
Mann, Rabbi Daniel, ed. *Living the Halachic Process: Questions and Answers for the Modern Jew. Jerusalem; New York: Devora Publishing, 2007. 410p. \$ 24.95 (ISBN 978-1-93268-788-0).*

This collection includes interesting selected responsa (compilation of answers to questions) of the Eretz Hemdah Institute (www.erezhemdah.org), from their web-site "Ask The Rabbi".

This English service has been guided by Rav Yosef Carmel and is geared towards the *dati leumi* in Israel, and the modern Orthodox in the Diaspora.

It is a cooperative production of Yeshivot Hesder, Bnei Akiva, Mizrachi, Yeshiva University and Young Israel.

Living the Halachic Process opens with "How to Use This Book", "Sample Source Sheet from Companion Compact Disk" (one can also download the sources from files.erezhemdah.org/files/books/LIVING.pdf), and an elaborate "introductions; The History and Process of Halacha".

There are eleven sections in the book (A to K): Tefilla (Prayer); Berachot (Blessings); Shabbat; Mo'adim (Festivals); Kashrut; Tzedaka (Charity) and Ribbit (Usury); Holy Articles; Miscellaneous; Family Law; Monetary Law; and Hashkafa (Jewish Outlook). In each section questions are arranged mostly according to complexity. The responses are supported by extensive footnotes, which are further illuminated in the companion CD. The book ends with a glossary/index.

Living the Halachic Process emphasizes the importance of a close relationship with a local rabbi in solving both halachic and personal matters. The book provides well substantiated analysis of specific issues in the context of the halachic process. It is a welcome additional resource for rabbinic school and yeshiva libraries. For a more general reader it is an excellent introduction to the profound and highly articulated process of how Orthodox Judaism deals halachically with new issues.

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