

Birkath Lishmor Huqaw (after removing T'philin)

Question:

Kvod HaRav,

When removing tefillin during the day, should we say the beracha Lishmor Hukav as outlined in the NEY siddur, or should it only be said when removing the tefillin at night?

Answer:

1. Ramban z'l (Nida 51b) explains at length that the B'rakha Lishmor Huqaw (see TY B'rakhoth 2:3) is to be said once a day when removing the T'philin in the evening. It seems that one also recites this B'rakha if one removes one's T'philin during the day and does not expect to be able to wear them again that day.
2. It is worth adding that Ramban (op. cit.) quotes Rav Hai Gaon z'l as saying that although reciting Lishmor Huqaw was not standard Babylonian practice, nevertheless, those who wish to recite this B'rakha (as done in Eress Yisrael) may do so.
3. **This demonstrates clearly that the position one sometimes hears to the effect that one must refrain from doing something if it is not the standard minhagh, is simply untrue. This claim is not an Halakhic claim, but rather an Hashqaphic position being presented as an Halakhic opinion.**

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