

# BEDIKAT CHAMETZ & BIUR CHAMETZ

## Search and Eradication of Chametz

— The Laws —

### Bedikat Chametz- The Search for Chametz

On the 14th of Nissan, when the stars come out, when we have finished cleaning our house(s), car(s), office(s), we have to check that these are all in fact free from Chametz, using the light of a candle.

## 4 STAGES OF CHECKING

1

### PREPARING 10 PIECES OF BREAD

We take 10 small pieces of bread, which we wrap up well, which we then scatter all over the house.

2

### THE BLESSING

The head of the family takes a candle, recites the blessing, then checks all the places that may contain chametz.

3

### CAR, OFFICE, SHOP

Once the search at home is finished, one must check one's car, office or shop, without reciting the blessing again, and without speaking.

4

### ANNULMENT

After having checked the entire house, we recite a blessing three times, in which we state that any Chametz that we may not have seen should be null and void. We keep the pieces of bread to be burnt the following morning.

### ATTENTION :

1. One may keep the light on.
2. One may not speak before the end of the recitation of Bitul, that follows the search.
3. Between the end of the blessing, and the beginning of the search, one may not speak. If one spoke about a matter not related to the search, the blessing must be recited again.

## SPECIAL CASES

1

### ON VACATION FOR PESACH

- If one is not home on the evening of the 14th and one did not sell his Chametz, one should carry out the Bedika before but without a blessing.
- This Bedika should be done on the nightfall before your departure. Upon completion, one should immediately recite the bitul.
- If you leave more than a month before Pesach, do not do the Bedika.

2

### APPOINTING A REPRESENTATIVE

One who is not able to check for Chametz, should appoint a representative to do it in his stead.

## BIUR CHAMETZ-BURNING CHAMETZ

- On the morning before Pesach, a short while before the time when the position of Chametz is forbidden, all Chametz is burnt in order to fulfil the Mitzvah of removing all Chametz from our possession.
- We then recite the bitul again. This prayer must be recited exclusively in a language that we understand in order to fulfill one's obligation of Bitul (annulment of Chametz.)
- If one finds Chametz on Pesach, it must be destroyed immediately. On Yom Tov it may not be destroyed, so it should be covered and destroyed as soon as Yom Tov is over.



# BEDIKAT CHAMETZ & BIUR CHAMETZ

## Search and Eradication of Chametz

— Blessings —

### BEDIKAT CHAMETZ

#### 1 BEFORE BEDIKAT CHAMETZ, RECITE THE FOLLOWING :

ברוך אתה אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו וְצִוָּנוּ עַל בִּיעוּר חֶמֶץ

Baruch Atah Ado-nai, E-lo-hei-nu Melech Ho-olom Asher Kideshanu Bemitzvotav Vetzivanu Al Biur Chametz.

#### 2 AFTER BEDIKAT CHAMETZ RECITE THE FOLLOWING :

כָּל חֲמִירָא וְחֲמִיעָא דְאִיכָא בְּרִשּׁוּתִי, דְלָא חֲמִיתִיהּ, וְדָלָא בְּעֵרְתִּיהּ, וְדָלָא יִדְעָנָא לִיהּ, לְבַטֵּל וְלִהְיוּ  
הֶפְקֵר כְּעַפְרָא דְאַרְעָא

Kol chamira vachamia dika virshuti, dla chamitei udla viartei, u-dla yedana lei, li-batl ve-le-hevei hefker kafra deara.

#### One will also recite it in English :

«All leaven or anything leavened which is in my possession, which I have neither seen nor removed, and about which I am unaware, shall be considered nullified and ownerless as the dust of the earth.»

### ANNULATION OF CHAMETZ

#### 3 THE MORNING AFTER THE BEDIKA, AFTER HAVING BURNT THE CHAMETZ, RECITE :

כָּל חֲמִירָא וְחֲמִיעָא דְאִכָּא בְּרִשּׁוּתִי וְדָלָא חֲמִיתִיהּ וְדָלָא חֲמִיתִיהּ וְדָלָא חֲמִיתִיהּ וְדָלָא חֲמִיתִיהּ, לְבַטֵּל וְלִהְיוּ  
הֶפְקֵר כְּעַפְרָא דְאַרְעָא

Kol chamira vachamia d'ika virshuti, dachamitay udilah chamitay, dvaritay udilah baareitay, velehevei hefker kafra deara.

#### One will also recite it in English :

«All leaven in my possession whether I have seen it or not, whether I have removed it or not, is hereby nullified and ownerless as the dust of the earth.»

