

## Guidelines for someone who crossed the International Date Line (IDL) during the Omer - 5783

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**NOTE: While it is clear that one should act in the manner prescribed, nonetheless it is quite strange to celebrate a different Yom Tov than the community. Therefore, the Rebbe has strongly discouraged crossing the International Date Line<sup>1</sup> during the Omer.**

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### A. Crossed the IDL while travelling westwards (e.g., from the US to Australia)<sup>2</sup> during the Omer:

1. Shavuos is observed on Shabbos, the 7th of Sivan regarding **all** matters. If living in the Diaspora, such a person should also observe Sunday, the 8th of Sivan, as the second day of the holiday.

This means, for a resident of the Diaspora:

- Lighting the (Shabbos &) 1<sup>st</sup> day Yom Tov candles on Friday before sunset, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> day Yom Tov candles on Motzei Shabbos after nightfall (using a pre-existing flame).
- Shavuos Davening and Kiddush on Shabbos and Sunday (adding the Shabbos texts when applicable).
- No Melacha of Shabbos on Shabbos, and no Melacha of Yom Tov on Sunday.
- Additional details:
  - a) On Motzei Shabbos: "*vatodienu*" is said in the Amida of Yom Tov. Kiddush is recited following the order of *yaknehaz*: 1. Askinu; 2. borei pri hagafen; 3. Kiddush (mekadesh Yisrael v'hazemanim); 4. borei me'orei ha'esh; 5. hamavdil bein kodesh l'kodesh; 6. Shehechianu.
  - b) On Sunday night, regular Havdalah is recited, but without Besamim or candle.
  - c) One may not arrange for another Jew (or - *lehavdil* - a non-Jew) to do Melacha for them on Sunday.
  - d) On both Shabbos and Sunday, one should omit all references (in Kiddush and Amida) to the holiday as "*zeman matan toraseinu*".
  - e) All other customs associated with Matan Torah (i.e., eating dairy, remaining awake on the night of Shavuos, no Taanis Chalom etc.) are to be celebrated on Shabbos, the 7th of Sivan, despite it being the day after Matan Torah.

2. Friday, the 6th of Sivan, is observed as a regular weekday (i.e., weekday Davening and wearing Tefillin in private etc.).

Nonetheless:

- Since the entire city is celebrating the first day of Yom Tov then, it is forbidden for an individual who is not observing the holiday to perform any activities which are forbidden on Yom Tov, **even in private**. It is forbidden to do an activity which will cause people to suspect him of violating Torah. Likewise, for all external purposes, he should act as though it is Yom Tov (arranging for candles to be burning on Thursday night - without a Bracha - at home, wearing Yom Tov clothing and attending Shul, if possible, etc.<sup>3</sup>).
- One may cook on Friday food for Shabbos (and Yom Tov). There's no need to (and therefore one should not) make an Eiruv Tavshilin on Thursday.

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<sup>1</sup> Some long international flights take polar routes, which complicates matters even more. If you took a flight that may be a polar route, please provide flight details to a Rav to be able to determine if there are any changes to the laws presented here.

<sup>2</sup> See previous note.

<sup>3</sup> Where one has been invited out on Friday, it is questionable whether the host who is observing Yom Tov may do a specific Melacha for those not observing Yom Tov on this day. There are grounds to be lenient. This issue is usually not relevant, as in most cases the food is not prepared with allocated portions according to the number of guests.

The issue can be easily avoided if the extra allocated portion of food is added to the pot before the pot is put on the flame, unless it is an item that requires individual preparation and is an extra burden such as frying an extra blintz.

- It is recommended to hear Aseres Hadibros in Shul on Friday, with the advantage of hearing Aseres Hadibros on the day of Matan Torah (unless Davening with an independent Minyan of people who crossed the IDL; if such a Minyan has been established for Friday, proper Halachic guidance should be sought<sup>4</sup>).

## B. Crossed the IDL while travelling eastwards (e.g., from Australia to the US)<sup>5</sup> during the Omer:

1. Shavuot is observed on Thursday, the 5th of Sivan regarding **all** matters. If living in the Diaspora, such a person should also observe Friday, the 6th of Sivan, as the second day of the holiday.

This means, for a resident of the Diaspora:

- Lighting the 1<sup>st</sup> day Yom Tov candles on Wednesday before sunset, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> day Yom Tov candles on Thursday after nightfall (using a pre-existing flame).
  - Shavuot Davening and Kiddush on Thursday and Friday.
  - No Melacha of Yom Tov on Thursday and Friday.
  - Additional details:
    - a) One prepares an Eiruv Tavshilin **on Wednesday**.
    - b) On Thursday (but not on Friday), one should omit all references (in Kiddush and Amida) to the holiday as "*zeman matan toraseinu*".
    - c) All other customs associated with Matan Torah (i.e., eating dairy, remaining awake on the night of Shavuot, no Taanis Chalom etc.) are to be celebrated on Thursday, the 5th of Sivan, despite it being Erev Matan Torah.
    - d) It is recommended to hear Aseres Hadibros in shul on Friday, with the advantage of hearing Aseres Hadibros on the day of Matan Torah (unless davening with an independent Minyan of people who crossed the IDL. If such a Minyan has been established, proper halachic guidance should be sought<sup>6</sup>).
2. Shabbos, the 7th of Sivan, is observed as a regular Shabbos day (i.e., Shabbos Davening and no Tefillin etc.).
    - Additional details:
      - a) One begins Kabbolas Shabbos with Mizmor Ledovid and recites "*gam besimcha*" in Lecha Dodi.
      - b) One may listen to the Kriah of the second day of Shavuot in Shul (a special Minyan for Kriah of Nasso should not be arranged). Next week, one hears the Kriah of Nasso like everyone else.
      - c) One may choose to say the first chapter of Pirkei Avos on Shabbos afternoon. Nonetheless, next week, on Shabbos Parshas Nasso, one says the first chapter of Pirkei Avos (again), as everyone else.

### ***Kabbolas Hatorah B'simchah Uv'pnimius!***

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<sup>4</sup> Some basic guidelines: A weekday Minyan may not be arranged for Friday, as it is disparaging to the community Yom Tov to run a weekday service.

On Shabbos, a Minyan may be arranged consisting of at least six people who crossed the IDL and four who have not. The Torah reading for this Minyan is Bachodesh Hashlishi (Aseres Hadibros).

On Sunday, it is not advisable to arrange a Minyan unless the entire Minyan consists of individuals who have crossed the IDL.

<sup>5</sup> See note 1.

<sup>6</sup> Some basic guidelines: On Thursday, a Minyan may be arranged consisting of at least six of people who crossed the IDL and four who have not. The Torah reading for this minyan is Bachodesh Hashlishi (Aseres Hadibros).

On Friday too, a Minyan may be arranged consisting of at least six of people who crossed the IDL and four who have not. The Torah reading for this Minyan is Kol Hachechor.