

## Inside the Daf

Before a Jewish man marries a non-Jewish woman she must convert to Judaism. Her conversion must be done willingly; the man may not force her to convert.

But there's a case where a man may force a non-Jewish woman to convert. That is the case of a **יפת תואר** which literally means, a "beautiful woman."

A **יפת תואר** is an idolatress who is captured from battle by a Jewish soldier. He may bring her home and take her as his wife after she immerses in a **מקוה** (ritual bath) to convert to Judaism, even without her agreement. But not so fast. Before he marries her the Torah says she must shave her head, remove her attractive clothing, sit in her house and cry over her parents for 30 days. **רבי עקיבא** says she cries over the idols she may no longer worship once she marries the Jewish soldier. **רבי שמעון בן אלקעזר** says she cries for 90 days.

All of these actions are done to make the **יפת תואר** unattractive.

Finally, the Torah says she must "make" her fingernails. What does this mean? **רבי עקיבא** says she must grow her fingernails long. This makes her more unattractive. **רבי אליעזר** disagrees. Rather, he says, she must remove her fingernails just as she removes her hair.

THE **יפת תואר** ("BEAUTIFUL WOMAN")

1. SHAVED HEAD



2. GROW NAILS



3. CHANGE CLOTHES



4. CRY FOR 30 DAYS

WORD OF THE DAY:

מוֹתָר

"PERMITTED"

# The Suffering Of Converts



The גמרא discusses the causes for the suffering of converts. According to רבי (רפון גמליאל), if a convert is poor it is because before they converted, they were not careful to keep the commandments that every

non-Jew must keep, the Seven Noahide Laws.

רבי disagrees with רבי חנניא. A non-Jew who converts is like a newborn child, free from sin upon converting. Therefore, Hashem will not punish them on account of sins they did before becoming Jewish.

Instead, רבי says that if a convert is not careful in performing all of the Torah's commandments, the convert will suffer on account of this.

אבא חנן says that converts who suffer do so because they serve Hashem out of fear of punishment and not out of love.

Some explain that converts suffer if they didn't convert as soon as they decided to and delayed "coming under the wings of Hashem's Presence."

## A Moment

"Mom," said Duvi, "I've decided to volunteer to tutor younger students at school during lunchtime."

"That's wonderful, Duvi," his mother said. "When do you start?"

"I don't know. When I feel like it. Maybe in a few months."

"Don't wait too long, Duvi," said his mother. "A convert may be punished for not converting fast enough once they decided to become Jewish. Imagine being punished just because you didn't do the right thing fast enough! Once you've made up your mind to something good, started right away!"



## Did You Know...

רות (Ruth) received a full reward because she converted to Judaism without delay.

## Games

### יבמות דף מ"ח – Review Questions

1. List an action the יפת תואר (Beautiful Woman) must do to make herself unattractive.

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Give a reason why a convert might suffer.

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Why did רות (Ruth) receive a full reward?

\_\_\_\_\_

## SUDOKU

Place the pictures of the four actions a יפת תואר must do so that there is only one of each in each column and row
