

מקום שנהגו

# MAKOM SHENAHAGU

## MINHAG BECHHOFEN

MIDDLE FRANCONIA, BAVARIA, ASHKENAZ

**THE CUSTOMS OF THE SYNAGOGUE  
THE REGULATIONS OF THE BURIAL SOCIETY  
THE COMMEMORATION BOOK**

THE ORIGINAL MANUSCRIPTS WERE WRITTEN BY

**URI SHRAGA ROSENSTEIN**

SPIRITUAL LEADER OF BECHHOFEN 1867-1903

**EDITED AND ANNOTATED**

**BY**

**RABBI SHLOMO KATANKA**

INCLUDING

AN EXTENSIVE HISTORY OF THE JEWISH COMMUNITY OF BECHHOFEN

BY

RABBI MORDECHAI DOERFER

**MACHON MORESHETH ASHKENAZ**

**THE INSTITUTE FOR GERMAN JEWISH HERITAGE**

**LONDON 5771 - MMXI**

## CONTENTS OF THE HEBREW SECTION

### SECTION ONE THE CUSTOMS OF THE SYNAGOGUE

<b>Preface to Section One</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>Chapter 1 - Sabbath</b> .....	<b>7</b>
Memorial Prayers <b>7</b> ✧ The Mi Sheberach Prayer <b>9</b> ✧ Afternoon Service <b>12</b>	
<b>Chapter 2 - Fast Days</b> .....	<b>17</b>
Minor Day of Atonement <b>17</b> ✧ Reading of the Torah <b>18</b> ✧ Afternoon Service <b>19</b>	
<b>Chapter 3 - Festivals</b> .....	<b>24</b>
Morning Service on the Eve of a Festival <b>24</b> ✧ Evening Service <b>25</b> ✧ Morning Service <b>30</b> ✧ Reading of the Torah <b>30</b> ✧ Inauguration of the Sabbath <b>31</b> ✧ Morning Service for the Day after a Festival <b>33</b>	
<b>Chapter 4 - The Month of Elul</b> .....	<b>35</b>
Sabbath Additional Service <b>35</b> ✧ Penitential Prayers <b>36</b> ✧ The Day before New Year <b>39</b> ✧ Eve of New Year, Ten Days of Penitence and Eve of Day of Atonement <b>40</b> ✧ Order of Service to be Followed When There is no Minyan <b>42</b> ✧ Visiting the Cemetery <b>45</b>	
<b>Chapter 5 - New Year</b> .....	<b>47</b>
Evening Service <b>47</b> ✧ Morning Service <b>50</b> ✧ Blowing of the Shofar <b>57</b> ✧ Additional Service <b>59</b> ✧ Afternoon Service <b>60</b> ✧ Order of Opening and Closing the Ark <b>61</b>	
<b>Chapter 6 - Sabbath of Repentance</b> .....	<b>66</b>
Morning Service <b>66</b> ✧ Memorial Prayers <b>66</b> ✧ Additional Service <b>67</b>	
<b>Chapter 7 - Ten Days of Penitence</b> .....	<b>68</b>
Reading the Torah <b>68</b> ✧ Penitential Prayers for the Eve of the Day of Atonement <b>70</b> ✧ Morning Service for the Eve of the Day of Atonement <b>73</b> ✧ Visiting the Cemetery <b>74</b>	
<b>Chapter 8 - The Day of Atonement</b> .....	<b>77</b>
Evening Service <b>77</b> ✧ Reading of the Torah <b>80</b> ✧ Afternoon Service <b>80</b> ✧ Havdalah Service <b>81</b> ✧ Order of Opening and Closing the Ark <b>85</b>	

<b>Chapter 9 - Sukkoth (Tabernacles)</b> .....	<b>98</b>
The Days before Sukkoth <b>98</b> ✧ Evening Service <b>98</b> ✧ Morning Service <b>98</b> ✧ Reading of the Torah for the Intermediate Days of Sukkoth <b>99</b> ✧ Inauguration of the Intermediate Sabbath of Sukkoth <b>100</b> ✧ Hoshanoth Service for the Intermediate Sabbath of Sukkoth <b>100</b>	
<b>Chapter 10 - Hoshana Rabba</b> .....	<b>102</b>
Order of All-Night Torah Learning <b>102</b> ✧ Preparation of the Ark and Scrolls of the Torah <b>105</b> ✧ Morning Service <b>106</b> ✧ Reading of the Torah <b>109</b> ✧ Additional Service <b>114</b> ✧ Hoshanoth <b>116</b> ✧ The Conclusion of the Service <b>124</b>	
<b>Chapter 11 - Shmini Atzereth (The Eighth Day of Solemn Assembly)</b> .....	<b>134</b>
Matnath Yad Ceremony <b>134</b>	
<b>Chapter 12 - Simchath Torah (Rejoicing of the Law)</b> .....	<b>138</b>
Reading of the Torah <b>138</b> ✧ Maphtir, Haphtorah and the Remainder of the Service <b>143</b> ✧ The Day after the Festival <b>144</b>	
<b>Chapter 13 - Order of Prayers to Cause the Cessation of Excessive Rain</b> ...	<b>146</b>
<b>Chapter 14 - The Winter Fasts of Shovavim Tat</b> .....	<b>148</b>
Order of Penitential Prayers <b>148</b> ✧ Occasions when the Penitential Prayers are Brought Forward <b>150</b>	
<b>Chapter 15 - Fast of the Burial Society</b> .....	<b>151</b>
Morning Service <b>151</b> ✧ Visiting the Cemetery <b>153</b>	
<b>Chapter 16 - Purim</b> .....	<b>155</b>
Afternoon Service for the Fast of Esther <b>155</b> ✧ Evening Service <b>159</b> ✧ Morning Service <b>172</b> ✧ Afternoon Service <b>176</b>	
<b>Chapter 17 - The Great Sabbath</b> .....	<b>179</b>
Eruv Chatzeroth <b>179</b> ✧ Haphtorah <b>182</b>	
<b>Chapter 18 - Pesach (Passover)</b> .....	<b>185</b>
Eruv Chatzeroth <b>185</b> ✧ Inauguration of the Sabbath <b>186</b> ✧ Evening Service <b>187</b> ✧ The Prayer for Dew [and Rain] <b>189</b> ✧ Additional Service <b>190</b> ✧ Reading of the Torah for the Intermediate Days of Pesach <b>192</b> ✧ Inauguration of the Intermediate Sabbath of Pesach <b>193</b> ✧ Morning Service for the Last Days of Pesach <b>193</b>	

<b>Chapter 19 - Shavuoth (Pentecost)</b> .....	<b>195</b>
Afternoon Service <b>195</b> ✧ Order of All-Night Torah Learning <b>195</b> ✧ Morning Service <b>196</b>	
<b>Chapter 20 - Shabbath Chazon (The Sabbath before the Ninth of Av) .</b>	<b>199</b>
Preparation of the Synagogue <b>199</b> ✧ Inauguration of the Sabbath <b>200</b> ✧ Evening Service <b>201</b> ✧ Morning Service <b>202</b> ✧ Reading of the Torah <b>202</b> ✧ Communal Learning Session <b>204</b> ✧ Afternoon Service <b>205</b>	
<b>Chapter 21 - The Ninth of Av</b> .....	<b>208</b>
Evening Service <b>208</b> ✧ Morning Service <b>214</b> ✧ Reading of the Torah <b>217</b> ✧ Kinoth and the Book of Lamentations <b>218</b> ✧ Afternoon Service <b>220</b> ✧ Evening Service at the Conclusion of the Fast <b>226</b>	
<b>Chapter 22 - The Fifteenth of Av and The Fifteenth of Shevat</b> .....	<b>227</b>
<b>Chapter 23 - Days of Communal Celebration to Mark Deliverance from Danger</b> .....	<b>229</b>
<b>Chapter 24 - Days following the Birth of a Boy and Brith Milah (Circumcision)</b> .....	<b>230</b>
Zachor (Celebration on the first Friday Night after the Birth of a Boy) <b>230</b> ✧ Order of Learning on the Night before a Brith Milah <b>232</b>	
<b>Chapter 25 - Service at a Consecration of a New House</b> .....	<b>235</b>
<b>Chapter 26 - Order of Service for the Recovery of the Sick</b> .....	<b>238</b>
Order of Service <b>238</b> ✧ Timing of Prayers <b>240</b>	
<b>Chapter 27 - Laws of an Onen (Children Awaiting the Burial of their Parents) on the Sabbath</b> .....	<b>241</b>
Afternoon Service for the Eve of the Sabbath <b>241</b> ✧ Morning Service <b>247</b> ✧ Reading of the Torah <b>247</b> ✧ Communal Learning Session <b>248</b> ✧ Evening Service at the Conclusion of the Sabbath <b>248</b> ✧ Havdalah Service <b>248</b>	
<b>Chapter 28 - House of Mourning</b> .....	<b>250</b>
The Beginning of the Shivah <b>250</b> ✧ The First Afternoon and Evening Service <b>251</b> ✧ The Beginning of the Shivah when there are no Mourners at all <b>252</b> ✧ The Beginning of the Shivah when none of the Mourners are in the Locality <b>254</b> ✧ Morning Service <b>255</b> ✧ Order of Service when no Minyan is Present <b>259</b> ✧ Evening Service held after Nightfall <b>262</b> ✧ Sabbath Morning Service <b>263</b>	

<b>Chapter 29 - Order of Precedence for Reciting Kaddish .....</b>	<b>265</b>
Year of Mourning and Yahrtzeit <b>265</b> ✧ Shivah <b>270</b> ✧ Thirty Days <b>270</b> ✧ Rabbis' Kaddish <b>271</b>	
<b>Chapter 30 - Order of Precedence of those Called to the Torah and of Various Special Readings from the Torah .....</b>	<b>274</b>
Order of Precedence of those Called to the Torah <b>274</b> ✧ Order of Various Special Readings from the Torah <b>278</b>	
<b>Chapter 31 - Order of the Hapthoroth.....</b>	<b>281</b>
Hapthoroth for Double Sidroth <b>281</b> ✧ Hapthoroth for Special Sabbaths <b>283</b> ✧ General Rule followed to decide Order of Hapthoroth <b>286</b>	

## SECTION TWO

### THE REGULATIONS OF THE BURIAL SOCIETY

<b>Preface to Section Two .....</b>	<b>293</b>
<b>Chapter 1 - Preparation of the Deceased for Purification.....</b>	<b>295</b>
Preparation for Washing <b>295</b> ✧ The Initial Wash <b>296</b> ✧ The Process of Cleaning <b>297</b> ✧ An Uncircumcised Baby Boy <b>297</b>	
<b>Chapter 2 - Purification of the Deceased.....</b>	<b>298</b>
Verses Recited during the Purification <b>298</b> ✧ The Purification <b>298</b> ✧ Treatment of the Wounds of the Deceased <b>299</b> ✧ Purification of a Person who Committed Suicide <b>299</b>	
<b>Chapter 3 - Dressing the Deceased in Shrouds.....</b>	<b>300</b>
General Instructions for the Dressing the Deceased in Shrouds [for a Married Man] <b>300</b> ✧ The Timing of Placing of the Socks <b>302</b> ✧ The Absence of Knots in the Clothing of the Deceased <b>302</b> ✧ Moving of the Deceased <b>302</b>	
<b>Chapter 4 - Details of the Various Sets of Clothing Used to Dress the Deceased.....</b>	<b>304</b>
A Baby Boy that Died at Childbirth or Soon Afterwards <b>304</b> ✧ A Baby Boy that Died under Age One <b>304</b> ✧ A Boy that Died over Age One <b>305</b> ✧ A Man that Died <b>307</b> ✧ A Baby Girl that Died under Age One <b>307</b> ✧ A Girl that Died over Age One and An Unmarried Woman that Died <b>307</b> ✧ A Married Woman that Died <b>308</b>	

✧ A Woman who Died During or Soon After Childbirth **309** ✧ A Stillborn Baby or A Baby under One Month Old **310** ✧ Inclusion of a Towel and a Lock with every Interment **310** ✧ The Placing of the Socks **311**

**Chapter 5 - Placing the Deceased in the Coffin .....312**

Reciting the Burial Society Prayer **312** ✧ The Appropriate Number of People that are Required to Move the Deceased **312** ✧ The Enwrapping in a Talith and a Sheet **312** ✧ The Pillow filled with Earth **313** ✧ Covering the Eyes and Mouth **314**

**Chapter 6 - Order of Requesting Forgiveness from the Deceased .....315**

General Request for Forgiveness **315** ✧ Forgiveness Requested by the Son and Relatives of the Deceased **316** ✧ Forgiveness Requested by the Members of the Burial Society **316** ✧ The Final Request for Forgiveness **316** ✧ Asking Forgiveness from a Deceased Woman **316** ✧ Holding on to the Deceased Whilst Asking for Forgiveness **316** ✧ Tears Must Not Be Shed on the Corpse **317**

**Chapter 7 - The Blessing upon Visiting a Cemetery .....318**

**Chapter 8 - The Order of Tearing the Clothes and the Blessing Dayan HaEmeth .....319**

Tearing the Clothes and the Blessing Dayan HaEmeth **319** ✧ Tearing the Clothes on Festivals **320** ✧ Tearing the Clothes on the Intermediate Days of Festivals **320**

**Chapter 9 - The Kaddish after the Internment .....322**

Kaddish after Internment **322** ✧ Days When Tziduk HaDin is Said **322**

**Chapter 10 - The Laws of Purification and Burial on Festivals .....323**

The First Day of the Festival **323** ✧ The Second Day of the Festival **324** ✧ Purification and Burial of A Stillborn Baby or A Baby under One Month Old **324**

**SECTION THREE  
THE COMMEMORATION BOOK**

**Preface to Section Three .....329**

1. Lecha Dodi **334** ✧ 2. Psalm XCII **337** ✧ 3. Psalm XCIII **338** ✧ 4. Order of Eruv Chatzeroth **338** ✧ 5. Al HaKol Yithgadal **340** ✧ 6. The Mi Sheberach Prayer for The Person Called to the Torah Readings of Rebuke **341** ✧ 7. Yekum Purkan **343** ✧ 8. The Mi Sheberach Prayer for the Congregation **344** ✧ 9. The Prayer for the

Royal Family **344** ✧ 10. The Prayer for the New Month **344** ✧ 11. The Mi Sheberach Prayer for the Individual for Matnath Yad **346** ✧ 12. The Mi Sheberach Prayer for Those Exiled from Zöschingen **347** ✧ 13. Memorial Prayers for the Sabbath **347** ✧ 14. Memorial Prayers for the Sabbath before Shavuoth and Shabbath Chazon (the Sabbath before the Ninth of Av) **355** ✧ 15. The Collective Mi Sheberach Prayer for Matnath Yad **369** ✧ 16. The Mi Sheberach Prayer for the Fasts of BeHaB **370**

**APPENDIX I - PRAYERS AND SUPPLICATIONS.....374**

Prayer to be Recited before Learning the Torah **374** ✧ Prayer to be Recited on Behalf of a Woman during the Seventh Month of her Pregnancy **374** ✧ Prayer to be Recited on the Night before a Brith Milah **375**

**APPENDIX II - PRAYERS AND SUPPLICATIONS THAT ADORNED THE SYNAGOGUE WALLS EXECUTED BY ELIEZER SUSSMAN KATZ .....376**

**APPENDIX III - RESPONSA EXAMINING THE BECHHOFEN CUSTOM REGARDING THE ORDER OF PRECEDENCE FOR RECITING KADDISH (written 1756-7).....395**

**BIBLIOGRAPHY.....405**

**GENERAL INDEX.....422**

**LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS.....447**