The Chicago Center
Digest
Mishna Berura
THE DAILY RESOURCE FOR MISHNA BERURA YOMI
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סימן רנ"ג סעיף ה'

Overview

Siman 253 Seif 5 (a):

It is permitted to place on Shabbos on the rim of a container of hot water a food that was fully cooked before Shabbos, e.g. פאנדי"ש or something similar, in order to warm it, since this is not the normal manner of cooking. However, it is certainly prohibited to insulate the pot beneath garments if the pot is on the container of hot water. It is also prohibited to place it on a kirah even if the coals were removed or covered since chazarah is only permitted in the manner described above. Some authorities permit one to place the food in a tanur that was used for baking before Shabbos. Since one did not insulate a food in the tanur but used it only for baking before Shabbos, all that remains is some residual heat and one need not be concerned that the food will cook as long as the food did not cool off entirely. Some authorities are stringent about this matter but if the heat in the tanur is yad soledes bo it is prohibited, see below siman 318.

- This is true even if the water is on a fire. (85)
- Although Shulchan Aruch maintains that liquids that cooled down can be recooked, it is permitted to place the פאנדי"ש over the hot water since it is a dry food that is not subject to be recooked even if it cooled down entirely. (M.B. 86)
- Since this is not the normal manner of cooking it does not appear as though one is cooking. If there is a large amount of fat that congealed, one should be stringent because it melts into a liquid and violates the prohibition of nolad as discussed by Rema in siman 318:16. (M.B. 87)
- It is prohibited to place the פאנדי"ש beneath garments with the hot water since insulating on Shabbos is prohibited even if the food is fully cooked and the insulating material does not add heat. (M.B. 88)
- Placing the food on a kirah is prohibited even if the food is still hot and shriveling would be detrimental. (M.B. 89)
- In other words, on Shabbos morning one places the food in the tanur so that the food will become heated. Since one only baked food in the tanur before Shabbos it retains only a small amount of heat and it does not appear as though one is cooking. The implication is that if one had insulated a food in the tanur before Shabbos it would be prohibited since it retains a significant amount of heat. According to Rema (above seif 2), however, the custom is to permit putting the food in the tanur although he does conclude that one should be stringent. (M.B. 90)
- The reason is that returning food into an oven is always prohibited regardless of how much heat is contained in the tanur since Chazal do not differentiate, however, the tanur must at least be yad soledes bo. (M.B. 92)
- It should say "שאם החם" rather than "ואם החם". (M.B. 93)

Halacha Highlight

Placing an empty utensil on a blech

Shulchan Aruch Siman 253 Seif 5 (a)

על פי קדרת חמין בשבת

To place on a pot of hot food on Shabbos

Shulchan Aruch rules that it is permitted for one to place on a pot of hot food a dry food (ע' מ"ב ס"ק פ"ו) that was fully cooked before Shabbos since placing food on a pot of food is not the normal manner of cooking and does not even give the appearance that one is cooking. Biur Halacha (סע' ג' ד"ה ויזהר) notes that Shulchan Aruch seems to contradict himself between two rulings. In seif 3, Shulchan Aruch ruled that after placing an empty utensil over the opening of a kirah one must still fulfill the prerequisites of chazarah in order to be permitted to place a pot of food on the empty utensil and yet in our seif Shulchan Aruch doesn't mention anything about having to fulfill the conditions of chazarah in order to be able to place a food on the hot pot of food. He references Pri Megadim who offers the following resolution. When one places an empty utensil over the opening of the kirah, all one accomplished is that the coals are considered to have been shoveled out or covered. However, since one is placing the food on the kirah the conditions of chazarah must be met. In contrast in our seif, Shulchan Aruch discusses placing food on a pot of food and since the upper pot of food is not on the kirah at all even the conditions of chazarah need not be satisfied and one may place a dry food on a pot of food even l'chatchila on Shabbos.

Poskim note that the issue with placing a pot of food over an empty utensil is limited to where the lower utensil rests over the fire without anything else intervening. However, if one covered the fire with a blech or is using a hotplate, there is no substantive difference between an empty utensil and a utensil that has food in it, and a dry food may be placed on an empty utensil on Shabbos (פסקי תשובות אות כ"ה).