

מסכת

סוֹפָה

דָּרָה

DAF YOMI⁴
KIDS

Inside the Daf

כְּרוּבִים (Cherubs)

WORD OF THE DAY:

לְהֵלֶן

"THERE"

כַּפֶּרֶת (Lid)

אָרוֹן קֹדֶשׁ
(Holy Ark)

טַפַּח 1

טַפַּחִים 9

טַפַּחִים 10

How do we know a סוֹפָה must be at least 10 טַפַּחִים high (about 3 ft, or 1 m)?

We know that סוֹפּוֹת must have walls and according to the Talmud, a wall less than 10 טַפַּחִים is not a true "wall". Why not?

The גְּמָרָא says that we learn this from the height of the אָרוֹן קֹדֶשׁ (Holy Ark) which sat in the מִשְׁכָּן (Tabernacle) and later in the בַּיִת הַמְּקֹדֶשׁ (Holy Temple).

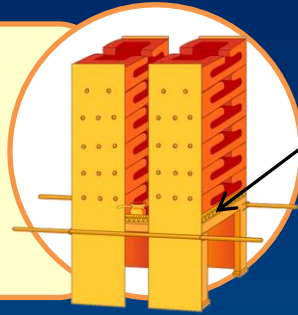
The Torah tells us that the אָרוֹן itself was 9 טַפַּחִים high (see שמות כה, Ex. 25,10). The lid of the Ark (called the כַּפֶּרֶת) was one טַפַּח high. In total, the אָרוֹן קֹדֶשׁ was 10 טַפַּחִים high.

The Torah tells us that Hashem spoke to מֹשֶׁה רַבֵּינוּ (Moses our teacher) "from on top of the lid", "מֵעַל הַכַּפֶּרֶת" (שמות כה, Ex. 25,22), which we now know is 10 טַפַּחִים high. The area of Hashem's Presence is 10 טַפַּחִים above ground. Below that is a different area – the area of Man. Man's "area" reaches until 10 טַפַּחִים off the ground. We see then that an "area" is 10 טַפַּחִים high; anything lower is not a real "area." Therefore the walls of a סוֹפָה must be at least this high, otherwise they do not take up a true "area" and would not be true "walls."

Other Measures

The **מִשְׁכַּן** gives us descriptions of some of the other vessels in the **מִשְׁכַּן** (Tabernacle):

The **שֻׁלְחָן** (Table upon which the Showbreads lay) has a **מִסְגָּרָת** (border) that was one **טַפַּח** high (about 3.5 inches, or 9 cm). There is a debate whether this border was above the tabletop or beneath it.



מִסְגָּרָת (border)



צִיץ (Band)

A **מְדוּת** Moment

It happened at every bar mitzvah. The pushing in the food line. Kids grabbing more than they could eat. Eating too much junk food.

Mr. Klein didn't like it. This time, when he saw a boy grab two fistfuls of candy from the dessert table, he decided to say something.

"Look at all that candy," said Mr. Klein. "Do you really need all that?"

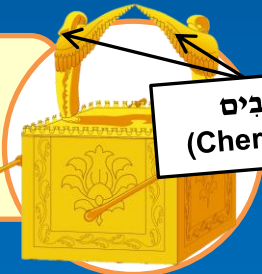
"Uh...no?" said the stunned boy.

"I agree," said Mr. Klein. "In today's day we are told that the height of the Ark's lid is learned from the height of the Table's border. We know Hashem's Presence rests on the Ark, and we are being told for His Presence to be with us, we must set a "border" at our "tables" and not eat gluttonously!"

(הרי בשמים מרי יצחק בדרשי)

The **צִיץ** (Band) worn on the forehead of the **כֹּהֵן גָּדוֹל** (High Priest) was like a thin gold plate, two **אֶצְבָּעוֹת** (fingerbreadths) wide (about 2 inches, or 4.5 cm). It encircled the **כֹּהֵן גָּדוֹל**'s head from ear to ear. The words "**קֹדֵשׁ לַה'**" (Holy to Hashem) were written on it.

The **כְּרוּבִים** (Cherubim)'s wings were positioned just above their heads and were 10 **טַפָּחִים** tall.



כְּרוּבִים (Cherubim)



Did You Know...

אֶבְרָהָם says, the **כְּרוּבִים** (Cherubim) that stood atop the Holy Ark got their name from the word "**כְּרִבְיָא**" meaning, "like a child" since their faces looked like those of children.

Games

The Right Measure

Match the measurements (right) with the items (left)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Total אָרוֹן קֹדֵשׁ (Holy Ark) | 2 אֶצְבָּעוֹת (fingerbreadths) wide |
| כַּפֹּת (Lid of the Ark) | 1 טַפַּח (handbreadth) high |
| צִיץ (Band) | 10 טַפָּחִים (handbreadths) high |
| מִסְגָּרָת (Table border) | 9 טַפָּחִים (handbreadths) high |
| כְּרוּבִים (Cherubim) | |

Bottom **אָרוֹן קֹדֵשׁ** (Holy Ark)

Review Questions – סוכה דף ה'

- How close to the ground does Hashem's Presence reach?

- What was the **מִסְגָּרָת** and what was it on?

- Where does the word **כְּרוּבִים** come from?
