

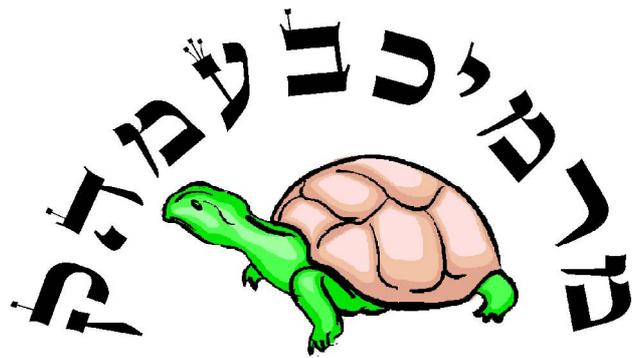
# B.A.S.H.

In the distant past, we had a once-in-a-while column called BASH. which stands for Banish Anti-halachic Shul Habits. Two issues ago, we raised the issue of AMEIN CHATUFA, the answering of AMEIN before the Baal T'fila finishes his bracha. This is very common on Chagim, which is why we reviewed the issue. Last week we briefly mentioned another bad habit, of singing along with the BK (Baal Kri'a or Baal Korei) as he finishes off an Aliya with a familiar ending. Pesach provided many good examples.

We in Israel had two times what in Chu"l they have three times - LO T'VASHEIL G'DI BACHALEV IMO. It was hard to hear the BK say those last words because of the choir he picks up from the kahal. The fact of the matter is, we all have to hear the entire Torah reading from the BK, who is reading from a Sefer Torah, and not from fellow congregants who are NOT reading from a Sefer Torah. In addition to the ending of Aliyot, we also have KA'EILEH, which attracts people to join in, and V'HAMAYIM LAHEM CHOMA (which we hear from the BK), and then MIMINAM UMISMO-LAM, which we don't get to hear from him. As tempting as it is to join in, try to resist.

**הַמְטִיחַר (11) • הַמְטִיחַר (1)**

That's the score: All in M'tzora. Eleven HAMITAHEIR, that's the person who is Tamei and is being purified. One HAMTAHEIR, describing the purifying kohen. Switching pronunciations changes the meaning.



Remember this logo... and the column it headed? It's been a while. But since Parshat Tazria is pictorially represented by the Tasmanian Devil and the Rhea, we decided to feature these two creations of HaShem.

The Tasmanian devil is a carnivorous marsupial... It was once native to mainland Australia and is now found in the wild only on the island state of Tasmania... The size of a small dog, largest carnivorous marsupial in the world following the extinction of the thylacine in 1936... stocky and muscular build, black fur, pungent odour, extremely loud and disturbing screech, keen sense of smell, and ferocity when feeding.

The rhea is a large ratites (flightless birds without a keel on their sternum bone)... native to South America, distant relative of the ostrich and emu. Three recognized extant species: the greater or American rhea, the lesser or Darwin's rhea, and the puna rhea... grey-brown plumage, long legs and long necks... For the most part, rheas are vegetarian and prefer broad-leafed plants but they also eat fruits, seeds and roots, as well as insects...