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Digest
Mishna Berura
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סימן רע"א סעיף י"ג

Halacha Highlight

Drinking kiddush wine

Shulchan Aruch Siman 271 Seif 13
צריך לשתות מכוס של קדוש מלא לגמיו
One must drink from the cup of kiddush a m'lo lugmav

Shulchan Aruch (סע' י"ג) rules that one must drink at least a m'lo lugmav of wine from kiddush. This is defined as the quantity of wine that one could push into one side of one's mouth and cause it to appear full. It is not necessary for one to fill both of his cheeks with wine to fulfill the obligation. In the event that one does not drink this minimum quantity of wine he does not fulfill his obligation (מ"ב ס"ק ס"ד). Shulchan Aruch then relates that for average size people this quantity is approximately equal to the majority of a revi'is. M'lo lugmav for a larger person will adjust accordingly but regardless of a person's size it is not necessary to drink any more than a revi'is (מ"ב ס"ק ס"ח). Mishnah Berurah (שם) also emphasizes that one must drink this minimum quantity of wine without any interruption. In this context an interruption is defined as the amount of time it takes to drink a revi'is. B'dieved, as long as one does not delay from the beginning of his drinking until his finishes the minimum quantity the amount of time it takes to eat a pras he has fulfilled his obligation. If it took longer than this amount of time to drink the minimum quantity of wine he has not fulfilled his obligation.

Biur Halacha (ד"ה צריך לשתות) notes that Shulchan Aruch's use of the term צריך is a term that usually connotes a l'chatchila obligation and yet the commentators understand that it is essential to drink a m'lo lugmav to fulfill one's obligation. He answers that the choice of wording teaches that even l'chatchila it is sufficient for one to drink a m'lo lugmav and one is not required to eat any more. Rav Nissim Karelitz (חוט השני ח"ד פפ"ה סק"ו), however, maintains that drinking the entire kos endears the mitzvah and thus there is an advantage to drink the entire kos.

Overview

Siman 271 Seif 13:

One must drink a m'lo lugmav from the kos of kiddush which is the amount of wine one can push to one side of his mouth and it will appear full. It is approximately the majority of a revi'is.

- If one does not drink this amount he has not fulfilled his obligation. (M.B. 64)
- It requires a significant amount that will settle one's mind. (M.B. 65)
- This quantity is sufficient even if the kos held many revi'ios. (M.B. 67)
- A larger person must measure his m'lo lugmav according to his size but would not have to drink more than a revi'is. A revi'is is the amount of liquid one could pour into two eggs of an average size hen or an egg and a half including the shell. A log is six eggs so a quarter of that is an egg and a half. Some authorities are stringent regarding measurements since they claim that eggs shrunk to half the size they used to be in the time of Chazal, therefore a revi'is is double what it used to be. In the Biur Halacha he wrote that regarding kiddush at night one should be stringent and the kos should hold the volume of two eggs and when he drinks he should have a m'lo lugmav even though the kos is large. (M.B. 68)
- One must drink the m'lo lugmav without interruption, meaning from when one begins drinking until he finishes there should not be a delay of more than the time it takes to drink a revi'is and at the very least one should not pause more than the time it takes to eat a pras. (M.B. 68)