

## Inside the Daf



## Did You Know...

Ropes were used on doors that cover pits and caves. שמואל allows these knots to be untied on the Sabbath or Festivals because they are made to be tied and untied constantly.

Cooking is allowed on ימים טובים (Festivals) so we are also allowed to add wood to burning fires to help in the cooking. Still, the wood must be set aside to be used as kindling before the Festival begins.

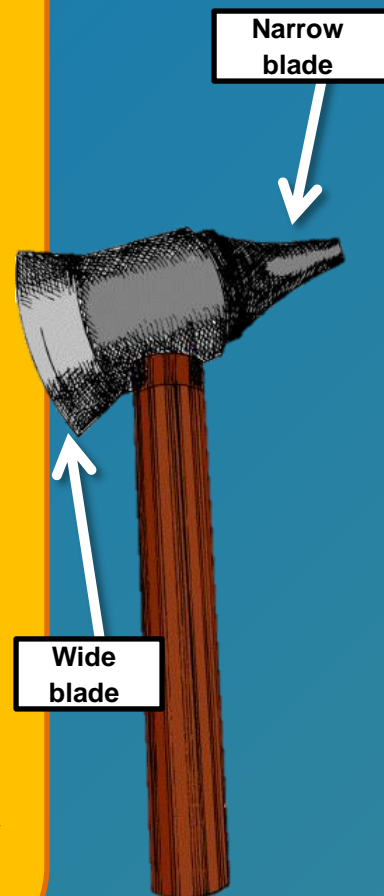
The משנה teaches that we may bring in wood from a field to use as kindling only if it was gathered into a pile before the Festival. By gathering the wood into a pile, the owner shows that he wants to use it on the Festival. This takes away the wood's מקצה ("set aside" from being used) classification.

We may not chop wood from a beam that was מקצה when the Festival began. For example, wooden beams that are meant for construction are מקצה because the owner "sets them aside" from being used on the Sabbath or a Festival. We may not chop these beams on יום טוב.

When we chop beams that were prepared to be used for kindling on the Festival, we may not chop them with a קרדום blade because it is a cutting tool used by professional carpenters to fashion saddles. Someone seen to be using them would look like he is performing a forbidden carpentry activity. Carpentry was done only with the wide blade of the ax. Therefore, if one cuts wood with the narrow blade, this would be permitted because it doesn't look like he is doing carpentry.

One may not chop wood with a saw or sickle because these, too, are artisan's tools and anyone using them would look like they are performing a forbidden activity.

One may cut wood with a butcher's cleaver. Since it is used to cut meat and not used for a forbidden activity, one may use it to chop wood.



# Stacked vs. Cemented

We know that the Torah allows us to perform מלאכה (forbidden labor) for food preparation, such as cooking, on Festivals. May we perform מלאכה other than cooking in order to get food?

In the משנה, רבי מאיר brings a case where fruit was locked in a building on a יום טוב (Festival). רבי מאיר allows one to break the wall down to get the fruits, even though demolishing a building is a מלאכה .

רבי שמואל explains in the name of רב נחומי בר אבא that רבי מאיר must be talking about a building made of bricks that were not cemented together but were rather stacked on top of each other in a pile. Demolishing bricks that were cemented together is a מלאכה according to the Torah, but removing a wall of stacked bricks is not.

In most cases, the Sages do not allow one to move even a wall of stacked bricks on a Festival. But, רבי מאיר says, if there is fruit inside a building of stacked bricks one may move the bricks to get the fruit. This is allowed because eating the fruit will add to one's happiness on the Festival.



# A Moment

Gadi, Asher and Naftali had been friends since kindergarten. Lately, they were drifting apart. It all started when \$50 went missing from Gadi's locker. Asher and Naftali were the only ones who knew the combination to the lock. It didn't help when Asher told Gadi he saw Naftali with a \$50 bill the next day. Naftali insisted it was a present

from his grandparents and was outraged that Asher told on him.

When the three of them were together now, they couldn't even look at each other.

It wasn't long before Naftali changed his attitude because of something he learned in *daf yomi*.

"רבי says that light leaves are considered to be scattered even if they are gathered together because the wind can scatter them at any time. We learn a great truth: We are only considered to be 'gathered together' if no outside force can separate us. But if something from the outside is able to scatter us apart, we are already scattered even when we are gathered together."

"You're right," said Gadi. "We shouldn't let something like \$50 spoil our friendship. Money shouldn't scatter us apart!"

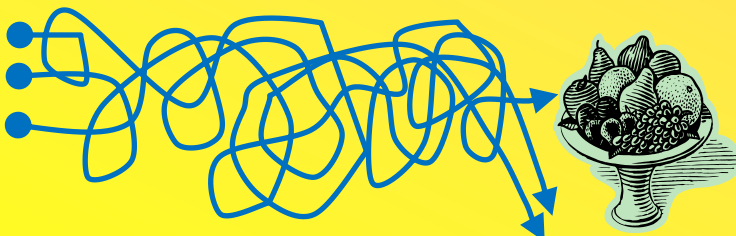
(מכובי אשר)



# Games

## Crazy Arrows

Find the arrow that gets you to the fruit



## Review Questions – ביצה דף ל"א

1. What sort of wooden beams are מקצה?  
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2. What sort of brick building may be demolished to get to fruit?  
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3. Why may ropes on the doors of pits and caves be tied and untied on Festivals?  
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