

The גְּמֵרָא talks about the following case:

There were three brothers and two sisters. Two of the brothers married the two sisters and then died childless. We know that the living brother cannot perform יבוֹם (levirate marriage) with both sisters since the Torah forbids marrying two sisters. But can he marry one of them?

רֵב הוּנָא says (in the name of רֲב הוּנָא) that the living brother performs חֲלִיצָה (taking off

the shoe) with both the sisters. When he does, they are free to marry whomever they choose. If one of the sisters dies, he would be allowed to perform יבוּם with the living sister.

תַבִּי יוֹחָנֵן agrees that the living brother performs חֲלִיצָּה with each sister. But he may perform יְבוּם only with the sister whose husband died *first* and only after the death of the sister whose husband died second.

## A-חודף Moment

"Hey, let's go down the other street," said Yuri. "There's someone collecting money for the poor down this street. It's a good cause but I don't want to give him any money. If we go down another street I won't have to see him and give him anything!"

"You shouldn't look for opportunities to escape doing a מַצֵוָה (commandment)," said Mendel.

"If the living brother chooses to not perform חֲלִיצָּח, he performs חֲלִיצָּח, a shoe removal ceremony where the widow removes his shoe and spits at him. This is to embarrass him that he did not want to perform the commandment of מִצְנָח and continue on his family's legacy. We should take this as a lesson for all of our lives; when there is an opportunity to perform a מִצְנָח, we shouldn't shrug it aside. That would be shameful. We should seize the opportunity to do what is right and proper."

(אברבנאל)

Divorce after מְצְבֶּ Marriage

The Sages made a rule that before יבום (levirate marriage) could be performed, a marriage ceremony must first take place. This marriage ceremony is called מָאַמֶּר (which means "statement" since it was a statement of the Sages that created it). מְאַמֶּר involves the living brother giving his brother's widow an item worth a certain amount (like a wedding ring).

Let's say that after the יָבֶּם (living brother) performed מְאֲמָר, he decided that he wants to divorce his brother's widow. What does he have to do?

The גָּט would have to give the widow a גָּט (divorce document) the same way a regular married woman would need a גַּט to be divorced. Since is like marriage, it must be ended like a marriage, with a אַמָּר

Even after giving the widow a גָּט, the brother would still have to perform אָליצָה with her before she would be allowed to remarry.





## Did You Know...

If the two sisters who are now widows (see diagram, pg.61) each had a co-wife, חֲלִיצָּה to the co-wives would allow both the co-wives and the sisters to remarry.

## !בָמוֹת דַּף כ"ז – Review Questions

- 1. If two brothers married two sisters and died, with whom does the living brother perform בּבּרם??
- 2. If one performed מָאֵמֶר, what must be done to end the "marriage"?
- 3. If two sisters have co-wives, with whom may חֲלִיצָה be performed for the sisters to remarry?



## REBUS FUN!

Sound out the pictures to find the word.

