

We should eat the entire sixth hour

ניכול כולה שית –

OVERVIEW

Our משנה stated that (all agree that) חמץ is not eaten on the sixth hour (even though the obligation of תשביתו begins after six hours have passed; from the seventh hour onwards). Presumably the reason is since people may mistake the seventh hour for the sixth hour. The גמרא asks that ר"מ (according to the איבוי of לישנא קמא) maintains that the עדים do not err at all, then why is it necessary to be concerned of an error by חמץ. It should be permitted to eat חמץ the entire sixth hour. The implication based on this question is that the חמץ will first be burnt after six hours have passed. תוספות negates this assumption.



לאו דוקא כולה שית דהא צריך לשרוף תוך שש:

It does not mean precisely the entire sixth hour (that חמץ be kept and eaten for the entire ששית שעה), **for it is necessary to burn the חמץ during the sixth hour**¹. Therefore the מקשן did not actually mean that we should be permitted to eat חמץ the entire sixth hour, rather he meant that one should be permitted to eat חמץ up to the time when he intends to burn it (before the seventh hour when it is אסור מדאורייתא to have חמץ in our possession). There should be no איסור חמץ during the sixth hour out of concern of a mistake.

SUMMARY

The questioner never intended that the חמץ be burnt after הצות; rather he meant חמץ should be permitted up to slightly before הצות.

THINKING IT OVER

1. According to תוספות that the question ניכול כולה שית does not mean כולה שית but rather כוליה שית less (at least) a משהו (to burn the חמץ) then what is the difference between the question of ניכול כולה שית and the following question of ניכול עד סוף שית?²
2. Does the חמץ of פסוק (which is referring to הצות) mean that when הצות arrives one is obligated to perform תשביתו; or that when הצות arrives the חיוב of תשביתו should have already been fulfilled?³

¹ Once the seventh hour has arrived, which is after הצות, we are not permitted to have חמץ in our possession. See 'Thinking it over' # 2.

² See ח"ב אות קיט and ראש יוסף.

³ See ח"ב אות קכ and אור חדש.