The Chicago Center
Digest
Mishna Berura
THE DAILY RESOURCE FOR MISHNA BERURA YOMI
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סימן תנ"ט סעיף א'

Overview

<u>Siman 459 Seif 1:</u>

We do not knead the dough in the sun and on a cloudy day it is prohibited to knead the dough anywhere under the sky, because on a cloudy day the sunshine is everywhere. For this reason the custom is not to knead the dough near an open window even if the sun is not there out of concern that it will become cloudy and one will not take note of that fact. One must also be cautious not to transport matzos to the oven under the open sky and the same is true regarding the water and the flour. **One should not knead the dough near the oven due to the heat of the oven.**

- The sun heats the dough and causes it to leaven. There is a disagreement whether one must be in the shade or just not in the direct light. (M.B. 1)
- There is a disagreement whether there is a concern to knead dough in front of a glass window and the custom is to cover the window with a sheet. (M.B. 2)
- The sun spreads its heat all over on a cloudy day. During bein heshemashos this is not a concern. (M.B. 4)
- Outside it is permitted to knead since we are confident that a person will realize if it becomes cloudy but when one is inside we are concerned that he will not pay attention. (M.B. 5)
- It should be covered with a cloth. One should not reuse the cloth out of concern that some dough adhered to it. (M.B. 7)
- Meaning the sacks are open on top. (M.B. 8)
- Later authorities elaborate on this and maintain that one may not knead dough in a room where a winter oven was burning that day. If it was kindled one must open the door to cool down the room. The same is true regarding a regular oven and if one is baking in the room where they are kneading the dough they must open the doors and windows to cool down the room. (M.B. 9)
- The halacha regarding one who kneads in front of the oven is discussed in seif 5. (M.B. 10)
- People must be cautious when preparing to place the matzah in the oven not to delay or become distracted since it could cause the dough to become chometz. Caution is also needed regarding the sticks that are used to place the matzos in and take the matzos out of the oven since they become heated. (M.B. 10)

Halacha Highlight

<u>Kneading dough in front of a closed window</u>

Shulchan Aruch Siman 459 Seif 1
אין לשין במקום השמש
Dough should not be kneaded in the sunshine

Shulchan Aruch writes that one should not knead dough in a spot where there is sunshine. The reason is that the sun will warm the dough and cause it to leaven more quickly. Later authorities disagree whether it is permitted to knead dough near the sunshine. Chok Yaakov asserts that it is permitted to knead dough anywhere except where the sunshine hits it directly. Others maintain that one may not knead dough even near the sunshine and kneading must be done in the shade (מ"ב סק"א). On a cloudy day, it is prohibited to knead dough anywhere under the sky since on a cloudy day the sunshine is everywhere. Rema takes this a step further and writes that one should be cautious and avoid kneading dough in front of an open window even if the window does not face the sun. The reason is that it may turn cloudy outside so that the sunshine is everywhere and being that he is inside it will not occur to him that he should move away from the window.

Mishnah Berurah (סק"ב) cites the opinion of Chok Yaakov concerning a window that is closed. He writes that one need not be stringent when the window is closed even when the sun is shining in the window. However, many other authorities adopt a stringent position concerning this matter and contend that the sunshine burns through the glass of the window as well. Therefore, the custom is to cover the window with sheets when the sun is shining. Interestingly, when discussing transporting water, Chok Yaakov ruled (ע' מ"ב סי' תנ"ה ס"ק י"ג) that if the container is made of glass one should cover the top and the sides of the container to keep the sun from warming the water and yet in our halacha he ruled that the sun will not heat the dough that is kneaded in front of the window. The difference is that the glass container will become heated from the sun and that will heat the water. In our halacha even if the glass becomes heated since the dough is not in contact with the glass it will not become heated and remains unaffected.