Thirteen categories of damages

– שלשה עשר אבות נזיקין

OVERVIEW

רבי אושעיא taught that there are thirteen אבות נזיקין. One would assume that each of these נזיקין operates with different rules. That is what distinguishes one from the other. אווספות will disabuse us of this notion.

ודיניהם י"ב דשוכר כשומר שכר¹ הוי או כשומר חנם² הוי:

And these thirteen אבות נזיקין have (only) twelve different types of rules (not thirteen); for the rules concerning a renter (who is counted among the י"ג אבות are either like a paid custodian, or like an unpaid custodian. The שוכר has no distinct rules of his own.

SUMMARY

A שוכר is either like a ש"ש or a ה"ש.

THINKING IT OVER

What distinguishes the thirteen ר' אושעיא one from another?

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 $^{^{1}}$ A שומר שכר is liable for גניבה גניבה and is exempt from אונסין.

² A שומר חנם is liable only for פשיעה and is exempt (even) from גניבה ואבידה. There is a מולוקת between "מ, whether a ש"ע or a ה"ש. [It is also not clear what are the individual views of ר"מ.]