But we learnt four Ahmois

– אנן תנן ארבע אמות

OVERVIEW

The גמרא asked how can רב ייבא say that distance from the windows is the width of the window, when in our משנה it states that one must distance his wall from the windows דו משנה. Our ווספות justifies and clarifies this question:

דמתניתין איירי נמי מן הצד¹ כיון דלא חייש לדוושא² אלא משום חלונות:

For our משנה is also discussing a case where the new wall is perpendicular to the wall with the windows. We know this to be so, since our משנה is not concerned for אשנה, it is only concerned because of the windows, and nevertheless it requires די אמות.

SUMMARY

The משנה mentions הלונות, indicating that the distancing is not for דוושא.

THINKING IT OVER

הוספות is apparently convinced that the reason of הרחקה in the משנה is not because of משנה Why then was it necessary for the גמרא to challenge רבא (who offered the reason of אורייתא) from a ברייתא, when the גמרא could have asked from our משנה?!

¹ Seemingly what is the אמות question. Perhaps our משנה is discussing parallel walls where ד' is required for and the אמות, and the ברייתא (which רב ייבא explains) is regarding perpendicular walls, where there is no דוושא and the only concern is שלא יאפיל for which רוחב החלון is sufficient.

² The distancing in our משנה is not because of דוושא, for if it was for דוושא, why mention windows at all. Obviously there is no concern for מן הצד (for they are not parallel), merely for שלא יאפיל (even when it is מן הצד and nevertheless it requires distancing of אמות 'v which contradicts the view of רב ייבא. See 'Thinking it over'.

³ See footnote # 2.

⁴⁴ See מהרש"א.