

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT CONCERNING TEFILLIN MEZUZOT AND SIFRE TORAH

One of my buyers recently informed me that there are great problems with the KLAF (Parchment used for writing the Parashiot in Tefillin, Mezuzot and Sifre Torah) that don't have any HECHSHER (Rabbinic Certificate). Up until now I relied on two very well respected SOFRIM as well as on some wholesalers who said that the KLAF was fine. (And all my fellow Sofrim also relied on the opinion of those in whom I relied).

I got in contact with two Rabbis who are known for their fear of Hashem, in order to ask from them what I needed to do according to the Halacha.

One of these Rabbis told me to call three of my costumers and to ask them if they thought that the Klaf in which I wrote the Parashiot for their Tefillin had a Hechsher, and if it would be good for them a Klaf with no Hechsher?

The first buyer said: I always look for a Sofer who complies with all the stringencies of the Halacha and he gives me a Klaf without Hechsher? Woe to me, I paid \$1,200 for Parashiot and you still have a doubt whether I am mindful of the Hechsher? You know what? I know nothing about Hechsherim but I tell you something: It is all your responsibility, I am no Sofer and I know nothing about the Klaf, all I know is that I paid for the best possible Parashiot and I expect them to be fully Kosher. I relied on you, because supposedly you were trustworthy, so all the responsibility is on your shoulders and if the Parashiot for the Tefillin and Mezuzot are not as required by the Halacha then you are a thief and a robber!!! What? Not to observe the Mitzvah of Tefillin? And on top of that to say blessings in vain every day? Who knows how much I have suffered because of these Parashiot that you sold me! I can not believe we have fallen so low! You ask me if I mind about the Klaf having Hechsher or not? This is not supposed to happen among Chassidim! Woe to us! Now I know why I have had so many problems and afflictions.

Somehow in the same fashion the other two costumers answered me.

Then I again called the two Rabbanim who had told me to call my costumers and I related to them what my costumers said to me, and I asked the Rabbis what should I do next, What is the halacha requires regarding all the Tefillin, the Mezuzot and the Sifre Torah that I have written until now?

The Rabbanim ordered me to publish in the newspaper this story exactly as it happened, and to write that since an inadvertent sin came from me when I relied on that great Sofer that lives in Yerushalaim and the other great Sofer that lives in Brooklyn, that they told me that the Klaf I have been using is Kosher [Even knowing the fact that this particular Klaf came from someone who did not have a Hechsher, and it is known that these Klafim have many problems, only that I did not know], therefore in order to correct my sin I stand ready and obliged according to the Halacha (See Mikdash Meat Siman 271, Bet Yosef Orach Chayyim Siman 454, Rokeach, Hagaot Maimoni, Divre Geonim, Chukat ha Pesach Siman 453, Darche Teshuva Yore Deah Siman 117) regarding theft to acknowledge my actions and according to the Halachot of deception, robbing money and robbing the mind, I am ready to return to everyone of my buyers the money they have paid for the Tefillin, Mezuzot and Sifre Torah that they have bought from me, or I am ready to write new Tefillin, Mezuzot and Sifre Torah for them at no cost. And from this moment onwards I will only write on a Klaf with Hechsher of the Bet Din Tzedek of Yerushalaim Ir Ha Koddesh.

With Blessings for a Ketiva and Chatima Tova 5765

Yours Simcha Bunim Greenberg

Those who bought from me know my telephone number therefore I saw no need to write it