The Chicago Center
Digest
Mishna Berura
THE DAILY RESOURCE FOR MISHNA BERURA YOMI
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סימן שצ"ז סעיף א'-ד'

Overview

Siman 397 Seif 1:

Each person is assigned two thousand *amos* in each direction besides the four *amos* where he is standing or from the place of his residence.

- Two thousand *amos* is a Rabbinic enactment and there is a dispute whether it is Biblically prohibited to travel beyond 12 *mil*. (M.B. 1)
- From where one is standing he is permited to travel 2004 *amos*. (M.B. 2)

Siman 397 Seif 2

If Shabbos began while one is in a field and he does not know how far his *techum* Shabbos extends, he may walk two thousand (average sized) **steps which will conclude at the *techum* Shabbos.**

- This is besides his four *amos*. (M.B. 4)
- It is a circumstance in which there is a necessity to travel on Shabbos and that is why measuring is permitted. (M.B. 5)

Siman 397 Seif 3:

Just as a person may not walk more than two-thousand *amos* in any direction on Shabbos or Yom Tov, so too, his utensils and animals may not be taken by another person beyond their owner's two thousand *amos*. If the owner made an *eruv* in one direction, no one may take his items in the other direction even one footstep beyond where the owner is permitted to travel. See above the end of *siman* 305 whether it is permitted to give an animal to a gentile when there is a concern that he will take it beyond the owner's *techum*.

- This includes any items associated with him. (M.B. 7)
- It explains there that it is permitted. Although there are authorities who adopt a stringent position, common custom is to be lenient but it is prohibited to instruct him to transport it beyond the *techum*. (M.B. 9)

Siman 397 Seif 4:

If one gives his animal to his son, it is confined by the father's domain.

- Many authorities disagree and contend that a son is no better than another person and thus if he regularly gives his son his animals it is the same as giving an animal to one's shepherd where even if it was given to him on Shabbos the animal takes the *techum* of the shepherd. (M.B. 10)

Halacha Highlight

The clothing of one who goes beyond the *techum* on a life-saving mission

Shulchan Aruch Siman 397 Seif 3

כך כליו ובהמתו

The same is true concerning his utensils and animals

Shulchan Aruch (סע' ג') rules that just like a person may not travel on Shabbos or Yom Tov more than two-thousand *amos* in each direction, so too, his utensils and animals may not be transported, even by others beyond the *techum* of the owner. Mishnah Berurah (סק"ז) clarifies that Shulchan Aruch does not refer specifically to utensils and animals; rather anything that a person owns is limited to the *techum* in which he is permitted to travel. He further clarifies that Shulchan Aruch refers to Yom Tov during which there is no prohibition of transporting objects and the only prohibition is transporting it outside of the *techum,* because on Shabbos it would be prohibited to transport an object beyond its four *amos*. Alternatively, Shulchan Aruch refers to clothing that one is wearing so that it is not subject to the prohibition of transporting but is subject to the prohibition of being transported out of the owner's *techum*, since a person's garments are subject to his *techum*.

Poskim discuss what happens to a person's clothing when he must travel beyond the *techum* to save someone's life. Do his clothing adopt his allowance to go beyond the *techum,* or do they retain their original restriction to remain within their owner's *techum*? Rav Shlomo Zalman Auerbach (מנחת שלמה ח"א סי' ט"ו) reasons that a person's possessions should be categorized the same as the person. Consequently, if the person was permitted to travel beyond the *techum* for a life-saving mission his possessions are also permitted to go beyond the *techum*. Furthermore, after the mission is complete just as we now consider the person to be a resident of the location where the mission was performed and is granted two thousand *amos* in each direction, so too his clothing are treated as though they took up residence in this new location and may be transported two thousand *amos* in every direction.