

מתני' הדר עם הנכרי בחצר, או עם מי שאינו מודה בעירוב - הרי זה אוסר עליו.

**MISHNA** One who resides with a gentile in the same courtyard, or one who lives in the same courtyard with one who does not accept the principle of *eiruv*, even though he is not a gentile, such as a Samaritan [*Kuti*], this person renders it prohibited for him to carry from his own house into the courtyard or from the courtyard into his house, unless he rents this person's rights in the courtyard, as will be explained below.

רבי אליעזר בן יעקב אומר: לעולם אינו אוסר עד שיהו שני ישראלים אוסרין זה על זה.

Rabbi Eliezer ben Ya'akov says: Actually, the gentile does not render it prohibited for one to carry, unless there are two Jews living in the same courtyard who themselves would prohibit one another from carrying if there were no *eiruv*. In such a case, the presence of the gentile renders the *eiruv* ineffective. However, if only one Jew lives there, the gentile does not render it prohibited for him to carry in the courtyard.<sup>41</sup>

אמר רבן גמליאל: מעשה בצדוקי אחד שהיה דר עמנו במבוי בירושלים, ואמר לנו אבא: מהרו והוציאו את הכלים למבוי עד שלא יוציא ויאסר עליכם.

Rabban Gamliel said: There was an incident involving a certain Sadducee<sup>N</sup> who lived with us in the same alleyway in Jerusalem, who renounced his rights to the alleyway before Shabbat. And Father said to us: Hurry and take out your utensils to the alleyway to establish possession of it, before he changes his mind and takes out his own utensils so as to reclaim his rights, in which case he would render it prohibited for you to use the entire alleyway.

רבי יהודה אומר בלשון אחר: מהרו ועשו צרכיכם במבוי, עד שלא יוציא ויאסר עליכם.

Rabbi Yehuda says: Rabban Gamliel's father spoke to them with a different formulation, saying: Hurry and do whatever you must do in the alleyway prior to Shabbat, before he takes out his utensils and renders it prohibited for you to use the alleyway. In other words, you may not bring out utensils to the alleyway at all on Shabbat, as the institution of an *eiruv* cannot be used in the neighborhood of a Sadducee. This is because, even if he renounced his rights to the alleyway, he can always retract and reclaim them.

גמ' יתיב אביי בר אבין ורב חנינא בר אבין, ויתבי אביי גביהו. ויתבי וקאמרי: בשלמא רבי מאיר קסבר: דירת גוי שמה דירה, ולא שנא חד ולא שנא תרי.

**GEMARA** Abaye bar Avin and Rav H̄inana bar Avin were sitting, and Abaye was sitting beside them, and they sat and said: Granted, the opinion of Rabbi Meir, the author of the unattributed mishna, is clear, as he holds that the residence of a gentile is considered a significant residence. In other words, the gentile living in the courtyard is considered a resident who has a share in the courtyard. Since he cannot join in an *eiruv* with the Jew, he renders it prohibited for the Jew to carry from his house to the courtyard or from the courtyard to his house. Consequently, the case of one Jew living in the courtyard is no different from the case of two Jews living there. In both cases, the gentile renders it prohibited for carrying.

אלא רבי אליעזר בן יעקב מאי קסבר? אי קסבר דירת גוי שמה דירה - אפילו חד נמי ניתסר! ואי לא שמה דירה - אפילו תרי נמי לא ניתסר!

But Rabbi Eliezer ben Ya'akov, what does he hold? If you say he holds that the residence of a gentile is considered a significant residence, he should prohibit carrying even when there is only one Jew living in the courtyard. And if it is not considered a significant residence, he should not prohibit carrying even when there are two Jews living there.

אמר להו אביי: וקסבר רבי מאיר דירת גוי שמה דירה? והתנא: חצירו של נכרי הרי הוא כדיר של בהמה!

Abaye said to them: Your basic premise is based on a faulty assumption. Does Rabbi Meir actually hold that the residence of a gentile is considered a significant residence? Wasn't it taught in the *Tosefta*: The courtyard of a gentile is like the pen of an animal,<sup>N</sup> i.e., just as an animal pen does not render it prohibited to carry in a courtyard, so too, the gentile's residence in itself does not impose restrictions on a Jew.

HALAKHA

מתי - נתי - When does a gentile render it prohibited - אוקר גוי: A gentile who shares a courtyard with a Jew renders it prohibited for the Jew to carry into the courtyard only if there are two Jews who would prohibit each other from carrying in the courtyard if there were no *eiruv*. This ruling is in accordance with the statement of Rabbi Eliezer ben Ya'akov (*Shulhan Arukh, Orah Hayyim* 382:1).

NOTES

נוכרי פותי - נתי - A gentile, a Samaritan, and a Sadducee: The mishna mentions at least three types of people who do not have the same status as Jews with regard to the laws of *eiruv*. The Gemara elaborates on each of these categories. The status of a gentile and that of a Jew is clear with regard to *eiruv*: A gentile is not obligated in any of the *halakhot* of *eiruv*, whereas all of these *halakhot* apply to a Jew. The status of a Samaritan, who is referred to by the phrase: One who does not accept the principle of an *eiruv*, in the mishna, has been disputed by the Sages over the generations. Does a Samaritan have the status of a Jew or a gentile? The mishna mentions a Sadducee, who is a full-fledged Jew but does not accept the words of the Sages. The dispute is with regard to whether his status with regard to the *halakhot* of *eiruv* is like that of a gentile, as Rabbi Yehuda states, or that of a regular Jew.

NOTES

דיר של בהמה - דיר של בהמה: All of the *halakhot* of *eiruv*, like the rest of the *halakhot* of Shabbat, were given only to the Jewish people. Therefore, they do not apply to one who is not a Jew. This statement means that as a result, a gentile who lives in a certain place may be ignored for the purposes of *eiruv*, as he is not included among those to whom the *halakhot* of *eiruv* apply.

אָלָא דְכוּלֵי עֲלָמָא דִירַת גּוֹי – לֹא שָׂמָה דִירָה, וְהָכָא בְּגוֹזְרָה שְׂמָא יִלְמַד מִמַּעֲשֵׂיו קָא מִיפְלָגִי.

Rather, this explanation must be rejected, and the dispute in the mishna should be understood differently: **Everyone agrees that the residence of gentile is not considered a significant residence, and here they disagree about a decree that was issued lest the Jew learn from the gentile's ways.** The disagreement is with regard to whether this decree is applicable only when there are two Jews living in the courtyard, or even when there is only one Jew living there.

רַבִּי אֱלִיעֶזֶר בֶּן יַעֲקֹב סָבַר: בֵּינוֹן דְּגוֹי חָשׂוּד אֲשֶׁפִּיכוֹת דְּמַיִם, תְּרֵי דְשִׁכְחִי דְדִירֵי – גְּזֵרוּ בְּהוּ, חַד לֹא שְׂכִיחַ – לֹא גְּזֵרוּ בֵּיהּ רַבָּנִן.

The disagreement should be understood as follows: **Rabbi Eliezer ben Ya'akov holds that since a gentile is suspected of bloodshed, it is unusual for a single Jew to share a courtyard with a gentile.** However, it is not unusual for two or more Jews to do so, as they will protect each other. Therefore, in the case of **two Jews, who commonly live together with a gentile in the same courtyard, the Sages issued a decree to the effect that the gentile renders it prohibited for them to carry.** This would cause great inconvenience to Jews living with gentiles and would thereby motivate the Jews to distance themselves from gentiles. In this manner, the Sages sought to prevent the Jews from learning from the gentiles' ways. However, in the case of **one Jew, for whom it is not common to live together with a gentile in the same courtyard, the Sages did not issue a decree that the gentile renders it prohibited for him to carry, as the Sages do not issue decrees for uncommon situations.**

וְרַבִּי מֵאִיר סָבַר: זְמַנִּין דְּמַקְרִי וְדִיר. וְאָמְרוּ רַבָּנִן: אֵין עִירוּב מוּעִיל בְּמַקּוּם גּוֹי, וְאֵין בִּישׁוּל רְשׁוּת מוּעִיל בְּמַקּוּם גּוֹי עַד שְׁנִישְׁבִיר, וְגוֹי לֹא מוֹגֵר.

On the other hand, **Rabbi Meir holds that sometimes it happens that a single Jew lives together with a gentile in the same courtyard, and hence it is appropriate to issue the decree in such a case as well. Therefore, the Sages said: An *eiruv* is not effective in a place where a gentile is living, nor is the renunciation of rights to a courtyard in favor of the other residents effective in a place where a gentile is living.** Therefore, carrying is prohibited in a courtyard in which a gentile resides, **unless the gentile rents out his property to one of the Jews for the purpose of an *eiruv* regardless of the number of Jews living there.<sup>h</sup> And as a gentile would not be willing to rent out his property for this purpose, the living conditions will become too strained, prompting the Jew to move.**

מֵאִי טַעְמָא? אֵילִימָא מִשׁוּם דְּסָבַר: דְּלִמָּא אֵתִי לְאַחֲזוּקִי בְּרִשׁוּתוֹ, הִנְחָא לְמֵאן דְּאָמַר "שְׂכִירוֹת בְּרִיאָה בְּעֵינֵי",

The Gemara poses a question: **What is the reason that a gentile will not rent out his property for the purpose of an *eiruv*? If you say it is because the gentile thinks that perhaps they will later come to take possession of his property based on this rental, this works out well according to the one who said that we require a full-fledged rental, i.e., that rental for the purpose of an *eiruv* must be proper and valid according to all the *halakhot* of renting.**

#### HALAKHA

**עִירוּב בְּמַקּוּם – An *eiruv* in a place where there is a gentile – נוכרי:** Neither an *eiruv* nor a renunciation of rights is effective when there is a gentile living in the courtyard. The only solution is for the gentile to rent his domain to a Jewish resident of the courtyard (*Shulḥan Arukh, Oraḥ Ḥayyim* 382:1).

**Flawed rental – שְׂכִירוֹת רְעוּעָה:** The type of rental mentioned by the Sages in the context of a joining of courtyards is not the standard form of rental, as even a flawed or symbolic rental suffices (Rambam). It is not necessary to draw up a document for such a rental, and one need not explain the reason for it. This is in accordance with the opinion of Rav Sheshet, who was a greater authority than Rabbi Hisda and whose opinion is lenient here, as the lenient opinion is generally accepted in disputes relating to the *halakhot* of *eiruv* (*Shulḥan Arukh, Oraḥ Ḥayyim* 382:4).

**Rental for less than the value of a *peruta* – שְׂכִירוֹת בְּפָחוֹת – מְשׁוּה פְּרוּטָה:** One may rent property from a gentile even for less than the value of a penny [*peruta*] (*Shulḥan Arukh, Oraḥ Ḥayyim* 382:5).

אָלָא לְמֵאן דְּאָמַר "שְׂכִירוֹת רְעוּעָה בְּעֵינֵי" מֵאִי אֵיבָא לְמִימַר? דְּאֵתְמַר, רַב חֲסֵדָא אָמַר: שְׂכִירוֹת בְּרִיאָה, וְרַב שֵׁשֶׁת אָמַר: שְׂכִירוֹת רְעוּעָה.

However, according to the one who said that we require only a flawed, symbolic rental,<sup>h</sup> i.e., all that is needed is a token gesture that has the appearance of renting, **what is there to say?** The gentile would understand that it is not a real rental, and therefore he would not be wary of renting out his residence. **As it was stated that the *amora'im* disputed this issue as follows: Rav Hisda said that we require a full-fledged rental, and Rav Sheshet said: A flawed, symbolic rental is sufficient.**

מֵאִי רְעוּעָה, מֵאִי בְּרִיאָה? אֵילִימָא: בְּרִיאָה – בְּפְרוּטָה, רְעוּעָה – פָּחוֹת מְשׁוּה פְּרוּטָה, מִי אֵיבָא לְמֵאן דְּאָמַר מְגוּי בְּפָחוֹת מְשׁוּה פְּרוּטָה לֹא? וְהָא שְׁלַח רַבִּי יִצְחָק בְּרַבִּי יַעֲקֹב בַּר גִּיּוֹרִי מְשַׁמֵּיהּ דְּרַבִּי יוֹחָנָן: הוּוּ יוֹדְעִין שְׂשׁוּכְרִין מִן רְעוּעָה אֲפִילוּ בְּפָחוֹת מְשׁוּה פְּרוּטָה.

Having mentioned this dispute, the Gemara now clarifies its particulars: **What is a flawed rental, and what is a full-fledged one? If you say that a full-fledged rental refers to a case where one gives another person a *peruta* as rent, whereas in a flawed rental he provides him with less than the value of a *peruta*, this poses a difficulty. Is there anyone who said that renting from a gentile for less than the value of a *peruta* is not valid? Didn't Rabbi Yitzḥak, son of Rabbi Ya'akov bar Giyorei, send in the name of Rabbi Yoḥanan: You should know that one may rent from a gentile even for less than the value of a *peruta*?<sup>h</sup>**

נִהְרָג עַל פְּחוּת – Executed for less than the value of a *peruta* – מִשְׁוֵה פְּרוּטָה: The Noahide laws are discussed in detail in tractate *Sanhedrin*. There are seven Noahide commandments that were given to all gentiles, one of which is the prohibition against stealing. Consequently, a gentile who stole is liable for punishment. The Sages had a tradition that the only punishment given for violation of the Noahide commandments is the death penalty. Therefore, a gentile who steals any amount is liable for execution (see Genesis 6:13). For Jews, the *halakhot* of theft do not apply to an object worth less than the value of a penny [*peruta*]. This is a unique stipulation based on the assumption that Jews are not particular about such a small sum, and anything worth less than a penny is not considered money. Nevertheless, the basic law of stealing applies to items of any value whatsoever.

לֹא נִתְּנָן לְהַשְׁבוֹן – Not returnable – Most commentaries explain that stolen property is not returnable because the Torah did not institute the option of returning stolen goods for gentiles. An alternate explanation is that if the stolen item is not worth a penny [*peruta*], it is not of sufficient value to be returned.

נוֹכְרֵי חַשִּׁישׁ – The gentile is concerned about witchcraft – Rabbeinu Yehonatan explains: When the gentile sees that the Jew is not satisfied with permission to use his residence but insists on an actual rental, he assumes that the Jew must have an ulterior motive and plans to cast a spell on him. Elsewhere, the Talmud mentions that practitioners of witchcraft find it necessary to take possession of an item that belongs to the person whom they wish to harm.

## LANGUAGE

By legal documents and officials [*moharkei ve'aburganei*] – בְּמוֹהַרְקֵי וְאַבּוּרְגָנֵי: Several explanations have been suggested for these words (see Rashi and *Tosafot*). The *Arukh* explains that *moharkei* means writing, and *aburganei* means messengers. Apparently, *moharkei* derives from the Middle Persian *muharak*, meaning document, and *waborganei* comes from the Middle Persian *wābarigān*, meaning validated or trustworthy.

וְאָמַר רַבִּי חֵיְיָא בַר אֲבָא אָמַר רַבִּי יוֹחָנָן: בְּן נַח נִהְרָג עַל פְּחוּת מִשְׁוֵה פְּרוּטָה, וְלֹא נִתְּנָן לְהַשְׁבוֹן!

And Rabbi Ḥiyya bar Abba said that Rabbi Yoḥanan said: A Noahide, i.e., a gentile who stole is executed for his crime, according to the laws applying to Noahides, even if he stole less than the value of a *peruta*.<sup>N</sup> A Noahide is particular about his property and unwilling to waive his rights to it, even if it is of minimal value; therefore, the prohibition against stealing applies to items of any value whatsoever. And in the case of Noahides, the stolen item is not returnable,<sup>N</sup> as the possibility of rectification by returning a stolen object was granted only to Jews. The principle that less than the value of a *peruta* is not considered money applies to Jews alone. With regard to gentiles, it has monetary value, and therefore one may rent from a gentile with this amount.

אָלָּא: בְּרִיָּאָה – בְּמוֹהַרְקֵי וְאַבּוּרְגָנֵי, רְעוּעָה – בְּלֹא מוֹהַרְקֵי וְאַבּוּרְגָנֵי. הַמִּנְחָא לְמֵאן דְאָמַר שְׂכִירוֹת בְּרִיָּאָה בְּעֵינֵי.

Rather, the distinction between a full-fledged rental and a flawed rental should be explained as follows: A full-fledged rental refers to one that is confirmed by legal documents [*moharkei*] and guaranteed by officials [*aburganei*];<sup>L</sup> and a flawed rental means one that is not confirmed by legal documents and guaranteed by officials, an agreement that is unenforceable in court. Based on this explanation, the Gemara reiterates what was stated earlier with regard to the gentile's concern about renting: This works out well according to the one who said that we require a full-fledged rental, as it is clear why the gentile would refuse to rent out his property.

אָלָּא לְמֵאן דְאָמַר שְׂכִירוֹת רְעוּעָה בְּעֵינֵי, מֵאֵי אִיבָא לְמִמַּרְדֵּי אִפְלוּ הֵבֵי חַשִּׁישׁ גּוֹי לְכַשְׁפִּים וְלֹא מוֹגֵר.

But according to the one who said that we require only a flawed rental, what is there to say in this regard? Why shouldn't the gentile want to rent out his residence? The Gemara answers: Even so, the gentile is concerned about witchcraft,<sup>N</sup> i.e., that the procedure is used to cast a spell on him, and therefore he does not rent out his residence.

גּוֹפָא: חֲצִירוֹ שֶׁל גּוֹי הָרִי הוּא כְּדִיר שֶׁל בְּהֵמָה, וּמוֹתֵר לְהַכְנִים וּלְהוֹצִיא מִן חֲצֵר לְבֵתִים וּמִן בֵּתִים לְחֲצֵר.

The Gemara examines the ruling in the *Tosefta* cited in the previous discussion. Returning to the matter itself: The courtyard of a gentile is like the pen of an animal, and it is permitted to carry in and carry out from the courtyard to the houses and from the houses to the courtyard, as the *halakhot* of *eiruv* do not apply to the residences of gentiles.

וְאִם יֵשׁ שָׁם יִשְׂרָאֵל אֶחָד – אוֹסֵר, דְּבַרֵי רַבִּי מֵאִיר.

But if there is one Jew living there in the same courtyard as the gentile, the gentile renders it prohibited for the Jew to carry from his house to the courtyard or vice versa. The Jew may carry there only if he rents the gentile's property for the duration of Shabbat. This is the statement of Rabbi Meir.

רַבִּי אֱלִיעֶזֶר בֶּן יַעֲקֹב אָמַר: לְעוֹלָם אֵינוֹ אוֹסֵר עַד שֶׁיְהוּ שְׁנַי יִשְׂרָאֵלִים אוֹסְרִים זֶה עַל זֶה.

Rabbi Eliezer ben Ya'akov says: Actually, the gentile does not render it prohibited for the Jew to carry unless there are two Jews living in the same courtyard who themselves would prohibit one another from carrying if there were no *eiruv*, and the presence of the gentile renders the *eiruv* ineffective.

## Perek VI

## Daf 62 Amud b

אָמַר מַר: חֲצִירוֹ שֶׁל גּוֹי הָרִי הוּא כְּדִיר שֶׁל בְּהֵמָה. וְהָא אָנֹן תַּנְּנָן: הֲדָר עַם הַנְּכָרִי בְּחֲצֵר הָרִי זֶה אוֹסֵר עָלָיו! –

The Gemara proceeds to analyze the *Tosefta*: The Master said above: The courtyard of a gentile is like the pen of an animal, which implies that the residence of a gentile is not considered a significant residence. But didn't we learn otherwise in the mishna: One who resides with a gentile in the same courtyard this person prohibits him from carrying? This implies that a gentile's residence is in fact of significance.

לֹא קָשְׁיָא; הָא – דְאִיתִיהּ, הָא – דְלִיתִיהּ.

The Gemara answers: That is not difficult. This *halakha* in the mishna is referring to a situation where the gentile is present, and therefore carrying is prohibited, whereas that *halakha* in the *Tosefta* refers to a situation where he is not present, and therefore carrying is permitted.

One who left his house on Shabbat – מי שיצא מדיירתו – בבשבת: If a Jew leaves his home to spend Shabbat elsewhere without intending to return on Shabbat, he does not impose any restrictions upon his neighbors. However, a gentile does impose such restrictions, even if he is in a different town, provided he is close enough to return that day (Rambam). Others maintain that a gentile also does not impose restrictions, even if he goes to a nearby location (Rosh; *Sefer Mitzvot Gadol*; Rema; *Shulhan Arukh, Orah Hayyim* 371:1).

When does a gentile render it prohibited – מתי אסר – נכרי: A gentile renders it prohibited to carry in the shared courtyard only if there are two Jews living there who would prohibit one another from carrying if there were no *eiruv*. This *halakha* is in accordance with the opinion of Rabbi Eliezer ben Ya'akov (*Shulhan Arukh, Orah Hayyim* 382:1).

NOTES

Measures a *kav* but is clean – קב ונקי: The statement that the teaching of Rabbi Eliezer ben Ya'akov is measured but clean appears in several places in the Talmud. The commentaries discuss whether this principle is applied in every instance or if certain distinctions should be specified. Should one apply this rule only in the case of a mishna, or can it be applied to a *baraita* as well? Is his halakhic opinion accepted in disputes with only a single authority, or even when contrary to the majority opinion? The consensus is that the opinion of Rabbi Eliezer ben Ya'akov is accepted in all instances, even in a *baraita* and even contrary to the majority opinion, except where the Gemara explicitly rules otherwise. There is an ancient tradition that statements ascribed to Rabbi Eliezer ben Ya'akov are mentioned in 102 places, the numerical value of the word *kav*, meaning measured, and that his opinion is accepted in all of these cases. Consequently, the Sages have an aphorism that his teaching is measured, *kav*, but clean (see *Yad Malakhi; Seder HaDorot*).

ומאי קסבר? אי קסבר דירה בלא בעלים שמה דירה – אפילו גוי נמי ניתסר. ואי קסבר: דירה בלא בעלים לא שמה דירה – אפילו ישראל נמי לא ניתסר!

לעולם קסבר: דירה בלא בעלים – לא שמה דירה. וישראל, דכי איתיה – אסר, כי ליתיה – גזרו ביה רבנן.

גוי דכי איתיה – גזירה שמה ילמד ממעשיו; כי איתיה – אסר, כי ליתיה – לא אסר.

וכי ליתיה לא אסר? והתנן: המניח את ביתו והלך לו לשבות בעיר אחרת, אחד נכרי ואחד ישראל – אסר, דברי רבי מאיר!

התם דאתי ביומיה.

אמר רב יהודה אמר שמואל: הלכה כרבי אליעזר בן יעקב. ורב הונא אמר: מנהג כרבי אליעזר בן יעקב. ורבי יוחנן אמר: נהגו העם כרבי אליעזר בן יעקב.

אמר ליה אבוי לרב יוסף: קיימא לן, משנת רבי אליעזר בן יעקב קב ונקי, ואמר רב יהודה אמר שמואל: הלכה כרבי אליעזר בן יעקב.

מהו לאורוי במקום רבו?

The Gemara poses a question: **What does Rabbi Meir hold? If he holds that a residence without its owners is still considered a residence, and it is prohibited to carry in the courtyard even when the owner is away, then even a gentile in absentia should likewise render it prohibited for carrying. And if he holds that a residence without its owners is not considered a residence, then even a Jew who is away should also not render it prohibited for carrying.**

The Gemara answers: **Actually, he holds that a residence without its owners is not considered a residence, but nevertheless, he draws a distinction between a Jew and a gentile. In the case of a Jew, who renders it prohibited to carry for those who dwell in the same courtyard when he is present in his residence, the Sages decreed with regard to him that even when he is not present, his residence renders it prohibited for them to carry as though he were present.**

However, with regard to a gentile, who even when he is present does not fundamentally render it prohibited to carry, but only due to a rabbinic decree that was issued lest the Jew learn from the gentile's ways, no further decree was necessary. Thus, when he is present, the gentile renders it prohibited to carry; but when he is not present, he does not render it prohibited to carry.

The Gemara asks: **And when the gentile is not present, does he really not render it prohibited for carrying? Didn't we learn elsewhere in a mishna: With regard to one who left his house without establishing an *eiruv* and went to spend Shabbat in a different town, whether he was a gentile or a Jew, he renders it prohibited for the other residents of his courtyard to carry objects from their houses to the courtyard and vice versa. This is the statement of Rabbi Meir. This indicates that according to Rabbi Meir, a gentile renders it prohibited to carry in the courtyard even if he is not present.**<sup>h</sup>

The Gemara answers: **There, it is referring to a situation where the person who left his house without establishing an *eiruv* intends to return on that same day, on Shabbat. Since upon his return he will render it prohibited for others to carry in the courtyard, the decree is applied even before he returns home. However, if he left his house intending to return after the conclusion of Shabbat, he does not render it prohibited to carry, in absentia.**<sup>h</sup>

Rav Yehuda said that Shmuel said: The *halakha* in this dispute is in accordance with the opinion of Rabbi Eliezer ben Ya'akov. And Rav Huna said: This is not an established *halakha* to be issued publicly; rather, the custom is in accordance with the opinion of Rabbi Eliezer ben Ya'akov, i.e., a Sage would rule according to his opinion for those who come to ask. And Rabbi Yoḥanan said: The people are accustomed to conduct themselves in accordance with the opinion of Rabbi Eliezer ben Ya'akov. Accordingly, a Sage would not issue such a ruling even to those who inquire, but if someone acts leniently in accordance with his opinion, he would not object.

Abaye said to Rav Yosef, his teacher: We maintain that the teaching of Rabbi Eliezer ben Ya'akov measures a *kav*, but is clean,<sup>N</sup> meaning that it is small in quantity but clear and complete, and that the *halakha* is in accordance with his opinion in all instances. Moreover, with regard to our issue, Rav Yehuda said that Shmuel said: The *halakha* is in accordance with the opinion of Rabbi Eliezer ben Ya'akov, and therefore there is no doubt about the matter.

However, what is the *halakha* with regard to whether a disciple may issue a ruling according to the opinion of Rabbi Eliezer ben Ya'akov in his teacher's place of jurisdiction, i.e., in a place where he is the recognized authority? Although it is usually prohibited to do so, perhaps such an evident and well-known principle such as this does not fall into the category of rulings that a disciple may not issue in his teacher's territory.

BACKGROUND

*Kutah* – כוּתָח: *Kutah* was a common seasoning used in Babylonia. It was made from milk serum, salt, and bread fermented to the point of moldiness, with the occasional addition of other spices.

NOTES

*Megillat Ta'anit* – מִגִּילַת תַּעֲנִית: Rashi explains that in the talmudic period this was the only portion of the Oral Law that was committed to writing. Even according to those who maintain that the Mishna was written down during the period of the *amora'im*, halakhic rulings may not be issued directly from a mishna without further analysis. Clear halakhic rulings could be found only in *Megillat Ta'anit*.

Ruling in one's teacher's place – לְהוֹרוֹת בְּמִקוֹם רַבּוֹ: The main rationale for this prohibition is the disrespect shown for the teacher when a disciple assumes the role of a ruling authority. It is similar to one who rebels against the monarchy by appropriating honor reserved for the king. For this reason, some authorities state that a student may not issue rulings in the place of his principal teacher, even if he received explicit permission from the teacher to do so.

HALAKHA

Ruling in one's teacher's place – לְהוֹרוֹת בְּמִקוֹם רַבּוֹ: A disciple is prohibited from issuing a halakhic ruling in his teacher's place. Even explicit permission from the teacher does not remove this prohibition so long as the student is within three parasangs of his teacher (Rema; *Shulhan Arukh, Yoreh De'a* 242:4).

אָמַר לִיהוּדָה: אֶפְּלוּ בִיעֲתָא בְּכוּתָחָא  
בְּעוּ מִינָהּ מֵרַב חֲסֵדָא כּל שְׁנֵי דְרַב  
הוּנָא, וְלֹא אוּרִי.

Rav Yosef said to Abaye: Even when Rav Hisda was asked about the permissibility of cooking an egg in *kutah*,<sup>B</sup> a dairy dish, throughout the years of Rav Huna's life, he refused to issue a ruling. Rav Hisda was a disciple of Rav Huna, and a disciple may not issue a ruling in his teacher's place of jurisdiction about even the simplest of matters.

אָמַר לִיהוּדָה רַבִּי יַעֲקֹב בַּר אֲבָא  
לְאַבְיִי: כְּגוֹן מְגִילַת תַּעֲנִית, דְּכִתְּבִיא  
וּמְנַחָא, מַהוּ לְאוּרוּי בְּאַתְרֵיהּ  
דְּרַבִּינָהּ? אָמַר לִיהוּדָה, הֲכִי אָמַר רַב  
יֹסֵף: אֶפְּלוּ בִיעֲתָא בְּכוּתָחָא בְּעוּ  
מִינָהּ מֵרַב חֲסֵדָא כּל שְׁנֵי דְרַב  
הוּנָא וְלֹא אוּרִי.

Rabbi Ya'akov bar Abba said to Abaye: With regard to matters such as those detailed in *Megillat Ta'anit*,<sup>N</sup> which is written and laid on the shelf for all to access and offers a list of the days on which fasting is prohibited, what is the *halakha* concerning whether or not a disciple may rule about these matters in his teacher's place of jurisdiction? Abaye said to him: Rav Yosef said as follows: Even when Rav Hisda was asked about the permissibility of cooking an egg in *kutah* throughout the years of Rav Huna's life, he refused to issue a ruling.<sup>H</sup>

רַב חֲסֵדָא אוּרִי בְּכַפְרֵי בְּשְׁנֵי דְרַב  
הוּנָא.

The Gemara relates that Rav Hisda nonetheless issued halakhic rulings in the town of Kafri during the years of Rav Huna's life, as he was not actually in his teacher's place.<sup>N</sup>

Perek VI

Daf 63 Amud a

רַב הַמְּנוּנָא אוּרִי בְּחַרְתָּא דְאַרְגֹּז  
בְּשְׁנֵי דְרַב חֲסֵדָא.

Rav Hamnuna issued halakhic rulings in the town of *Harta De'argez*<sup>B</sup> during the years of Rav Hisda's life, even though Rav Hisda was his teacher.

רַבִּינָא סָר סְכִינָא בְּבַבְלָא. אָמַר  
לִיהוּדָה רַב אַשִּׁי: מַאי טַעְמָא עֲבַד  
מִרְהַבִּי?

The Gemara relates that Ravina once examined a slaughterer's knife in Babylonia to check if it was fit for slaughtering,<sup>N</sup> during the lifetime of his teacher, Rav Ashi, who also lived in Babylonia. Rav Ashi said to him: What is the reason that the Master acted in this manner? Isn't it prohibited for a disciple to issue rulings while his teacher is still alive?<sup>H</sup>

אָמַר לִיהוּדָה: וְהָא רַב הַמְּנוּנָא אוּרִי  
בְּחַרְתָּא דְאַרְגֹּז בְּשְׁנֵי דְרַב חֲסֵדָא.  
אָמַר לִיהוּדָה: "לֹא אוּרִי" אֲתָמַר.

Ravina said to him: Didn't Rav Hamnuna issue halakhic rulings in *Harta De'argez* during the years of Rav Hisda's life, as they were not in the same town, even though they were both located in Babylonia? Since I do not live in the same town as you, it stands to reason that I would be permitted to issue rulings as well. Rav Ashi said to Ravina: It was actually stated that Rav Hamnuna did not issue halakhic rulings during Rav Hisda's lifetime, and that is the correct tradition.

אָמַר לִיהוּדָה: אֲתָמַר אוּרִי, וְאֲתָמַר לֹא  
אוּרִי. בְּשְׁנֵי דְרַב הוּנָא רַבִּינָא – הוּא  
דְּלֹא אוּרִי, וְאוּרִי בְּשְׁנֵי דְרַב חֲסֵדָא.  
דְּתַלְמִיד חֲבֵר דִּילִיָּה הוּא. וְאַנָּה  
נִמְי, תַּלְמִיד חֲבֵר דְמִר אָנָּה.

Ravina said to Rav Ashi: In fact, it was stated that Rav Hamnuna issued rulings, and it was also stated that he did not issue rulings, and both traditions are correct. During the years of the life of Rav Huna, Rav Hamnuna's principal teacher, Rav Hamnuna did not issue rulings at all, but he did issue rulings during the years of Rav Hisda's life, for Rav Hamnuna was Rav Hisda's disciple-colleague.<sup>H</sup> And since I, too, am the Master's disciple and colleague, I should also be permitted to examine a slaughterer's knife when I am not in the same town.

אָמַר רַבָּא: צוּרְבָא מִרְבֵּנן חֲזִי  
לְנַפְשֵׁיהּ. רַבִּינָא אִיקְלַע לְמַחְזוּא,  
אִייתֵי אוֹשְׁפּוּיִכְנִיָּה סְכִינָא וְקָא  
מַחְזִי לִיהוּדָה. אָמַר לִיהוּדָה: זִיל אֲמַטְיָה  
לְרַבָּא.

Rava said: A Torah scholar may examine a knife for himself and use it for slaughtering, without having to show it to the local Sage. The Gemara relates that Ravina happened to come to Mehoza, the home town of Rava. His host brought out a knife for slaughtering and showed it to him. He said to him: Go, bring it to Rava, the town Sage, for examination.

BACKGROUND

*Harta De'argez* – חַרְתָּא דְאַרְגֹּז: *Harta De'argez* was a town in Babylonia, whose builder, Argez, is the subject of various traditions. A geonic tradition places the town near Baghdad, about a parasang, or approximately 4 km, away.

NOTES

The examination of a knife – בְּדִיקַת סְכִין: The knife utilized in ritual slaughtering must be without blemish, as an animal slaughtered with a blemished knife has the status of an unslaughtered carcass [*neveila*] and may not be eaten. Therefore, the knife must be examined before use. The Sages in tractate *Hullin* state that fundamentally, the slaughterer is considered trustworthy in this regard, and he is relied upon to check the knife himself. Nevertheless, out of respect for the Sages, the slaughterer must present his knife before a scholar. If the slaughterer is himself a scholar, the Sage in his town would certainly not require him to present his knife (Rosh).

HALAKHA

Examining a knife before one's teacher – בְּדִיקַת סְכִין בְּפְנֵי רַבּוֹ: It is prohibited for a student to examine a slaughterer's knife in the presence of his teacher (*Tur, Yoreh De'a* 242).

Disciple-colleague – תַּלְמִיד חֲבֵר: A disciple who is also his teacher's colleague may not issue a ruling in his teacher's presence if he is within three parasangs of him. If he is farther away than this, it is permitted. If the student received permission from his teacher (*Shakh; Vilna Gaon*), it is permitted for him issue a ruling even within three parasangs of his teacher (Rema). However, with regard to his principal teacher, it is prohibited in all circumstances (*Shulhan Arukh, Yoreh De'a* 242:4 and in the comment of the Rema).