

TAMMUZ

The *Molad*: Tuesday afternoon,
3:38 and 2 portions.

The moon may be sanctified until
Wednesday, the 14th, 10:00 a.m.¹

The summer solstice:

Monday afternoon, the 5th, 1:30 p.m.

The first day of Rosh Chodesh is on Wednesday.

The second day of Rosh Chodesh is on Thursday.

Tammuz 3, Shabbos Parshas Korach.

This day marks the 25th *Hilula* of The Rebbe, the leader of our generation, Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson, in 5754 (1994).

The special practices associated with this Shabbos are outlined by The Rebbe in *Sefer HaMinbagim*, pp. 165-168.

We recite the fourth chapter of *Pirkei Avos* following the Afternoon Service.

Tammuz 10, Shabbos Parshas Chukas.

We recite the fifth chapter of *Pirkei Avos* following the Afternoon Service.

Tammuz 11, Sunday.

We do not recite *Tachanun* in the Afternoon Service.

***Chag HaGeulah* – Tammuz 12-13.**

Tammuz 12, Monday.

This day marks the birthday of the Previous Rebbe, **Rabbi Yosef Yitzchak Schneersohn**, in 5640 (1880).

On this day, in 5687 (1927), he was **informed** that he would be released from exile (after having been imprisoned for his efforts to spread Jewish observance throughout Communist Russia, and released from prison on Tammuz 3).²

Tammuz 13, Tuesday.

On this day, he was formally released by the Soviet authorities.

These two days have been accepted by world Jewry as days of rejoicing, and by Chabad Chassidim in

1. **The times for sanctifying the moon are based on Jerusalem Standard Time.** One should therefore calculate the time for sanctifying the moon according to his location.

2. *Likkutei Sichos*, Vol. IV, p. 1315.

particular as days of thanksgiving, celebration, and dedication to the **Rebbeim's** purposes and values.

Tachanun is not recited on both these days.

(On Tammuz 12, 5576, the *Shulchan Aruch* of the Alter Rebbe was sent to press for the first time.)

Tammuz 15, Thursday.

This day marks the *yahrzeit* of **Rabbi Chaim ibn Attar**, the saintly author of the *Or HaChayim*. He passed away in 5503 (1743), and is interred in the Mount of Olives.

Tammuz 17, Shabbos Parshas Balak.

We recite the sixth chapter of *Pirkei Avos* following the Afternoon Service.

Tammuz 18, Sunday.

The fast commemorating the breaching of the walls of Jerusalem before the destruction of the Second Temple (this year it is postponed a day). See the laws governing a commemorative communal fast in the section describing the Fast of Gedaliah (Tishrei 3).

A person who is not fasting should not be called up to the Torah for an *aliyah*. If, however, he was called up to the Torah for an *aliyah* in the Afternoon Service, and declining it will cause embarrassment, he may accept it.

Since this fast was ordained because of the destruction of *Eretz Yisrael*, it is appropriate to give *tzedakah* to support the Jewish community of *Eretz Yisrael* on this day.

In the three weeks between this fast and the fast of Tishah B'Av, several customs reflecting a state of mourning are observed:

a) We do not hold weddings. It is however, permitted to make engagements even on Tishah B'Av itself; it is permitted to hold an engagement party without dancing until Rosh Chodesh Av.

b) We do not cut our hair. Cutting nails in honor of Shabbos is permitted even on the Friday before Shabbos Chazon.

c) We do not recite the blessing *Shehecheyanu* on new fruits or new garments, even on Shabbos.

Nevertheless, when Tammuz 17 occurs on Shabbos, and the fast is therefore postponed, there are authorities who permit the recitation of the blessing *Shehecheyanu* on that Shabbos.

Since these three weeks are associated with the destruction of the Temple, The Rebbe instructed that they be dedicated to the study of the Temple's structure.³

Among the sources to be studied are the concluding chapters (i.e., from chapter 40 onward) of the Book of *Y'chezkel*, the tractate of *Middos*, and *Hilchos Beis HaB'chirah* from the *Rambam's Mishneh Torah*.⁴

Tammuz 24, Shabbos Parshas Pinchas, Shabbos M'varchim.

We read the *Haftorah* beginning *Divrei Yirmeyahu* (*Yirmeyahu* 1:1-2:3).

We bless the month of Menachem Av, announcing Rosh Chodesh, which falls on the coming Friday.

We do not recite the passage *Av harachamim*.

We recite the first chapter of *Pirkei Avos* following the Afternoon Service.



3. See *Sichos Bein HaMetzarim* 5736.

4. See publisher's foreword to *Kuntres Hakolel Hilchos Beis HaB'chirah* for additional instructions of The Rebbe with regards to these days.