

בעזהש"ת

KEREN

Almunahs V'Yesomim

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Convenient tips & guidance for
our dear families, for the
upcoming הייליגע טעג and Yom
tov, שמיני עצרת, שמחת תורה -
Zman Simchuseini.

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A brief translation from the Yiddish letter
mailed by הרב אברהם לויפער שליט"א to all
Almunahs, including those that are not
benefiting from the Keren.

אלול תשפ"ה לפ"ק

Important Request

We will send a set of arba minim to all families who received this letter for Yom Tov Sukkot.

In the past, some families requested not to receive the set, and we removed them from our list for the following year. However, we have received feedback from many families expressing disappointment about not receiving the set. Some felt too embarrassed to ask for it.

This year, we will send the set to every family on our list, even if they previously indicated that they do not need it.

If any family does not want to receive the set for any reason, please call us to let us know. This will ensure that families who want the set can receive it without having to go through the process of calling.

For those families who do not need the arba minim, please call our office at 718-782-5349 Ext. #3, then press #3, and leave a message indicating that you do not wish to receive the set. Thank you for your cooperation!

Dear Families,

Our gratitude to *Hashem* is boundless, for He enables us to continue the vast chesed endeavors initiated by my highly esteemed father, ***Rabbi Shulem Laufer zt"l***, a beloved emissary of the ***Satmar Rebbe zt"l***.

We are now entering the ninth year ה'תשפ"ט since we founded and expanded the ***Keren Almanos V'Yesomim***. The Keren now provides abundance and הרחבת הדעת for **3,157 distinguished families** throughout the year and particularly for *Shabbos* and *Yom Tov*.

May Hashem grant us good health, *siyata d'shmaya*, and a sweet, prosperous year for all our families.

תחל שנה וברכותיה וימלא ה' כל משאלות לבכם לטובה ולברכה אמן

We have received thoughtful letters of appreciation from many grateful families. All of them, in their own way, share the relief, הרחבת הדעת, and *leichtigkeit* that the *Keren* provides for them. These letters give us tremendous *chizuk* to continue with our vast operation.

Families who do not have accounts set up yet

Families who do not yet have accounts set up at fish stores and butchers can call our office at 718-782-5349

ext. 3 and then 1, and we will set up your account so you can comfortably purchase all your Yom Tov needs.

Orders *Lekovod Yom Tov*

The month of *Tishrei* is ahead of us, the time of year when our needs are greatly multiplied. We want to remind our families that they can shop and prepare in abundance for this festive and joyous season and celebrate it as a true שמחתינו זמן.

We have set the standard for chicken and meat at 50% of each per order. The same applies now as well when shopping for *Yom Tov*, where it says אין שמחה אלא בבשר.

We ask you to abide by this amount of half of the total purchase for beef and the rest for chicken/turkey. For example, if your order totals \$150, you can spend \$75 on cuts of meat/beef and the remaining \$75 for chicken/turkey, and if your order is \$300, it can be \$150 for meat/beef and \$150 for chicken/turkey.

While we understand that some families can use more than that, we follow the mandate of ריבוי השמן - too much oil can extinguish the candle. To continue our *Avodas Hakodesh* successfully, we ask that you please shop responsibly. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation, as we currently support over two thousand accounts.

Please do not refrain from inviting your

married children and their families. You can buy בהרחה for all your guests who are coming to celebrate Yom Tov together.

New and Improved Guidelines for Purchasing Meat

We have heard from many families that adhering to the 50% limit on meat purchases is exceedingly tricky. It requires calculating the price of every package while shopping and families who place phone orders don't see the prices when placing them.

Many women called to ask if they could repay the difference, which they only saw after receiving their invoices. We appreciate their responsibility and did not ask them to pay anything. We decided to try finding a more manageable way to keep meat purchases within limits without putting undue stress on our families.

With Yomtov approaching and families buying larger quantities of meat, we spoke with many of our vendors and families and have decided on the following improved and easier-to-follow guidelines.

Weekdays

We allow chicken and turkey on weekdays, as much as needed, according to the family's size.

Shabbos

For Shabbos, you can purchase chicken, turkey, and standard types of meat, usually costing \$15-25 per

package. You can buy the same quantity of each. (2 packages of chicken or turkey and 2 packages of meat.)

For families who didn't use so much for shabbos and they prefer to use only meat on Shabbos, we allow to purchase one or two packages of standard meat (\$15-25 per package) without taking additional chicken or turkey.

Yomtov

You can buy whatever you need for Yomtov meals, including equal quantities of chicken/turkey and meat. (3 packages chicken/turkey and 3 packages meat, or 4 packages chicken/turkey and 4 packages meat. If you are placing a larger order for yomtov, you can order 10 packages of chicken/turkey and 10 packages of standard meat ranging from approximately \$15-25 per package.)

If you buy an expensive cut of meat for Yomtov (around \$100), the cost should be calculated as five packages of less expensive meat and you can buy five packages of chicken or turkey accordingly.

If you abide by these guidelines, you can rest assured that you are using Keren appropriately and that you don't need to worry about purchasing too much. We hope these guidelines will make shopping a more pleasant experience for all families

Fundamental Rule: The Goal of the Keren is for the mother to Run Her Home

As we approach the upcoming tishrai, and the families are preparing to buy large orders of the fish and meat,

we again clarify that we established the Keren to help mothers run their homes abundantly and that anything cooked and used by the mother's household can be purchased on our account.

As mentioned previously, you can invite your married children and other relatives, and you can order as much as you need for Shabbos and Yom Tov – **since this is included in the mother's household.**

No Purchasing for Married Children

Although parents often want to help their children who are struggling financially, but as mentioned that the Keren are established to help mothers run their homes, so we cannot allow ordering fish or chicken for your married children on the accounts.

Also we often get phone calls with questions regarding various situations, for neighbors, friends, relatives, or for Simchas, and what the Keren can be used for, we clarify once again **whatever the mother cooks at home can be purchased on our account.**

When a Mother Goes to Her Child for Yomtov

The families **who have married off all their children** and the children are inviting their mother for Yom Tov, they cannot place an order on the mother's account.

However, if the mother is cooking some of the food to take along, she may purchase that on our account.

This follows the rule that whatever the mother cooks at home, she can buy on our account, but she cannot buy for her children to cook in their homes.

Families with Children Going Away for Yomtov

Families who still have **unmarried children** living at home, and are going to a married child or other relatives for Yom Tov, they can buy their orders and have them delivered to the family where they are going.

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Guidelines for use of the Keren

1. You can purchase your butcher order divided in half, 50% of the purchase worth of meat and 50% of poultry. The other option, as outlined above, is to purchase only chicken and turkey for the weekday's, and to purchase for Shabbos and Yom tov both meat and poultry, an equal amounts of packages of each, in which case you don't have to calculate the 50/50 cost. (Meat should be of the standard variety costing around \$15-25 per package.)
2. The meat you purchase is for Shabbos and Yom Tov only.
3. You can purchase your fish order for Shabbos and Yom Tov only and not for the weekdays. You may cook enough for Shabbos to have some left over after Shabbos.
4. You can purchase the fish for Shabbos from the following selection:
1. Salmon 2. Whitefish 3. Carp 4. Gefilte fish
5. You cannot purchase takeout or ready-to-cook items on our account.

6. You cannot place orders of fish, meat, or chicken for your married children.

Clarification regarding cold cuts

We have set up the Keren to include the purchase of cold cuts. However, we ask you to use the account to buy prepackaged cold cuts only of the following varieties:

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Chicken salami | 4. Beef franks |
| 2. Beef salami | 5. Turkey roll |
| 3. Chicken franks | 6. Turkey pastrami |

Please do not buy any other cold cuts or takeout on our account.

Review receipts as though you paid the bill.

Keren Almanos pays the bills every three months. Upon reviewing receipts before our last payment, we noticed several accounts that were significantly higher than usual. It turned out that there were billing errors that went unnoticed.

Since the Keren pays these bills, customers do not usually review them.

Mistakes can happen in stores during checkout or packing orders.

We discussed this with our vendors, and they say that generally, customers who notice an error on their receipt will call the store and ask for credit.

Beneficiaries of the Keren, however, do not always review their receipts and are unaware of possible mistakes. We cannot review orders to determine that they were filled correctly, and the Keren pays for billing and packing errors.

Therefore, we ask our families to review their receipts and ensure their account is billed accurately, as you would if you were paying the bills.

If a specific item wasn't delivered, some people assume the Keren doesn't cover it, when in reality, it was a simple error. If there is a mistake or an item was billed for but wasn't delivered, please call your store immediately and ask them to correct it.

We have requested that our vendors include receipts with every order to prevent billing errors.

Call the Office Number Only

For any questions or comments about the fish and meat accounts, address changes, etc., please call the office number 718-782-5349 Ext #3 then #2 from 12:00 PM to 6:00 PM. If there is no answer, please leave a message, and we will return your call.

ד' מינים לכבוד חג הסוכות הבעל"ט

Chazal say that just looking at the *Arba minim* is a *segulah* for *Simcha*. We had the great zechus of bringing a true Simchas Yom Tov to our dear families for the past six years by providing a very *mehudar'dige*

set of *Arba minim lekovid chag ha'sukkos*. We received very positive feedback on the Arba minim project.

Again, we are preparing to deliver Arba minim for all families this year. The set will include the following:

- a beautiful, hand-picked *Yanover* or *Moroccan esrog*
- A carefully selected *deri mehudar Lulav*
- Three fresh and beautiful *hadasim* (myrtle)
- Two packs of vacuum-packed *aravos* (willow branch) - a woven-leaf holder (*koishele*)

For your convenience, the *Lulav* will come with three woven rings (*ringlach*) ready for use.

Helpful advice for storing Arba minim and maintaining it throughout Yom Tov:

- *Lulav* - Store vertically, in the corner of a room, in a cool, dry place.
- Do not place it in an elevated spot, like on top of a bookcase, where heat will cause it to dry out.
- Do not keep it tightly closed in the '*lulav holder*'; instead, keep it in a thin plastic bag with small holes for air circulation.
- *Esrog* - Store in a cool, dry place. Do not refrigerate.
- *Hadasim/Aravos* - Store in the refrigerator (not in an icy spot.)

Preparing the *Arba minim* for use on *Erev Sukkos*:

Open the pack of 3 *hadasim*. (Throw out the harder plastic inside the thinner one, and use the thin one to store the *hadasim* and *aravos* with the *koishele*), as well as one pack of 2 *aravos*.

Take the *Lulav* with the *koishele* (the spine facing you and the open leaves facing outward), place the *hadasim* into the *koishele* on the right side of the *Lulav* and the

aravos into the *koishele* on the left side of the *Lulav*. (There is a custom to say a *Yehi Rutzon* printed in the *machzor* to recite while binding the *Lulav*.)

Leave the *hadasim* and *aravos* in the *koishele* and use the thin plastic bag from the *hadasim* to store both *hadasim* and *aravos* (with the *koishele*). Add some water to the bag (a half-inch) for best results. Store in the refrigerator when not in use.

Assembling the *Arba Minim* before *bentching*

On *Yom Tov* morning, remove the *koishele* with the *hadasim* and *aravos* from the plastic bag (the water should remain in the bag.) Place the *Lulav* into the *koishele*, with the *hadasim* and *aravos*, ready for *bentching*.

Storing *Arba Minim* after *bentching*

After *bentching*, remove the *Lulav* from the *koishele* and put it in the thin plastic bag. Place the *koishele*

with the hadasim and aravos back into the plastic bag from the hadasim, which has water added, and refrigerate. (Water may be added on Yom Tov but may not be entirely replaced.)

We include extra *aravos* because they wilt quickly and don't last all week.

By following these instructions, you will *bez"ch* have a beautiful, fresh set of *Arba minim* throughout *Yom Tov*.

Changes/cancellations

We will, *be'ezras Hashem*, deliver a set of *Arba minim* to every family, including those who do not purchase fish and meat through the *Keren*, even the family's who haven't received last year a set of *Arba minim*.

Anyone who does not wish to receive the *Arba minim* or wants to update their address, specify a choice of esrog [Yanover/Moroccan], or make any other request can contact us at 718-782-5349 ext. 3 and leave a message. We can work to ensure everyone's satisfaction.

If you took a set previously but do not want one this year, please call and let us know immediately.

If you called last year and told us you do not need a set, you do not have to call again. If you did not take a set last year, but you do want one this year, please

contact our office at 718-782-5349 ext. #3 then #3 and leave a message.

Important Notice

We will be sending either a Yanover esrog or a Moroccan esrog. If you especially prefer one of them, Please call the office as soon as you receive this booklet to let us know which you prefer.

Families who requested a specific esrog last year do not have to call again, we have those on record. And we will deliver the same type of esrog you requested last year.

If the Etrog or Lulav is not beautiful

We examine each Etrog and Lulav to ensure it is beautiful, but it can happen that the Etrog or Lulav gets damaged, causing the Etrog to brown or the Lulav to become invalid. Therefore, if you see that the Etrog or Lulav is not beautiful, please call the office at 718-782-5349 ext. #3, then #3 again, and leave a message. With G-d's help, we will send another one. The other side of the cover

Schedule of Delivery of Arba Minim

The *Arba minim* will *Be'ezras Hashem* be delivered on one of the following days,

Sunday Sep. 28, Monday Sep. 29, Tuesday Sep 30,

If you have not received the *Arba minim* by Sunday, Oct. 4, at night, please call 718-782-5349 Ext. #3 then #3, and we will *be'ezras Hashem* send you a set. If there is no answer, please leave a message, and we will return your call. Please do not call other extensions since the office is very busy, and your message may be disregarded.

P.S. Since our messages are listened to by a (highly confidential and trustworthy) secretary, we kindly request that the message state your needs shortly and clearly. Please do not leave long messages expressing appreciation, conveying your best wishes, etc., so the messages can be handled efficiently.

The System for Delivering the Arba Minim

All families in **New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Canada** will receive a set via local delivery to ensure quality and freshness.

For families in **Pittsburg, Cleveland, Florida, Chicago, Detroit, and Los Angeles** – if you have someone coming from the tristate area who can bring you a set, please call the office at 718-782-5349 ext. 3 and then 3, and provide us with an address to send your set.

If this is not an option, we will deliver your set with UPS so you can have beautiful Arba Minim for use on Yom Tov.

We greatly appreciate your blessings – But – Please do not call us – No exceptions.

As we enter the new year, many of you want to call us in person to express your appreciation and blessings. This is extremely important to us. We value the Bracha of an almana with a close connection to Hashem, and your kind words make our hard work worthwhile.

However, time does not allow us to respond to so many phone calls and messages, and we do not want you to feel ignored or slighted in any way.

Therefore, we appeal to you to refrain from calling our office. Instead, your sincere Kapitel Tehillim on behalf of אברהם בן העניא for continued siyata d'shmaya and success will be greatly appreciated. Additionally, please daven on behalf of all our supporters for continuous health, success, and prosperity, and we should be able to cover all our expenses easily and abundantly.

We appreciate your davening for us since the tefillos of every yid, especially widows and orphans, are priceless to Hashem and extremely powerful.

If you want to express your blessings and gratitude, we would appreciate a thank you note in whichever

language you prefer. We ask again; **please do not call us to convey your appreciation – no exceptions!** We do not have sufficient staff or time to handle the phone calls.

Additionally, please always include us in your Tefillos - **שרה בת מרים and my entire family**. Daven to *Hashem* to grant us the strength to continue our endeavors with *Hatzlucha*, *Syata d'Shmaya*, and good health. In the *zechus* of all the *tzedakah* and *chesed*, may all families, sponsors, supporters of the Keren, and *Klal Yisroel* merit a *kesiva v'chasima tova* and a *git gebentcht yur*.

בברכת כתיבה וחתימה טובה ושנת גאולה וישועה בביאת
גואל צדק בב"א

Urgent Request

If your address has changed

Please call the office at

718-782-5349 ext. 3 and then 2

We put in great effort to prepare beautiful arba minim. Each Esrog and Lulav is carefully hand checked to ensure they are nice and kosher. However, it's still possible for an Esrog to develop a dent or bruise, which can cause it to turn brown, and a Lulav may become פסול (invalid). Therefore, if you notice that your set is not in good condition, please call us at 718-782-5349, extension #3 than 3 please leave a message and we will send you another one.

