



Sources On Placing the Hanukkiah in The Window

1. Babylonian Talmud Shabbat 21b

Our Rabbis taught: It is incumbent to place the Hanukkah lamp by the door of one's house on the outside; if one dwells in an upper chamber, he places it at the window nearest the street. But in times of danger it is sufficient to place it on the table.

2. Babylonian Talmud Shabbat 22a

Rabbah said: The Hanukkah lamp should be placed within the handbreadth nearest the door. And where is it placed?—R. Aha son of Raba said: On the right hand side: R. Samuel of Difti said: On the left hand side. And the law is, on the left, so that the Hanukkah lamp shall be on the left and the mezuzah on the right.

3. Mishnah Baba Kama 6:6

If a spark escapes from underneath a hammer and does damage, there would be liability.

If while a camel laden with flax was passing through a public thoroughfare the flax got into a shop and caught fire by coming in contact with the shopkeeper's candle, and set alight the whole building, the owner of the camel would be liable.

If, however, the shopkeeper left his candle outside [his shop], he would be liable. R. Judah says: if it was a Chanukah candle the shopkeeper would not be liable.



4. Rambam, Mishneh Torah, Laws of Chanukah 3:3

For this reason, the Sages of that generation instituted that these eight days beginning on the 25th of Kislev are to be days of rejoicing and praise [to God]. We are to kindle lights at evening time at the entrances to [our] houses on each of these eight nights in order to show and reveal the miracle.

5. HaNerot Hallalu

We kindle these lights [to commemorate] the saving acts, miracles and wonders which You have performed for our forefathers, in those days at this time, through Your holy priests. Throughout the eight days of Chanukah, these lights are sacred, and we are not permitted to make use of them, but only to look at them, in order to offer thanks and praise to Your great Name for Your miracles, for Your wonders and for Your salvations.

Thanks to Rabbi Richard Prass, Congregation Beth Am, Buffalo Grove, IL