

Chullin – Simanim

פרק א – הכל שוחטין

דף יח – Daf 18

1. Penalty on a שוחט who did not show his knife to a חכם

Rav Huna said: *חכם* – האוי טבחא דלא סר סכינא קמי חכם – if a שוחט *did not show his knife to a sage* to be examined, משמתין ליה – *we place a ban upon him* for his brazen dishonor to the חכם. Rava said: מעברין ליה – *we remove him* from being allowed to sell meat, ומכרזין אבשריה דטרפה היא – *and announce that his meat is not kosher*. These opinions do not argue; Rav Huna's ruling is *יפה* – בשנמצאת סכינא יפה – *where his knife was found to be fine* (without nicks), and Rava's stricter penalty applies where the knife was found faulty. Ravina says that where the knife was found faulty, his meat is smeared with excrement, so it cannot even be sold to an idolator. There was a שוחט who did not show his knife to Rava bar Chinana, who placed a ban on him, removed him from his post, and declared his meat non-kosher. Later, he asked Mar Zutra and Rav Ashi to look into the matter, since young children depended on the שוחט. Rav Ashi found the knife to be flawless, and reinstated the שוחט, and explained to Mar Zutra that he was fulfilling Rav bar Chinana's directive.

2. "הגרמה": cutting outside the shechitah area (טבעת הגדולה, other טבעות)

The Mishnah discusses one who begins *shechitah* within the prescribed area for *shechitah* and then inclines the knife, finishing above that area (called הגרמה). It states: השוחט מתוך הטבעת – if one *shechts within the ring* (i.e., the "טבעת גדולה" – *the great ring*, the highest ring of cartilage in the trachea), and *left a hairbreadth of it along its entire circumference*, the Tanna Kamma rules the *shechitah* valid, since he did not deviate above this ring for any part of the *shechitah*. Rebbe Yose bar Rebbe Yehudah says that *מלא חוט על פני רובה* – a *hairbreadth* (of the טבעת) *along most of its circumference* is sufficient, even if the *shechitah* ended above the טבעת. He holds that cutting most of the קנה in the prescribed area is sufficient. Rav and Shmuel *pasken* like this second opinion. However, they rule that *shechitah* is only valid in טבעת הגדולה – *the great ring*, והואיל ומקפת את כל הקנה – *since it surrounds the entire trachea*, but not in שאר טבעות – *the other rings* of the trachea (which do not completely encircle the קנה), and one must *shecht between* these rings. Although Rebbe Yose bar Rebbe Yehudah himself did validate *shechitah* in these טבעות, Rav and Shmuel did not follow this ruling.

3. Several אמוראים' opinions allowing shechitah beyond the טבעת הגדולה

The Gemara records the rulings of several Amoraim who validate *shechitah* beyond the טבעת הגדולה. They rule like Rebbe Chanina ben Antigonus, who testified that מוגרמת – a *slanted cut* is valid, even completely past the טבעת הגדולה. Rebbe Shimon ben Lakish validated *shechitah* דכובעא – *through the point of the "helmet"* (the peak of the thyroid cartilage, which is above the קנה and slopes upward, appearing like a helmet). Rebbe Yochanan declared about this leniency: גיסא גיסא – *Too much! Too much!* Rav Pappi quoted Rava: *if [the שוחט] met the "wheat kernels"* (kernel-shaped cartilages along the "helmet," before it begins to slope), *it is not kosher*. The Gemara wonders if this means פגע ונגע בהן – *he met and touched* the "חיסוי", i.e., cut through them, or if it means פגע ולא נגע – *he met [the חיסוי] but did not touch* them (but cut just underneath them). Several other Amoraim ruled שייר בחיטי – *if he left over some of the "kernels"* (i.e., cut through them, leaving some above the cut), it is valid. The Gemara concludes: משיפוי כובע ולמטה – *from the slope of the "helmet" and downwards* is valid, which parallels this last opinion.

Siman – Chuppah (בן י"ח לחופה)

The Rabbi officiating under the *chuppah* who banned the caterer's *shochet* for not showing him his knife, was in for a surprise when the young *shochet chosson* gave the kallah a טבעת גדולה where the *shechitah* was done within the ring, as one of the קידושין commented that a מוגרמת, a slanted cut is valid even past the טבעת גדולה.



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3 things to remember

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2. "הגרמה": cutting outside the *shechitah* area (טבעת הגדולה, טבעות other)
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