

SALE OF CHAMETZ

The Torah prohibits us from owning any type of Chametz during the festival of Pesach (Passover). In principle, a person has the option of consuming all his Chametz before Pesach, giving it away, destroying it or renouncing all ownership of it. In practice it is often not possible to dispose of all the Chametz before Pesach, nor can a person be relied upon to genuinely renounce ownership of a significant amount of Chametz. Moreover, a person may have Chametz in his possession of which he is unaware.

As a response to this situation the practice of "Selling the Chametz" began nearly two thousand years ago during the time of the Mishnah. Originally, each Jew would sell his own Chametz to a non-Jew and there would be an exchange of goods and money. Nowadays, in order to ensure that all legal requirements of a contract of sale are satisfied people usually make the Rabbi their agent for selling the Chametz to a non-Jew. At the same time they must make sure that all Chametz is locked away in a designated room or closet so as not to come in contact with it over Pesach. After Pesach the Rabbi buys back the Chametz though this is not made a specific condition of the sale. It should be noted that Chametz, which remains in one's possession during Pesach, is prohibited for use afterwards.

In order to ensure that no Chametz remains in your possession over Pesach please fill in the attached form. Chametz at your place of business ought to be sold as well.

With many thanks.

Yours sincerely,

Rabbi Dr Naftali Brawer

NB. As you fill out the approximate value of Chametz to be sold on the next page, remember that whisky, beer and gin are Chametz as well.

DELEGATION OF ATTORNEY FOR THE SALE OF CHAMETZ

I, the undersigned, fully empower and permit Rabbi Naftali Brawer to act in my place and stead and on my behalf to sell all CHAMETZ possessed by me (knowingly or unknowingly) as defined by Torah and Rabbinic law (eg Chametz, doubtful Chametz and all kinds of Chametz mixture) also Chametz that is unfit for human food (and which tends to adhere to a surface of the inside of pots, pans and cooking utensils) especially on the premises located at:

ADDRESSES:

- 1. BLOCK
..... LETTERS
- 2. PLEASE
.....

Rabbi Naftali Brawer has the full right to sell and to lease by such transactions as he deems fit and proper and for such time as he believes necessary in accordance with all detailed terms and forms as set out in the general contract which will be signed by Rabbi Brawer to sell the Chametz. The authorisation to appoint a proxy in his place with full power to sell and to lease is herein provided.

The above given power is in conformity with all Torah and Rabbinical regulations and laws and is also in accordance with the laws of England and Wales.

In witness thereof I write my signature on this the.....2008/5768

SIGNATURE.....

NAME

Approximate value of Chametz to be sold £.....

We will be spending Pesach in North America Israel UK/Europe

Complete this form and send it to Rabbi Naftali Brawer at Borehamwood Synagogue, PO Box 47 Croxdale Road, Borehamwood, Herts. WD6 4QF

All Forms must be received no later than 10am Thursday 18 April.

Please mark “Sale of Chametz” on your envelope.