

Passover - The Four Questions

מַה נִּשְׁתַּנָּה הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה מִכָּל
הַלַּיְלוֹת?

(1) שֶׁבְּכָל הַלַּיְלוֹת אָנוּ אוֹכְלִין
חֲמִיץ וּמֵצָה. הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה כָּלוּ מֵצָה:

(2) שֶׁבְּכָל הַלַּיְלוֹת אָנוּ אוֹכְלִין
שָׂאֵר יִרְקוֹת הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה מָרוֹר:

(3) שֶׁבְּכָל הַלַּיְלוֹת אֵין אָנוּ
מִטְבִּילִין אֶפֶילוֹ פֶּעַם אַחַת. הַלַּיְלָה
הַזֶּה שְׁתֵּי פְעָמִים:

(4) שֶׁבְּכָל הַלַּיְלוֹת אָנוּ אוֹכְלִין
בֵּין יוֹשְׁבֵין וּבֵין מְסֻבִּין.
הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה כָּלָנוּ מְסֻבִּין:

Mah nishtanah halahylah hazeh mikol halaylot, mikol halaylot?

1. Sheb'chol halaylot anu oachlin chametz umatzah, chametz umatzah. Halahylah hazeh, halahylah hazeh, kulo matzah?
2. Sheb'chol halaylot anu oachlin sh'ar y'rakot, sh'ar y'rakot. Halahylah hazeh, halahylah hazeh, maror?
3. Sheb'chol halaylot ayn anu matbilin afilu pa'am echat, afilu pa'am echat. Halahylah hazeh, halahylah hazeh, sh'tay f'ahmim?
4. Sheb'chol halaylot anu oachlin bayn yoshvin uvayn m'subin, bayn yoshvin uvayn m'subin. Halahylah hazeh, halahylah hazeh, kulanu m'subin?

Why is this night different from all other nights?

1. Why is it that on all other nights during the year we eat either bread or matzah, but on this night we eat only matzah?
2. Why is it that on all other nights we eat all kinds of herbs, but on this night we eat bitter herbs?
3. Why is it that on all other nights we do not dip our herbs even once, but on this night we dip them twice?
4. Why is it that on all other nights we eat either sitting or reclining, but on this night we eat in a reclining position?