



Ask The Rabbi...



November 28, 1993 Issue #1

Premier Issue!

This edition contains:

1. Lighting Chanukah candles and crossing the International Dateline.
2. What is "Ask The Rabbi" and how to submit a question.

Stu@lovelace asks:

I will be traveling from Los Angeles, California to Melbourne Australia. I leave at 7:10pm on Monday 13 December and arrive in Melbourne at 1:00pm on Wednesday 15 December. I can light candles for the 6th night of Chanukah before I leave. The question is where do I light candles for the 7th night? I do not know if it will be light or dark when I cross the International Dateline.

"Ask The Rabbi" is a newsletter that answers questions you've always had about Judaism or Jewish practice but never had a chance to ask. Selected questions from our readers will be chosen and answered by a certified Rabbi in our newsletter.

To submit your questions, please address them to: **ohr@jer1.co.il**
Set the subject to "Ask The Rabbi" to speed entry and response.

Dear Stu,

For someone traveling on Chanukah who will be unable to light the menorah, the halacha is as follows:

You may appoint a "shaliach" (agent) to light a menorah for you in your own home. Any adult Jew (a male over 13 years or a female more than 12 years) may serve as an agent. If you are married, it is best to ask your spouse to light the menorah in the home, if possible, but any adult Jew is acceptable. When your agent recites the *brachot* when lighting his own menorah, he should have in mind that these *brachot* are also for the sake of his lighting of your menorah which he will do afterwards. If your agent is not lighting any menorah for himself, then he should recite the *brachot* when he lights your menorah.

I would not recommend trying to light your menorah on the airplane!

In the unlikely event that you are unable to find an agent, you are exempt from fulfilling the *mitzvah*.

If you have E-Mail and a question, you can submit it to Ask The Rabbi for possible inclusion in a future edition. Just write your question using your E-Mail program, set the subject to "Ask The Rabbi" and send it to ohr@jer1.co.il. We can't include all questions submitted, but we do try to respond to everyone.

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Dedication opportunities are available for Ask The Rabbi — Please contact us for details.

Ask The Rabbi is available on InterNet. To subscribe, send the message "sub ask {firstname} {lastname}" tdistproc@jer1.co.il

This publication contains words of Torah. Please treat it with due respect. Do not let this land on a garbage heap.

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