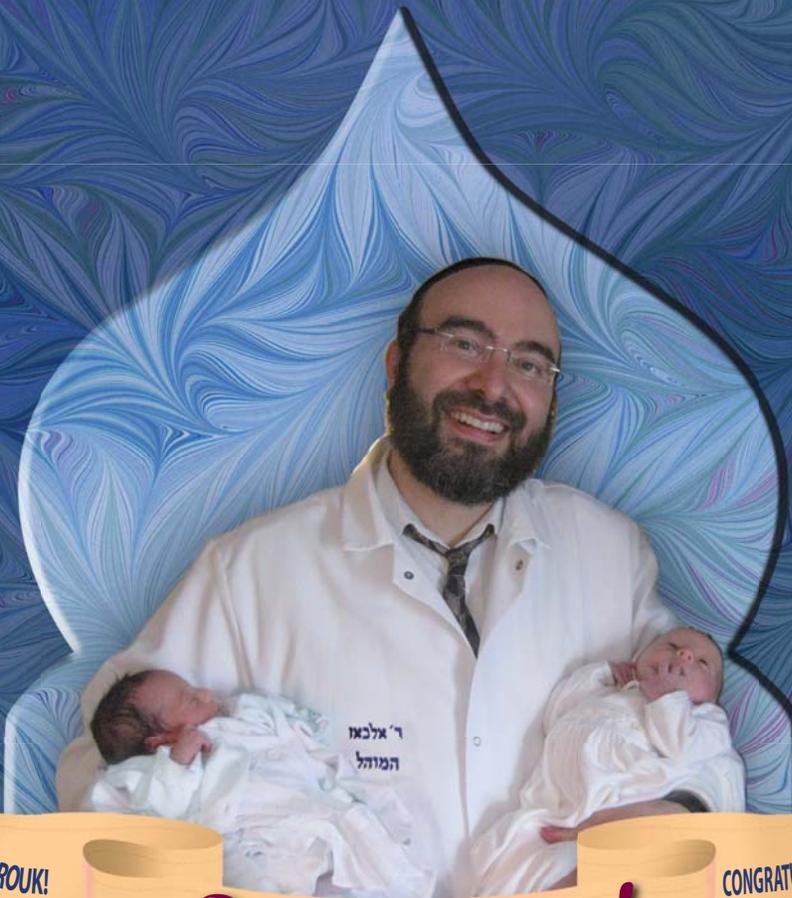


## A Most Unique Mitzvah

# מצות ברית מילה

## Your Guide to Jewish Circumcision



ר' מלכאן  
המוהל

MABROUK!

CONGRATULATIONS!

# Mazal Tov!

סימן טוב ומזל טוב יהא לנו ולכל ישראל

**RABBI MAIMON ELBAZ**

Certified Mohel • מוהל מומחה •

718.336.3369

### What is the mitzvah of Brit Milah?

Over 4,200 years ago, the very first mitzvah that was given to the Jews exclusively was Brit Milah! Hashem commanded our forefather Avrohom Avinu a"h, to "perfect himself" by fulfilling this mitzvah. (Bereishit 17:1) Despite the pain, and his advanced age of 99, Avrohom performed this mitzvah with great joy! This became an everlasting merit for his descendants, Am Yisroel.

Throughout the generations Jews have identified themselves with this sign. At times, they even risked their lives to become circumcised. No persecution or exile would stop the Jew from continuing this sacred tradition. This is the mitzvah which makes him a full-fledged member of the Jewish community.

After the newborn developed in his mother's womb for 261 days, he is ready to enter this world. Before this journey he must pay a "tax" in order to pass. That is the little piece of flesh that he returns. (Midrash)

The orlah (foreskin) is considered ugly by Chazal. Only when circumcision is done can one be perfected. The mitzvah of Brit is done with hidur to make the Bnei MelaChim aesthetically beautiful as well. (Nedarim 3:11)

The Chinuch explains that this act of removing the extra piece of skin, marks a physical difference between the Jew and the gentile, to symbolize that we are different physically as well as spiritually. It's a reminder of our royal lineage, and it demonstrates our closeness to the Creator of the Universe. Ultimately, just as man must perfect his body, he must remember to perfect his soul in his lifetime.

If not for this commandment of circumcision, the world would cease to exist! As the Navi Yirmiyahu said, "If not for My covenant ~ day and night ~ Heaven and Earth would not have been created!" (Nedarim 3:11)

„התהלך לפני והיה תמים“  
“Go before Me and perfect yourself!”

# Testimonials & References



“ I highly recommend the certified mohel Rabbi Elbaz to be used for ritual circumcision. His experience and professionalism is most commendable ”

- **Rabbi A. Romi Cohen**  
Chairman of the American Board of Ritual Circumcision, Master Mohel & Surgeon, and Author of the popular book *Bris Avrohom Hakohein*.

“ I am impressed with Rabbi Elbaz’s meticulousness and perfection. He is an excellent Mohel ”

- **Jeffrey L. Teitelbaum, MD, FAAP, FACP**



“ I have seen Rabbi Elbaz perform brisim and I am impressed with his fine work - well done! ”

- **Rabbi Shaya Lazer Miller**  
Mohel in the Bobov Community

“ I certified Rabbi Elbaz after being pleased with his knowledge and experience with Brit Milah. I have witnessed his proficient skills on many occasions, and I am confident that every child he circumcises will get the best treatment and care. ”

- **Rabbi Moshe Chaim Weisberg**  
Chief Mohel of Jerusalem & Hospital Supervisor  
Son the of legendary “Reb Yossele”



Trained and certified by the Chief Mohel of Jerusalem, Rabbi Moshe Chaim Weisberg shlita, Rabbi Maimon Elbaz is a proud member of the American Board of Mohelim under the outstanding leadership of Rabbi Romi Cohen shlita.

*The phone numbers of grateful parents are available upon request.*



One who is not circumcised will not be able to properly comprehend the holy words of the Torah! (Midrash)  
This is one of the reasons that Brit Milah is celebrated, because it enables the new young boy to acquire Torah which makes one closer to Hashem. (Rabbi Shmuel Yosef Lercher)

# The Ultimate Blessing

כָּשֶׁם שֶׁנִּכְנָס לְבְרִית, כֵּן יִכְנָס...

AS THE CHILD ENTERS INTO BRIT,  
SO MAY HE ENTER INTO...



וּלְמַעֲשֵׂים טוֹבִים  
& GOOD DEEDS



וּלְחֻפָּה  
CHUPAH



לְתוֹרָה  
TORAH

**Rabbi Maimon Elbaz, Certified Mohel**  
Highly recommended by Rabbis, Doctors & Parents

**347.967.9138**  
TorahShows@yahoo.com



Rabbi Elbaz is available to travel nationwide for a Brit Milah.

For an Abba & Ima one of the greatest simachot in their life is the celebration of the Brit Milah of their baby boy!

**Sephardim** read the **Brit Yitzchak** – excerpts from the Zohar about the greatness of Hashem, the Torah's mitzvot and the Jews – the night of the eighth day of the baby's life, to bring great protection for the baby. It also enhances the kedusha of the child as he grows.

**Ashkenazim & Chassidim** make a party the first Shabbat night after the birth of the child. The purpose of the **Shalom Zachor** is to console the newborn after his forgetting the Torah studied in his mother's womb. Also, it is a **seudat hodaah** for the mother's safe delivery.

At the bris, the custom is to invite a "kvatter" (G-dfather) to pass the baby from the mother to the father. This is a **segulah** for a childless couple to have children.

There is a powerful **segulah** for the baby if people can learn Torah near his crib the night before the Brit. Many communities have schoolchildren recite the Shema and special pesukim by the baby the night before the Brit. That is called the **vach nacht**.

**What is the sceniya?** Many Sephardim have the custom to pass around a candle-tray before the Brit. This reminds people to give **Tzedaka** (charity). Simply said, this is a chance to accomplish another mitzvah while everyone is waiting for the ceremony. But history tells us, that once when cruel oppressors banned the Jews from circumcision, in order for Jews to notify their friends to come attend this



great mitzvah performed clandestinely, they lit candles. We remember their self-sacrifice and heroic devotion until this very day.

**What is Metzitzta b'peh?** Traditionally, blood is suctioned from the wound. Our great Rabbis of the Talmud, and the famous Rambam (Maimonides) state that it is done for the health of the baby. Upon request, a tube may be used.

**Why the Kisei shel Eliyahu?** Because once in history, the prophet Eliyahu accused his people of abandoning the covenant. Hashem defended them and decreed that Eliyahu must visit every brit worldwide and testify that they abide by this commandment faithfully.

Eliyahu Hanavi's presence is a great blessing for all who attend a Brit Milah. Even their sins are pardoned – making it a joyous Yom Tov for all those fortunate to be present! (Pirkei D'Rabi Eliezer)

**It is wise to pray** when the baby cries. It is a great moment for prayers to be accepted. Songs are sung before and after the Brit to thank Hashem for his great love for us. Also, the songs are a prayer that the baby grow up to be a Ben Torah. The parents should pray that their new son be a true servant to Hashem. ▶



**Festive Meal** It is customary to celebrate with a joyous banquet, a **seudat mitzvah** at which **divrei Torah** are said and the parents receive the blessings of the guests, wishing that the child grow in Torah and Mitzvot and become a proud member of Klal Yisroel.



It is proper for the **Khal** to bless the **Avi Haben** (Yiddish **Nachas**) to his family always.

During the ceremony, the new boy is bonded with the Almighty G-d in an eternal covenant of love and respect.

The husband should praise Hashem at the **Seudah** and say words of **Divrei Torah**. He should also express his appreciation for his wife for mothering his new addition, and for all her efforts on behalf of their family. He should thank his parents and in-laws for their support.



## Post Care Instructions

- The child should urinate normally after the Brit.
- It is normal to see a reddish color on the gauze pad since it soaks from the bandage. The only cause of alarm would be if the baby is not wetting for several hours, or if there is any oozing of blood. B'ezrat Hashem neither problem should arise since the bandage is placed on snug - not too tight - or loose. It is normal for the tip to be deep red, but not blue.
- **Warning!** Never touch the main medicated bandage that is wound around the brit milah since that is necessary to stop the bleeding and aid in the healing process.
- Before each changing of the diaper, wash hands thoroughly to disinfect them and prevent any contamination to the area of the minor surgery.
- At diaper-changes a new gauze pad should be placed gently over the corona glans with a fresh layer of A & D ointment or bacitracin.
- The gauze pad should be gently wrapped around the sides, where the wound is.
- The Mohel will make a follow-up-visit, within 24/36 hours, and the main bandage will be removed. Baby oil is used to gently remove the bandage and prevent any bleeding.
- During the first 24 hours after the main bandage is removed bacitracin ointment should be placed on a gauze pad to be put on at each diaper change.
- The next 48 hours A & D ointment should be used on pads.
- By day #4 if the umbilical cord has fallen off, and the area is dry, then a hot bath with mild soap will promote the healing process. The Talmud says that this is very healthy.
- Should some areas still look affected, apply some A&D ointment without a pad to those areas.
- **Naturally, feel free to call with any concerns.**

The naming of the child sets the newborns destiny. Each person's destiny and life's mission is alluded to in their Divinely-inspired name. (Chazal)

The 8th blessing of Shemoneh Esrei is a prayer for health, cures and healing. This reminds everyone to pray for the baby's speedy recovery on the 8th day. (Gemara Megillah)

In the merit of Brit Milah, the Jewish people will dwell in the Land of Israel. (Bach)

## "זה הקטן גדול יהיה"

The honor to hold the baby is usually given to the baby's grandfather. It is also customary to honor a *tzaddik* or *Gadol B'Torah* to serve as *Sandak* (holding the child during the *Milab*). This demonstrates the hope of the parents that the child will grow in Torah and good deeds.



(HaRav Chaim Stein shlita, Rosh Yeshiva of Telshe, Cleveland at a bris with Rabbi Elbaz.)

It is praiseworthy for a new mother to say the blessing of HaGomel in the presence of ten men. Some have the custom to say this thanksgiving blessing at the Brit Yitzchak.



*Congratulations to Maimonides Medical Center on their new state-of-the-art birthing center serving our community!*



### Checklist

The following items should be available at the Brit Milah:

- Neosporin Antibiotic or Bacitracin Ointment
- 2 dozen Gauze Pads 4" x 4" & a dozen 2" x 2"
- 6 full size 24" cloth diapers
- 6 disposable diapers
- A&D Ointment
- Alcohol & baby wipes
- Milk or water bottle & pacifier
- One pillow
- Kosher Sweet Wine (with silver cup & plate)

These supplies can be ordered & delivered from Mrs. K. for \$50. 1-877-BRIS-BAG

The mother should refrain from feeding the baby 60/90 minutes before the actual *Brit*. The baby should have a feeding right after the *Brit*.



The mitzvah of Brit Milah was accepted by Am Yisroel with joy, so it remains a joy.

(Talmud)

## A Mother's Prayer

(Authored by the Shevet Mussar for the child's spiritual and physical wellbeing)

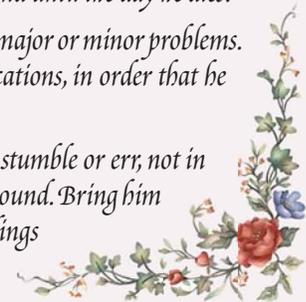
**M**ay it be Your will that just as he is favorable to You now, when he has no sin or fault – that he remain pure before You always. May he never defile his Brit, nor may he be brought to temptation or shame.

May he be healthy and strong to serve You, and may the fear of Heaven always be upon him. May he not be distracted from studying Your Torah and performing Your commandments. May he always have a good relationship with You all the days of his life.

Grant him sustenance directly from You, so that he never need to rely on people's gifts, for this is an impediment to serving You. It is so embarrassing and humiliating to be dependant on humans for help. Especially if the unpleasant and arrogant, and not generous, their contributions being small and far between. When someone depends on others, it impairs his wisdom, depresses his soul, and harms his health. Contrary to the one who is fortunate to receive from Your bountiful, gracious and generous hand. May he never need the help of mankind until the day he dies.

May he merit old age, and may it be Your will, that he not suffer major or minor problems. Let him never be ill, and spare him from any accidents or complications, in order that he always be ready to do Your will.

May his will be to do exactly what is Your will! May he never stumble or err, not in Torah and not in personal matters. May he not be fall to illness or wound. Bring him to old age with sons and daughters that he may celebrate their weddings and see them actively involved with Torah and mitzvos.



## Tefillah for all Present

בְּכוּי: שְׁמַע ה' תְּחַנְּנֵנִי, ה' תִּפְלְתֵנִי יְקָה: יִבְשׁוּ וַיִּבְהַלּוּ  
מֵאֵד כָּל אִיבֵי, יִשְׁבוּ ויִבְשׁוּ רַגְעַ:  
מְנוּחָה לְהַתְפַּלֵּל עַל כָּל מַה שְׁחָסַר לָנוּ בְּשַׁעַת בְּכִיַת הַתִּינוּק  
יְהִי רַצוֹן מִלְפָּנֶיךָ, ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאַל תִּשְׁכַּח  
אֲנֵנוּ וּבְנֵינוּ בֵּיתְנוּ בְּרִיאוֹת וְנִחְוָתֵינוּ בְּפִרְסָה וְהַצְלָחָה  
וְשָׁלוֹם וְכָל טוֹב לְעַבְדֶּךָ בְּאֵמֶת וּבְשִׂמְחָה, וַיִּבְרַח  
תִּפְלְתֵנִי עִם בְּכוֹת תִּלְדָּה, וּיְקוּמוּ בֵּן הַפְּסוּק שְׁמַע  
ה' תְּחַנְּנֵנִי ה' תִּפְלְתֵנִי יְקָה, וַיִּמְלֵא הַשָּׁם וְתִבְרַךְ כָּל  
מִשְׁאֵלוֹת לְרַבְּבֵנוּ לְטוֹבָה:

מְנוּחָה לְרַפּוּאָה לְאוּמְרוֹ בְּשַׁעַת בְּכִיַת הַתִּינוּק  
לְמִנְעָה בְּנִינּוֹת עַל הַשְּׂמִינּוֹת, מִזְמוֹר לְדָוִד: ה' אֵל  
בְּאֶפֶס תּוֹכִיחֵנִי, וְאַל בְּחֶמְדֶּךָ תִּנְסַרְנֵנִי: הֲנֵנִי  
ה' בִּי אֱמַלֵּךְ אֵנִי, רַפְּאֵנִי ה' בִּי נְבַהֲלֵנוּ עֲצֻמֵי: וְנִפְשֵׁי  
נְבַהֲלָה מְאֹד, וְאַתָּה ה' עַד מָתַי: שׁוּבָה ה' תִּלְצַח נַפְשִׁי,  
הוֹשִׁיעֵנִי לְמַעַן הַסְּדֵךְ: בִּי אֵין בְּמִנּוֹת וְכִרְךָ, בְּשִׂאוֹל מִי  
יִדָּה לָךְ: יִגְעֵתִי בְּאַנְחָתִי, אֲשַׁחֶה בְּכָל לֵילָה מִטְּוֵתִי,  
בְּדַמְעֵתִי עֲרִשִׁי אֲמַסֶּה: עֲשֵׂשָׁה מִכַּעֲסֵם עֵינַי, עֲתַקָּה  
בְּכָל צוּרְרָי: סוּרוּ מִמֶּנִּי כָּל פְּעֻלֵי אָוֶן, בִּי שְׁמַע ה' קוֹל



May your new son be a great joy for you & Klal Yisroel for generations to come Bezrat Hashem!

**וְרֵאָה בָּנִים לְבָנֶיךָ שְׁלוֹם עַל יִשְׂרָאֵל**

