **The Willow Counts Too**

On the first day of Sukkot, the Torah introduces four specific plants: a citrus fruit with both taste and fragrance, a palm branch with taste but no smell, myrtle branches with smell but no taste, and willow branches with neither. Chazal read these four species as four types of people — some who study Torah and do good deeds, some who have one but not the other, and some who seem to have neither. What's striking is what the Torah asks us to do with them: not rank them, not discard the ones lacking something, but bind them together and hold them as one unit. The Mitzvah isn't complete with just the Etrog, the one that "has it all." It requires the Aravah too — the branch with no fragrance and no fruit — held in the very same hand. What's the P'shat? Sukkot follows Yom Kippur, when we've just spent ten days measuring our own shortcomings. The four species are the Torah's way of settling the question before we even ask it: does a person only count if they've got it all together? The willow says no. It's held just as tightly, blessed just as fully, as the Etrog beside it.



# **KOSHER COMEDY CORNER**

Q: Did you hear the story about the Hadassim and Aravot?  
A: It's unbeleafable.

## **Famous Jewish Companies**

### **The Central Israel Etrog Co.**

The Central Israel Etrog Co. is a company that grows etrogs. Based in Bnei Brak, the Ludmir family has cultivated etrog orchards for generations, tending 74 acres of citron trees under strict rabbinical supervision to make sure each fruit meets the exacting Halachic standards required for the Mitzvah — no blemishes, an intact Pitom, the right shape and color. Today, the Ludmirs' groves supply roughly 70% of all the Etrogim used in Israel, and the company exports about 100,000 etrogim a year to Jewish communities across the United States, timed to arrive just before Sukkot begins. It's a business that exists for exactly one week of usefulness a year, and prepares for it 51 weeks in advance.

## **Sukkot Pointer**

### **The Word "Sukkah" And Its Hidden Meaning**

As we know, we sit in a Sukkah throughout Sukkot. How many walls must a Sukkah have in order for it to be Kosher? It can be closed on all four sides, like the Hebrew letter Samech (ס). It can also have three walls, like the Hebrew letter Chaf (כ), or two and a half, like the letter Hei (ה).

What word has the letters Samech, Chaf, and Hei? Sukkah!  
What A P'shat! The letters that spell the word Sukkah show the number of walls that a Sukkah can have! Did you know that?

## **Fantastic, Fabulous, Fun Facts!!!**

Though most people put three Haddasim on their Lulav, you are allowed to attach as many Haddasim as you'd like to your Lulav.

## **RUSSIAN TERMS**

### **Sookot**

### **Суккот**

Translation: Sukkot. This week's P'shat is the Sookot edition.

### **Vtornik**

### **вторник**

Translation: Tuesday.

### **Bambuk**

### **бамбук**

Translation: Bamboo. Bamboo sticks are placed on top of a Sukkah. Pandas eat bamboo too.

## **Halacha Of The Week**

### **Halachot of Sukkot**

Based on Halacha LeMoshe Mi Sinai, women are exempt from sitting in the sukkah even on the first night of the festival. However, if they wish to sit in the sukkah, they receive the reward of one who performs a commandment despite not being obligated to do so. However, they may not recite the blessing upon sitting in the Sukkah, as they are not obligated to sit in the Sukkah. Furthermore, it is forbidden for them to recite the "She'he'hiyanu" blessing.

One who suffers (for example, from the presence of bothersome flies or mosquitoes) is exempt from the Sukkah. (Continued on next page)

*This section is written by Moshe Pleshtiyev. These Halachot are based on the writings of the Chazon Ovadia.*



**THIS WEEK'S P'SHAT IS DEDICATED  
ANONYMOUSLY REFUAH SHELEMAH:  
YOSEF CHAI BEN ZINA**

|                               |                            |                                              |
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## **The Punchline**

Someone told me that Sukkot is a very serious holiday...  
I heard that it's in-tents (intense).

## **Riddle!!!**

Q: Why was the Lulav dizzy?  
A: It was being shaken throughout the day!

## **Terrific Torah Thoughts**

### **What A P'shat Wall!**

A Sukkah must have at least 2 and a half walls. Interestingly, you can use almost anything as a wall for your Sukkah. There is a Gemara that tells us that an elephant that is tied up and can't move away can be used as one of the walls of a Sukkah!

## Sukkot Song – Sukah VeLulav

*This is a famous song that Sefardi and Bukharian people sing.*

Sukah velulav le'am segulah  
yahad yaronu yis-u tehilah  
El miMitzrayim ge-alnu  
Dibero kodsho hishmi'anu  
'Anenei khavod hikifanu  
Le-arba' ruhot matah uma'lah  
No'am derakhav lanu hodia  
Miziv hadaro lanu hofia  
Da'at yom omer yabia  
Da'at yekhaved laylah lelaylah  
Yismakh yisrael betzel sukato  
Yistofef yekheseh takhat evrato  
Hashem kikhtavo vekheri-ato  
Kemispar sukkah misparo 'alah  
Meh 'atzmu zarei lulav uminav  
Veli mah yakriv me-od 'inyanav  
Ashrei tehor lev hasam ra'yonav  
Lesod mitzvato hame'ulah  
Shem ben arba' ballulav khoneh  
Bemiulii hahin bifratav timneh  
Nokhakh halulav lashidrah tifneh  
Sevivav minav goren 'agulah  
Hehadas romez lishloshah 'avot  
Moshe Aharon badei 'aravot  
Yosef lalulav khemdat levavot  
David la-etrog kalah kelulah  
Khotam Te'udah tatir levinkha  
Zaved tov tizbod le'am lekha  
Kore umyakhel liyshu'atekha  
Yitkadash shimkha befinu selah



## Halacha Of The Week Continued

Similarly, if one is bothered by the wind or a foul odor, he may eat outside of the Sukkah, as it says, "In Sukkot you shall dwell" - dwell as you normally live. One cannot say that he suffers in order to exempt himself from the sukkah unless the type of suffering is such that others also suffer. Nevertheless, if one is certain that he is of weak temperament such that others like him would similarly suffer, he is exempt from the Sukkah.

## The Simcha Of Sukkot

Sukkot is upon us! The Yom Tov of Simcha! Sukkot is the time of our joy. Why is Sukkot a time of joy? For one thing, it's a holiday full of Mitzvot. There is the Mitzvah of eating in the Sukkah, and the Mitzvah of Lulav and Etrog. Also, since Sukkot comes right after Yom Kippur, we feel that all our sins have been washed away and forgiven. That makes us feel close to Hashem. On Sukkot, we sit inside a Sukkah and eat our meals there. We say Divrei Torah and sing songs in the Sukkah. But why are we doing this? The Sukkah reminds us of a great miracle that Hashem did for us after the Jews left Egypt. They traveled in the desert for forty years, surrounded on all sides by the Ananei HaKavod, the Clouds of Glory. These clouds surrounded the entire nation. The clouds protected them from the heat and from dangerous animals. The Sukkah reminds us of the clouds that protected us when we left Mitzrayim.



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