The Chicago Center
Digest
Mishna Berura
THE DAILY RESOURCE FOR MISHNA BERURA YOMI
Shabbos, Mar 2 2024 ■ כ"ב אדר א' תשפ"ד
סימן שכ"א סעיף י"ט

Halacha Highlight

Peeling vegetables with edible peels

Rema Siman 321 Seif 19

אסור לקלף שומים ובצלים כשקולף להניח

It is prohibited to peel garlic and onions if one's intent is to put aside the peeled vegetable for later

Rema rules that it is prohibited to peel garlic or onions on Shabbos if the intent is to put the peeled vegetable aside for later. However, if one peels them so that they could be consumed immediately, it is permitted. Mishnah Berurah (ס"ק פ"ג) explains that the issue at hand is selecting and since a prerequisite to permit selecting on Shabbos is to select for immediate use, when one peels the food for later use, it is prohibited. The allowance to peel a fruit immediately before eating, even though one is removing the refuse from the food, is that since there is no other way to access the food without removing the peel it is considered the normal manner of eating (ע' באור הלכה ד"ה לקלף). Therefore, any fruit or vegetable whose peel is not eaten may be peeled immediately before eating but not for later use. Regarding fruits and vegetables that have an edible peel, it is permitted to peel it even for later use on Shabbos. Interestingly, Mishnah Berurah (ס"ק פ"ד) categorizes apples as a fruit that may be peeled only if one eats the apple immediately indicating that he considers the peel of an apple to be something that people normally do not eat. Sha'ar HaTziyun (ס"ק צ"ז) references Pri Megadim who asserts that apple peels are commonly consumed and thus it should be permitted to peel them even for later use of the apple.

There is a dispute concerning the permissibility of using a peeler to peel fruits and vegetables whose peel is normally consumed. The lenient opinion maintains that as long as the peel is commonly eaten it is not considered an act of selecting at all and thus the restriction against selecting with a utensil used for selecting does not apply. Others disagree and contend that even though the peel is edible, one who peels the fruit to separate it from the food is performing an act of selecting and thus one may not use a utensil that is designed for selection (פסקי תשובות אות י"ד).

Overview

Siman 321 Seif 19:

If one crushed garlic, unripe grapes or ears of corn before Shabbos but they have not yet been pounded, it is prohibited to pound them on Shabbos. If they were not yet pulverized it is permitted to finish that task on Shabbos. Therefore, it is permitted to finish pulverizing grits with a wooden ladle in a pot on Shabbos after it was removed from the fire. It is permitted to smooth a food on Shabbos and does not constitute *memacheik* since it is possible to eat without smoothing it. It is prohibited to peel garlic and onions if one will peel it and place it down but if it will be eaten immediately, it is permitted (See above *siman* 319).

- Three steps are required to process foods that are pounded; crushing, pounding and pulverizing. (M.B. 76)
- One must be careful not to beat them vigorously. (M.B. 77)
- The reason is that it was already pounded in a mortar and it is fully cooked so all that is lacking is a small amount of pulverizing. (M.B. 78)
- If it is not possible to eat without smoothing it, one may not smooth it since Rabbinically tanning applies to foods. It may also be a violation of the Rabbinic injunction against smoothing and perhaps even for that meal it is prohibited. (M.B. 81)
- It is certainly permitted to smooth cooked apple, butter or fat on bread. (M.B. 82)
- If one opens plums and discards the hard pits to use the plums later has violated the prohibition against selecting. The same would be true concerning apples. If one eats the fruit immediately it is permitted and perhaps even for that meal it is permitted. (M.B. 84)