

And the river dried up at noon

ופסק נהרא בפלגא דיומא –

Overview

רבא ruled regarding a person who hired workers to irrigate his field from a (nearby) river. However at noon the river dried up and they could not finish irrigating his land.¹ תוספות explains why here רבא mentions that it dried up at noon (as opposed to the other cases where he does not mention when it rained or when it flooded), and why specifically at noon.

הכא נקט פלגא דיומא משום דבפלגא דיומא עביד דפסיק טפי -

רבא mentions here, 'at noon', because by noon time it is more likely for the river to dry up (than in the night) -

על ידי שדולין ממנו להשקות השדות:

on account that all the farmers are drawing water from the river to irrigate the fields.

Summary

Rivers tend to dry up during midday if it is used for irrigation.

Thinking it over

1. After reading תוספות explanation, is there any reason to lean either towards פסידא or רבא חידוש, in the case of פלגא דיומא, and the פסידא דפועלים or דבעה"ב that we do not?
2. When רבא states 'וכו' עביד דפסק or 'וכו' לא עביד וכו', did he mean generally, or specifically בפלגא דיומא?

¹ The ruling was that if it is unusual for this river to dry up, it is פסידא דפועלים; however if it dries up frequently it is פסידא דבעה"ב.