

מועד קטן יח

It is אסור for an אבל to cut his nails during שלושים with a כלי. It is מותר with hands or teeth even during שבעה. A woman who is an אבל and needs to go to the מקוה may have her nails cut by a גוי. The רמ"א says it may even be done by a Jew.

The מחבר writes that it is מותר to cut fingernails on חול המועד. The רמ"א is מחמיר, but the מנהג is one who cuts his nails every ערב שבת may do so on חול המועד of ערב שבת.

It is אסור to write on חול המועד. The רמ"א explains that לצורך מצוה, it is מותר to write (or for a דבר האבד, or לצורך רבים). Furthermore, he notes, writing that is אסור refers to professional writing (calligraphy or ספרות), but our writing which is מעשה הדיוט (and not מעשה אומן), is מותר. Many people today are מחמיר to write with a שינוי or not to write at all, but there is no חיוב (תבוא עליו ברכה, מחמיר, but one who is מעיקר הדין).

While it is אסור to get married on חול המועד, it is מותר to get engaged.

A שטר חוב may not be written on חול המועד. However, if the borrower does not have what to eat, and the lender will not lend him the money without a שטר חוב, the שטר חוב may be written.

חול המועד may be written if needed on חול המועד. If they are not needed on חול המועד, then a סופר may write them for himself, or for another, if he dies not have what to eat.

