

The אָמָרָא traces the major events that happened to the Jewish people during the era of exile from the Land of Israel.

A timeline below shows these events beginning with the rise of Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon. In the middle of the timeline are the years from Nebuchadnezzar's rise to power.

From Babylon to Purim: A Timeline

Years from

0

1

8

19

45

67

69

76

3320 (440 BCE) King יָהויָקִים (Jehoiakim) of Judah

comes under Nebuchadnezzar's rule

3338 (422 BCE)

First Temple is destroyed. King צדקיהו (Zedekiah) blinded and exiled

3364 (396 BCE)

Nebuchadnezzar dies. His son, Evil-Merodach becomes King of Babylon.

3388 (372 BCE)

Belshazzar has a feast with the vessels of the Holy Temple. He is killed that night

Nebuchadezzar's reign

3319 (441 BCE)

Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon, begins his reign

3327 (433 BCE)

"Exile of יָהויַכִין (Jehoiachin)" Greatest Jewish scholars and leaders exiled to Babylon

Did You Know...

We are told that אֲחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ ruled over "seven and twenty and one hundred countries" (see אסתר א,א Es. 1,1). Why doesn't the verse simply say "127 countries?" רַב חְסָדָא explains that in the beginning of his rule, אֲחַשְׁוֵרוֹש ruled over only seven counties, later he ruled over another twenty countries and later still he ruled over another hundred.

3386 (374 BCE)

Belshazzar becomes last Babylonian king

3395 (365 BCE)

אחשורוש (Ahasureus) of Persia-Mede has a feast with the vessels of the Holy Temple.

DAF YOMI 4 KIDS

Evil-שוֹחַשָּׁהַשָּׁרוֹש (Ahasureus)

Where does the name of the Persian-Median king, אַחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ (Ahasuerus) come from?

רַב `explains that the name comes from the two words, "אָחִיוי" (brother of) and "רָאשׁ" (head). The reason for the name is because אֲחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ was the brother of

was the brother of E Babylonian king Nebuchadnezzar who was called a "head of gold" (see דניאל ב, לח, Dan. 2, 38).

He also had the same character as the "head" since both rulers had their eyes set on destroying the בִית הַמְקָדָשׁ (Holy Temple).



Games

Review Questions – מְגִיּלָה דַּף י"א

1. How many years after Nebuchadnezzar's rise to power did אֲקשׁנֵרוֹשׁ have his feast?

2. Give an explanation for the origin of the name, "אַחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ."

3. How many countries did אֲחַשְׁנֵרוֹש rule over in the beginning of his reign?



אַחַשָּׁואֵל says the name שָׁמוּאֵל is a rearrangement of the words "אֲחַשְׁורוֹש" (fire) and "שָׁחוֹר" (black). This is because the faces of the Jews who lived in his time became as dark as a pot whose bottom has been blackened by fire!

רְבִּי חֲנִינָא says the name c-

omes from the fact that everyone became נאָשָין (poor) in his days since he made a new tax.

A-DITD-Moment

Hiram felt pretty high about himself. He had won a debate with his teacher, Rabbi Unterblatt.

Later that day, Hiram's friend, Jeremy told him of something Rabbi Unterblatt had said.

"Oh, what does Rabbi Unterblatt know anyway?" said Hiram. "I can win an argument with him any day!"

"We are told that, when he was young, King David would belittle himself in front of those greater than him in Torah knowledge. Even when he was king he belittled himself before those greater than him in wisdom. It didn't matter to King David that he was king; he was still humble enough to belittle himself before those who were greater," said Jeremy.



How many words from the ๆ<u>า</u> can you spell with these letters? (you may use a letter more than once!)

