

The Shatnez Newsletter



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL SHATNEZ LABORATORIES
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Shatnez and the Bigdei Kehuna

Rebbi Simone says (Yalkut Shimoni 513), when the Kohanim wore the Bigdei Kehuna, Hashem Yisborach considered it a Zechus for all Bnei Yisroel. Hashem Yisborach forgave certain sins done by the Jewish people because the Kohanim wore these garments.

One of the garments that were worn by both the Kohain Hedyot and the Kohain Gadol was the Kesones. It was a shirt-like garment that was woven from white linen and had a checkered design. Its sleeves were woven separately and sewn to it. The width of the sleeves was equivalent to the width of his arms. It reached down to the Kohain's ankles. (Rambam Hil. Klai Hamikdosh 8:16-17)

The Kesones, according to some opinions, atoned for a murder, if it was not punishable by Bais Din (for example, if two witnesses were not present at the crime scene). If such a murder had been committed in Klal Yisroel, Hashem Yisborach held the entire people responsible for it; the Kesones atoned for this guilt. It was chosen for this sin since it states that the brothers dipped Yosef's Kesones into blood (Bereishis 37:31).

Rebbi Simone says the Kesones atoned for the transgression of wearing Shatnez, since the Kesones was made of wool and linen, as it states that Yaakov made for Yosef a Kesones Pasim (Bereishis 37:3).

Question: Wasn't the Kesones woven from white linen only?

Answer: The Chasam Sofer, (Sheailos U' Teshuvos –Kovetz Teshuvos Siman 48) explains, Rebbi Simone is of the opinion

that garments made of stiff material do not fall under the prohibition Shatnez. The Choshen and the Aifod were made from wool, linen and gold. Their threads were constructed from turquoise wool, purple wool, red wool, linen and gold, and each thread of the Choshen and the Aifod was a twenty-eight ply. Each thread of the Avnet was only a twenty-four ply because it didn't have the four gold strands. Their thick threads made them stiff and hard. If so, the Kohain Gadol and the Kohain Hedyot did not wear Shatnez according to Rebbi Simone!

Before we continue to explain what exactly the Shatnez according to Rebbi Simone was, let's discuss how exactly the Kohain Gadol adorned his clothes. It was in the following order:

A] Kesones: The Kohen first adorned the linen Kesones.
B] Avnet: The Avnet that was also worn by both the Kohen and the Kohain Gadol was 32 Amos (approx 64ft) long (Rambam Hil Klai Hamikdosh 8:19). It was wrapped around the linen Kesones, not on top of the Meil (Rambam Hil Klai Hamikdosh 10:3).
C] Meil: Rashi and the Ramban argue regarding the "Meil", which was made of sky blue wool. The Ramban says that it was sleeveless, possessing two openings for two arms. Rashi says that it had sleeves similar to the Kesones.
D] Aifod: The Aifod instead of being worn in front and tied in the back, the Kohain Gadol wore it on his back and tied it in front. It was tied in front with the Cheishev H'Aifod that was a part of the Aifod. The back of the Aifod was supported by two shoulder straps

overlapping the Kohain's shoulder to the front.

E] Choshen: The shoulder straps in the front were attached to the Choshen. The lower edge of the Choshen was fastened to the Cheishev H'Aifod so that it should not move back and forth.

Says the Chasam Sofer, the Shatnez according to Rebbi Simone was that he wore the wool Meil over the linen Kesones. This in itself was not Shatnez since it would have been possible to remove the inner garment i.e. the Kesones while the top one is on i.e. the Meil is being worn, or vice versa (even according to Rashi). However, since the Aifod and the Choshen were tied tightly around the two garments, the Kohain Gadol had to first take off the Aifod and the Choshen to be able to remove either the Meil or the Kesones. Therefore it was considered that the Kohain Gadol was wearing Shatnez. [Rebbi Simone is in accordance to Rashi; according to the Ramban the Meil could have been removed even without first removing the Aifod.]

In conclusion: Rebbi Simone, according to the Chasam Sofer, is of the opinion that if the removal of the wool item were being prevented while adorning a linen garment or vice versa, it would be considered Shatnez. This is the opinion in the Rama (Yoreh Deah 300:4), according to the Chasam Sofer. The Aifod and the Choshen prevented the removal of either the Kesones or the Meil, thus causing the Kohain Gadol to be wearing Shatnez. Therefore, the Kesones can atone for wearing Shatnez.

Shatnez Alerts

Below is a list of garments that were recently found to contain shatnez. The information contained in this listing is current at the time of publication. Changes are constantly occurring and it is important to keep up to date. Please contact your local shatnez laboratory to receive updates via email.

Men's Suits

Adolfo Moldova

Antonio Treviso China
Armani Collezioni Italy
Austin Reed London China
B & P (Boteh & Palme)
Bachrach China
Baggio Italy
Banana Republic
Turkey, China
Barneys New York Italy
Bartolimi
Battisoni Italy
Bobby Jones U.S.A.
Brioni Italy
Broad Streets
Broletto China
Brooks Brothers China, USA,
Italy, Thailand, Canada
Burberry U.S.A
Burdi Chicago
C'E' Lucai Italy
Calvin Klein Collection
Czech Republic
Cambridge
Canali Italy
Carins Germany
Chittleborough Morgan
England
Coopley
Corneliani Italy
Daniel Cremieux Italy
Daniel Hechter Paris China
Danyberd
David Rickey U.S.A.
Dino Nardiello Italy
Dolce & Gabbana Italy
Emanuel Ungaro China
Emilio Zonaro Turkey
Emporio Armani Italy
Emporio Fashion
Ermenegildo Zegna Italy
Switzerland
Etro Italy
Etro Milano Italy
Europa Uomo Moldova
FB N Extend Italy
Feraud
Feremani China
Flying Cross
Frans Molenaar
G. Manzoni Italy

Gianni Manzoni Italy
Giorgio Armani Italy
Giorgio Valetini Italy
Giorgio's Palm Beach
Italy, China
Gucci Italy
H&M China
Hackett London Europe
Halston U.S.A.
Hickey U.S.A.
Hickey Freeman U.S.A.
Hirmer Germany
Hugo Boss Turkey, USA,
Germany, Slovenia
Hugo James
Ike Behar Vietnam
Isaia Napoli Italy
Istante
J. Crew China
J. Ben Noun
Jhane Barnes Frequency
China
Jil Sander Italy
John Bartlett Italy
John Varvatos*USA
Mexico
John W. Nordstrom China
Jos A.Banks
China, Italy, Mexico
Kenneth Cole U.S.A.
Limehaus
Linea Uomo Vietnam
Loriano Collection
Louis Dell O'lio Italy
Luigi Cardini China
Mani Mexico
Marks and Spencer Egypt
Mattarozzi Uomo
Nelson Ma Tailoring
Brooklyn, NY
Nick Hilton Tunisia
Pal Zileri Italy
Paul Stuart Canada

Paulo Vista Italy
Piattelli Italy
Prada Italy
Pull Pal Zileri Italy
Saks Fifth Avenue Italy,
Mexico, U.S.A.
Sams Tailor Hong Kong
Semanco Hong Kong

**Stavros, Master Tailor
and Shirtmaker** Toronto

Stones
Studio Milano Italy
Theory U.S.A.
Tindari Italy
Toccani Mexico
Tom Ford Italy
Tom James U.S.A.
Trussini
Uzi Israel
Valentino V-zone
Van Kollem
Verdi Italy
Verri Italy
Versace Classic Spain
Versini Indonesia
Versace Collection
Croatia
Vestimenta Italy
Vizoni
V-zone Valentino
Weis
YveSaintLaurent Italy
Zaharoff U.S.A.
Zara Portugal
Zara Man Spain,
Bosnia, Romania
Zilli

Men's Coats

Banana Republic China
Black Brown China
Brooks Brothers China
Burberry Turkey
Confezioni Italy
Corneliani
Corso Buenos Aires Italy
Edo's Company Italy
Hugo Boss Ukraine
John Varvatos*USA
China
John W. Nordstrom
China
Lang's U.S.A.
Michael Kors Vietnam
Old Navy Indonesia
Saks Fifth Ave Italy
Valmeline Sportive
Werther International
Witty Brothers Scotland

Men's Pants

Burdi Chicago
Milano Galleria Italy

Men's Ties

Banana Republic
Turkey
Calvin Klein China, Italy
Frangi
Massimo Dutti Spain

Ladies' Coats

Erich Fend
Mackage Canada
Michael Kors China
So Allure Italy
Special Day Italy
Stefania Rinaldi Italy
Tahari Guatemala
Warehouse

Ladies'

Suits/Jackets

Alliage
Brooks Brothers Thailand
Chanel France
Christian Dior France
Claire Paris France
Collection by Pamela
Costume Spain
Gianfranco Ferre Italy
Giorgio Armani Italy
Jobis Germany
Jones NY Collection
Indonesia
Khari Marcs China
Marc Jacobs U.S.A.
Marisa Christina China
Marvin China
United Colors of
Benetton Romania
Valentino Italy
Valentino Roma Italy

Ladies' Scarf

Eileen Fisher India

Ladies' Skirts

Christian Dior
Anthropologie China

Ladies' Sweaters

Ann Taylor Petite China
Banana Republic China
BCBGMAXAZRIA China
Bretagne Italy
Dana Buchman China
Diane Von Furstenberg
Easel Hong Kong
Elie Tahari China
Fenn Wrigh China
Hazel China
Hoss Intropia China
J. Crew China
Jones NY Collection
China
Lafayette 148 New
China
Loragi Italy
MNG China
Pitti Bimi Italy
Tory Burch China
Willi Smith
YA Yalosangeles.com
China

Children's Coats

Baby Gap Vietnam
Benneton Italy
Gimel Kids Italy
La Pulce Italy
Mele Acerbe Italy

Childrens' Sweater

Zara Kids Turkey

Boys' Suits

Aveti Italy
Baggio Italy
Emilio Zanotti Italy
Euro Boy's Turkey
Giovani India
Hart Schaffner Marx
Vietnam
His First Hickey
Freeman U.S.A.
I Kids Italy
Ike Behar Vietnam
Pier Boy's Turkey
Princeton Italy

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Hours: Monday-Thursday: 2:00-5:00 pm, 8:00-11:00 pm
Friday: 1:00-3:00 pm
House calls available by appointment.