

24/7

Dayan Yehoshua Grunwald

October 1, 2021

Q Our daughter got married on Tuesday, and the *chupah* ended half an hour before sunset. Today, Monday, is the final *sheva brachos*, but it's 20 minutes after *shkiah* and we just reached *bentching*. Is it too late to say *sheva brachos*?

A During the first seven days of marriage where either the *chasan* was a *bachur* or the *kallah* was a *besulah*, *sheva brachos* are recited at the end of *bentching*—provided that a minyan is present, a *panim chadashos* attended, and seven men (according to some, three) ate bread. The first day, from the wedding until nightfall, is reckoned as day one—though it wasn't a full day—and it is followed by six full halachic calendar days, so the seven days end at nightfall on day seven. The Rama (E.H. 62:6) writes that the count begins when the *sheva brachos* under the *chupah* conclude. So in your case it would seem that if your daughter's *chupah* ended last Tuesday before *shkiah*, the final *sheva brachos* must be said the following Monday before *shkiah*.



However, there are several bases to permit saying *sheva brachos* up to 25 minutes after *shkiah*:

- Due to the questionable status of *bein hashmashos*, within 25 minutes after *shkiah* it may yet be daytime.
- According to some, the seven days for *sheva brachos* are calculated as seven 24-hour periods, which in your case wouldn't terminate until Tuesday before *shkiah*.
- Some dispute the Rama's view and maintain that the count begins from the time of the wedding meal.

Given this combination of considerations, many *poskim* permit saying *sheva brachos* in your case.