TTriddles

Previous (EMOR) TTriddles:

[1] FPTL: Only bear head pasuk in Tanach

DOV, meaning bear, is not the most commonly named animal in Tanach. He does make 8 appearances, 2 as DOV, 2 as HADOV, 2 as K'DOV and 2 as V'DOV. Bear (DOV) occurs twice in Mishlei, once in each of the Shmuels, once each in Hoshei'a and Amos. And once in the famous prophecy of Yeshayahu of the cow and the bear grazing together. And once, we find DOV at the head of a pasuk. Eicha 3:10 - DOV OREIV HU LI... He is to me like a bear lying in wait, like a lion in secret places. The gimatriya of the whole pasuk with bear head is: 4+2 (6) + 1+200+2 (203) + 5+6+1 (12) + 30+10 (40) + 1+200+10+5 (216) + 2+40+60+400+200+10+40 (752) = 1229.

[2] Do you think Buzz Aldrin kept Emor's mitzvot when he climbed K2 in honor of Yitzchak Ben Zvi?

Variation on previous TTriddles. Meant to highlight the fact that Emor's mitzva-count is the second highest in the Torah. Buzz Aldrin was the second person (of 12, all together) to step foot on the Moon. Most people will remember Neil Armstrong as the first, but far fewer people will know the name of the second. K2 is the second highest mountain in the world. Everest is highest. How many know that, but not K2? Ben Zvi was Israel's second president.

BTW, Mt. Everest is not the tallest mountain in the world - it is the highest. Highest means how much above sea level the summit of a mountain is. The tallest is measured from base to summit and that honor goes to Mauna Kea in Hawaii, which is measured from its base deep on the floor of the Pacific Ocean. Mt. Everest's top is 8710.5m above sea level. Mauna Kea is over 10,000m tall but more than half is submerged.

And another BTW. If we were to measure the distance that the top of a mountain is from the center of the Earth, then Everest wouldn't make the top 20. The honor with that way of measuring goes to a mountain in Ecuador called Chimborazo. The Earth is not a perfect sphere because of flattening at the poles and bulging at the equator. This is what gave the title to Chimborazo, whose peak is the point on Earth furthest from the center of the Earth. And now you know.

[3] Pesach, YK, Brit Mila, getting out of the rain, climbing the mountain

The term B'ETZEM BAYOM HAZEH, on this very same day, is the common factor of the five items of this TTriddle. The phrase occurs with the Exodus, with Yom Kippur a few times, in Emor, which is why this is a TTriddle here in the first place, on the day Avraham Avinu circumcised himself, Yishmael, and the males of his household. It is used with No'ach and family going into the Teiva. And on the day Moshe Rabeinu ascended Har Haavarim at the end of his life in this world.

[4] Pesach, Sukkot, Midbar Sin, M60+

Fifteen in Hebrew comes in two forms - masculine: CHAMISHA ASAR and feminine: CHAMEISH ESREI. This TTriddle focuses on the masculine form and only in the Torah. Pesach and Sukkot are each on the 15th day of their respective months. The Torah tells us that the People arrived in Midbar Sin on the 15th of Iyar. And for males over 60 years old, their ERECH (this week's sedra of B'chukotai) is 15 sh'kalim.

[5] Oil, t'mei'im, t'midim, land, cities

TZAV ET B'NEI YISRA'EL, HaShem tells Moshe to command the Children of Israel... You might think that this phrase occurs many times in the Torah. No. Only five times. In Emor for taking olive oil for the Menora. In Naso, for sending various levels of T'mei'im (tamei people) out of different parts of the encampment. In Pinchas for the daily t'midim. In Mas'ei, twice. Once for the method of dividing up the Land after conquest. And again for the mitzva to

give cities to the Leviyim from each tribes land.

[6] On the first day and again almost 2/3 of the way through

On the first day of the Omer, i.e. the second day of Pesach, the Torah reading was from Emor and included the mitzva to count the Omer. We read it again last Shabbat, the 32nd day of the Omer. 32/49 = 65.3%, which is almost 2/3 of the way through the Omer counting.

[7] 8 sedras have 1 each, Emor has 2,

but Va'eira has 4!

The word EMOR occurs once each in eight sedras, twice in EMOR, and four times in Va'eira.

[8] Footer icons

Reading left to right, the first icon is a speech bubble, as in VAYOMER, EMOR, and V'AMARTA. Beginning of the sedra. $\frac{9}{16}$ is a fraction, in Hebrew, SHEVER. The word occurs four times towards the end of Emor, referring to fractures of arm and leg. It occurs in Mikeitz an additional three times, referring to the abundant food supplies in Egypt.

Just-for-fun challenge: How many convex polygons in a Magen David?

A polygon is a closed geometric figure whose sides are straight lines. Triangles and quadrilaterals (4-sided figures), pentagons, hexagons, octagons, and so on, are polygons. In Hebrew: מְצֻלָע

מְשֻׁלָשׁ, מְרֻבָּע, מְחֻמָשׁ, מְשֻׁשֶׁה, מְתֻמָן...

All internal angles of a convex polygon are less than 180° (all exterior angles are more than 180°. Another way of putting it is that all diagonals lie within the polygon. Convex, in Hebrew: קָמוּר

A Magen David is made of two triangles - which form a central hexagon with six small triangles fused to each side of the hexagon. So far, this gives us 9 polygons - 6 small triangles, two big ones, and the hexagon.

If we take the hexagon and fuse just one small triangle to one of its sides, we get a pentagon. See shape to the right. There are six of these pentagons, depending on which side the triangle is attached to.

If we attach two small triangles to opposite sides of the hexagon, we get a 4-sided figure, specifically, a rhombus. There are three rhombuses.

If we attach two small triangles, not opposite each other but with skipping one side between them, we get a different 4-sided figure, known as a trapezoid. There are six of these in a Magen David.

To the original 9 polygons, we've added 15, for a total of 24 convex polygons.

Summary of the convex polygons in a Magen David: 8 triangles, 9 quadri-laterals, 6 pentagons, 1 hexagon.

Example of a polygon that is not part of this challenge. It's a hexagon, but it's not convex.

★ This is a dodecagon (not convex)
✿ This is a hexagram.