

TEXTUAL GUIDELINES

Folio pages of the *Talmud Bavli* are identified by a number followed by one or two dots. One dot denotes the front of the folio page (*amud alef*) while two dots denotes the reverse side (*amud beis*).

The following chapters are based on *shiurim* given by my illustrious *Rebbeim*: “The Seas: The Final Frontier,” “Shimon, Levi, and Yehudah,” “Gad,” “Dan,” and “Reckoning the End.”

All references to the *Kuzari* are from the Rav Yechezkel Sarna edition.

General Guidelines for Transliteration and English Format:

1. Words with a final hei are spelled with a final “h.”
2. “Ei”(the vowel-sound in “weight”) is used for tzeirei.
3. “Ai” is used for the vowel sound in the word “tide.”
4. An apostrophe is used between consecutive vowel sounds, as in “mo’eid.” This is sometimes omitted when the vowel combination also occurs in English with the same pronunciation.
5. An “e” is used for a vocalized sheva, i.e. “bemeizid,” not “b’meizid.”
6. “F” is preferred to “ph.”
7. “O” is used for cholem.
8. Doubling of consonants is generally avoided.
9. “A” is used for kametz.
10. “S” is used for saf.

Transliterated Hebrew words are generally given in italics without capitalization, except for proper nouns, which are capitalized and, in the case of names, not italicized. Some exceptions are made for very familiar Hebrew words, such as “Torah.”

English and Hebrew forms:

The Hebrew forms are generally preferred for Biblical personalities and books, i.e. “Moshe,” not “Moses,” and “*Mishlei*,” not Proverbs. Some exceptions are made for readability.

Other Exceptions:

Other exceptions to these rules most often involve forms already familiar to the English reader, forms that would otherwise be awkward, and ones likely to be pronounced.