

## אתו אומני ויתבי תותייהו –

### The blood drawers came and sat underneath them

#### OVERVIEW

The גמרא relates that רב יוסף owned date palms and the אומנים (those who draw blood) would sit under these trees and do their work there. Ravens would come there, on account of the blood and the ravens would then settle on the trees and ruin the dates. רב יוסף wanted to chase the אומנים away, so אבי asked him, ‘the אומנים are merely a גרמא’,<sup>1</sup> so why should they be required to leave. תוספות clarifies the situation

בקרקע שלהן היו יושבין<sup>2</sup> ולא בקרקע של רב יוסף מדפריך בתר הכי והא<sup>3</sup> גרמא הוא:

These אומנים were sitting on their own land, and not on s'רב יוסף land, since אבי subsequently challenged רב יוסף saying, ‘but it is merely a גרמא’ so how can you be justified in sending them away.

#### SUMMARY

The אומנים did their work on their own land.

#### THINKING IT OVER

The גמרא later argues that the אומנים should have a right to continue there since, והא אחזיק להו<sup>4</sup>; meaning they have a חזקה. Why therefore is it necessary to say that it was their land, we can say it was s'רב יוסף land, and nevertheless he could not remove them since והא אחזיק להו<sup>4</sup>!

<sup>1</sup> They are only an indirect cause of the damage which was done by the ravens not by the אומנים.

<sup>2</sup> The trees were certainly on s'רב יוסף land. However immediately adjacent to the trees (perhaps even under the extended branches) the land belonged to the אומנים. Therefore רב יוסף could not send them away for they were not on his property.

<sup>3</sup> If however they were sitting on s'רב יוסף land, obviously he has the right to chase them away, therefore we must conclude that the אומנים were practicing their craft on their own land.

<sup>4</sup> See נחלת משה.