- כריא פתיא

OVERVIEW

The גמרא states that even the רבנן must participate (financially) in כריא פתיא, which interprets to mean digging water cisterns for the (community and) travelers. means digging, and the cistern is referred to as פתיא since the drinking utensil (which was always in the cistern [to enable the travelers to drink]) is called a פתיא Our תוספות cites an alternate interpretation.

פירש רבינו חננאל להסיר² גבשושית מרחוב³ העיר:

The ר"ה interpreted כריא פתיא to mean, the removal an [obstructive] mound from the city street.

SUMMARY

כריא פתיא means either digging a cistern (רש"י) or street leveling (ר"ח).

THINKING IT OVER

- 1. Which כריא פתיא should be more required of the רבנן to participate in, that of רש"י or of the ר"ה?
- 2. How would the ר"ח explain כריא mentioned previously in the גמרא? 4
- 3. What are the relative advantages of פרש"י ור"ה respectively?

¹ See רש"י ברכות נ,א ד"ה פתיא which states פתיא. <u>כלי חרס</u> כדאמר (ע"ז ד' לג:) הני פתיותא דבי מכסי

 $^{^{2}}$ כריא would mean (digging and) removing the גבשושית.

אל תוך יעב"ץ that the יעב"ן יג,יז) אל הוד רחבה (דברים (ראה) אל is לגו פתיא אס פתיא here means the street (רחוב).

⁴ See נח"מ.