

Explanation of the Sale of Chametz 5784/2024

 **Please read the following in its entirety before filling out the form.**

According to the Torah, a Jewish person is forbidden to own *chametz* (חֲמֵץ), anywhere in the world, during *Pesach*, even if it won't actually be seen or used during *Pesach*. *Chametz* owned by a Jewish person during *Pesach* becomes non-kosher and may not be eaten, even after *Pesach*. This is why we sell it.

- In Queens this year, the prohibition of owning *chametz* begins at **11:45 am** on Monday, April 22nd, 2024. (The prohibition of eating *chametz* begins slightly earlier, at **10:37 am**.) The prohibition ends when *Pesach* ends – at 8:33 pm on Tuesday, April 30th.
- Ideally, a person should finish eating all their *chametz* and destroy all leftovers before *Pesach* begins.
- Since in our days, destroying all of one's *chametz* is often difficult, wasteful and impractical, the rabbis have provided us with another way of fulfilling the Torah's requirement: selling one's *chametz* to a non-Jew. Non-Jews have no Jewish requirement to disown their *chametz* during *Pesach*, so if we sell them *chametz* we are not asking them to transgress anything for our benefit; by selling it, we no longer own it ourselves, and no longer risk transgressing anything either.
- By filling in the attached Power of Attorney, ICCJ's rabbi, **Rabbi Hillel Hayyim Lavery-Yisraëli** will act as your agent to sell your *chametz* on your behalf. This saves you the hassle of having to locate an interested non-Jew and negotiating the sale yourself.
- **You do not sell *chametz* to the rabbi!** The rabbi merely acts as an agent, and sells your *chametz* directly to the purchaser.
- All *chametz* to be sold should be gathered together in a special place or a few special places, and clearly marked "*chametz*".
- For the duration of *Pesach*, the rabbi also rents out the place in your home in which the *chametz* is being stored – be it a closet, a cupboard, or a section in your refrigerator or freezer – which is why it should be clearly marked.
- The sale will take place on **Monday morning, April 22nd, around 11:00 am**. Sold *chametz* must not be moved, destroyed or eaten from this point on, since it will belong to someone else.
- According to the agreement with the non-Jew, once they own your *chametz*, they have the right to access it if they want to. The sale is final, not temporary, conditional, or merely symbolic.
- After *Pesach*, the rabbi gives the non-Jewish person the opportunity to sell the *chametz* back to its original owner. Assume it is yours again if you haven't heard otherwise by **9:10 pm** on **Tuesday night, April 30th**. Chances are good you will get it back, but give the rabbi a chance to purchase it on your behalf.
- To appoint the rabbi to act as your agent to sell your *chametz*, please fill in the attached form and return it by email to the rabbi (r.hillel@iccj2004.org), or mail it to him in our office: **167-11 73rd Ave, Flushing, NY 11366**. Our deadline for receiving your forms is **Friday, April 19th (before Shabbat)**.

• It is customary to contribute some money to *tzedakah* (charity) when handing in the Sale of *Chametz* form. Some of this money will be given to the non-Jewish person as a token of our appreciation for helping us out with our religious requirements. The rest will be given to those in need. You can donate to the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund [online](#) or by sending in a check, payable to the "**ICCJ Rabbi's Discretionary Fund**," to **167-11 73rd Ave, Flushing, NY 11366**.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact Rabbi Hillel at:
r.hillel@iccj2004.org or (718) 591-5610.

Pesach kasher vesame'ach!
Have a happy and Kosher *Pesach*!

[Rabbi Hillel Hayyim Lavery-Yisraëli](#).





Power of Attorney for Sale of *Chametz* 5784/2024

I/we hereby authorize **Rabbi Hillel Hayyim Lavery-Yisraëli** (or anyone appointed by him to do this on his behalf) to be my/our agent to sell to a non-Jew of his choosing all "*chametz*" (as defined by Jewish law) which is in my/our possession on, or which comes into my/our possession by Monday, 14 Nisan 5784 / April 22nd 2024. Furthermore, I/we authorize him/them to rent out the spaces (shelves, cupboards, closets, freezers or sections of freezers, etc.) where the *chametz* is stored, from Monday 14 Nisan 5784 / April 22nd 2024 until after the conclusion of *Pesach* on Tuesday night, 22 Nisan 5784 / April 30th 2024. I/we understand that the sale will take place on **Monday 14 Nisan 5784 / April 22nd 2024, at around 11:00 am**. To this I/we attach my/our signature and contact information.

Full legal name(s):

	Street Address(es) where the <i>chametz</i> will be kept, e.g. "123-45 67 th Avenue, Flushing, NY 12345": (You might want to include your office, summer cottage, granaries, gym locker, fallout shelter, where you keep your limo/yacht/private jet, etc., if you keep food in these.)	Places at this/these address(es) where the <i>chametz</i> will be stored. (Be as specific as possible. For example: "The cupboard in the basement marked " <i>chametz</i> ".")
1.		
2.		
3.		

Telephone number(s) where I/we can be reached:

Email address(s):

I am enclosing a check in the amount of \$, payable to the "ICCJ Rabbi's Discretionary Fund."

Signature(s):

Date:

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(Spouses/partners who jointly own *chametz* should both sign the form.)