

כליא -

Overview

The משנה states regarding the distancing of an oven from the wall that it is three טפחים from the כליא, which turns out to be four טפחים from the שפה. It is evident that the כליא protrudes out a טפה from the שפה. There is a dispute between רש"י and תוספות as to how to interpret כליא.

פירש' רבינו חננאל בטן' דתנור צר מלמטה ובאמצעיתו מרחיב ובולט ויוצא כשיעור טפה -
The ר"ח explained that כליא means the 'stomach', for the oven is narrow at the bottom and in the middle (of its height) it widens and protrudes the size of a טפה -
ומאמצעיתו מיצר ועולה:

And from the middle it narrows as it rises to the top (or rim) of the oven.

Summary

כליא is the middle of the oven which protrudes a טפה (like a stomach).

Thinking it over

Is there any advantage in the פר"ח over פרש"י, or vice versa?

¹ cites the פר"ח as opposed to ד"ה ואת פרש"י who explains that כליא refers to the slanted base of the oven, which is wider on the bottom by a טפה compared to the top of the base. [Perhaps it is called כליא because the oven ends there.]

² This protrusion is called a stomach for by (many) people the stomach usually protrudes.