

בס"ד  
ק"ק עדת ישראל-עדושווער  
**Edgware Adath Yisroel Congregation**  
261 Hale Lane, Edgware, Middx. HA8 8NX  
Tel: 020 8238 2491 E-mail: admin@eayc.org  
Rabbi Zvi H. Lieberman

## Birchas HaChama 5769

### Number 206

This year on Erev Pesach 8<sup>th</sup> April, we will have a rare opportunity to perform the mitzvah of Birchas HaChama.

Birchas HaChama is recited when the sun returns to the exact same position in which it was created, on the same day of the week in which it was created. The sun was placed into orbit on the fourth day of creation, on Tuesday, at nightfall, 6:00pm. This is the beginning of the halachic day Wednesday. Every time that the sun returns to the same position as it was when it started its orbit, in addition to coinciding with a Wednesday, it has reached its "tekufa". On the next morning beginning from when the Sun rises we are required to mark it before noon.

This takes place every 28 years and is marked by making the brocha of עושה מעשה בראשית and saying various additional mizmorei Tehillim and teffilos.

Even more unusually this year it will take place on Erev Pesach, an event that happens only extremely rarely and according to many is considered especially auspicious. For example; the year we left Mitzrayim and the year of the Purim miracle were also years of Birchas Hachama on Erev Pesach.

Most people have the opportunity to recite this brocha for Birchas HaChama at most three times in their life. When such rare opportunity arises with the excitement and enthusiasm it entails, we are reminded through saying Birchas HaChama that we should strive to perform all mitzvos with the same excitement and simcha,

Amongst the ways we mark such a seminal moment is by sharing it with others. As the possek says, ברב עם הדרת מלך, "The King's glory is displayed in large numbers". For this reason we will all gather together as a community, in the Shul courtyard immediately after the first minyan and Siyum at 7.40am; to make the brocha together followed by the appropriate Tefilos and a l'Chayim.

The correct time for Birchas HaChama is before the end of the third hour of the day (9.41am in London) but if one has not yet made the brocha by then we may do so until midday (1.02pm).

If it is cloudy, so long as the outline of the sun is visible the brocha may still be said. If it is not visible at all, we wait until just before Chatzos and make the brocha without Hashem's name.

May we merit to share in this unusual mitzvah as one, and ultimately together with all of Klal Yisroel in Yerushalayim with Moshiach Tzidkanu.

Rabbi Z H Lieberman