The Chicago Center
Digest
Mishna Berura
THE DAILY RESOURCE FOR MISHNA BERURA YOMI
Sun, Aug 27 2023 ■ י' אלול תשפ"ג
סימן ש"א סעיף כ"א-כ"ב

Overview

Siman 301 Seif 21:

One may not go out with a box, basket or mat on one's head but one may go out with a sackcloth garment, a curtain and a חמילה (A thick garment).

- These are burdens rather than garments. (M.B. 71)
- Since shepherds wear them during the rain it is considered a garment for everyone even if it is not raining. (M.B. 72)
- The implication of Shulchan is that one may not wear sackcloth material but some authorities permit wearing actual sackcloth. (M.B. 73)

Siman 301 Seif 22:

One may go out with a cotton pad or a sponge on a wound on Shabbos. Since they assist in the healing process they are like an adornment. The same is true concerning the peel of garlic or an onion or plaster, poultice or a compress on the wound. If these items fell off they may not be replaced and certainly one may not place them there in the first place. It is prohibited to wrap a string or thread around a wound and go out since they are a burden being that they do not heal. One may go out with a bandage tied over a compress so that it should not fall and may tie and untie it.

- Shulchan Aruch refers to where it was placed on the wound before Shabbos. (M.B. 74)
- אספלנית is a cloth with ointment placed on a wound. (M.B. 75)
- Returning it is the same as placing it there in the first place which is prohibited on Shabbos as a medical treatment. (M.B. 76)
- When Shulchan Aruch permits placing a bandage over a compress he referred to a bandage made from rags and thus is subordinate to the compress. Gra indicates that the restriction against using a string or thread is when they are wrapped around the cotton pad or sponge and due to the their importance are not subordinate but if the string or thread was wrapped around the wound directly it would be permitted to go out with it since it prevents the wound from becoming scratched. The implication is that he subscribes to this view as well. (M.B. 77)

Halacha Highlight

Wearing different clothing

Shulchan Aruch Siman 301 Seif 11
אבל יוצאים בשק וכו'
But one may go out in a sack etc.

Shulchan Aruch (סע' כ"א) rules that although one may not put a box, basket or mat over one's head for protection from rain since they are not worn in the manner of clothing, it is permitted to wear a sack, a sheet or a rough piece of cloth. The rationale, explains Mishnah Berurah (ס"ק ע"ב) is that it is common for shepherds to wear these items when it rains and since it is considered a garment for shepherds it is permitted for anyone to go out wearing them, even if it is not raining. This halacha establishes the principle that it is permitted for someone to go out wearing a garment that he does not normally wear as long as other people commonly wear it. Accordingly, Rav Shlomo Zalman Auerbach (שמירת שבת כהלכתה פי"ח הע' י"ט) wrote that it seems from this halacha that it should be permitted for someone who normally wears a long jacket to go out on Shabbos with a short jacket. Since there are people who wear short jackets it should be permitted for anyone to go out wearing such a jacket even though he does not normally wear a short jacket. Subsequently (שם ח"ג) he expresses hesitancy about this halacha. Since people will look at him strangely being that he is wearing a short coat perhaps there is reason to be concerned that he will take off the coat and transport it by hand.

Aruch HaShulchan (סע' ק"ח) rules that it is prohibited for one to go out wearing a talis on Shabbos night. He bases this ruling on the fact that it is uncommon for people to wear a talis outside on Shabbos night and thus it cannot be considered a garment at that time. Rav Shlomo Zalman Auerbach (שמירת שבת כהלכתה פי"ח הע' קנ"ז) asserts that it is permitted and explains that just as one is permitted to wear summer clothing during the winter even though that is not the time to wear those clothing, so too it should be permitted to wear daytime clothing (talis) at night even though that is not the time to wear that garment.