Calculating the End (of Slavery)

God told *Avraham* (*Abraham*) that his children would be living in “lands not their own” and would be enslaved for 400 years, Yet the *Torah* states that the Israelites were in Egypt for 210 years. So we say God “calculated the end” (*chisheiv et ha'keitz*) of the enslavement: He started the counting from the birth of *Avraham's* son, *Yitzchak* (Isaac), until the *Exodus* (a total of 400 years), as follows:

Time from Birth of *Avraham's* Son to Going Down to Egypt

- *Yaakov* (Jacob) was born when *Yitzchak* was 60 years old.
- *Yaakov* told *Par'o* (Pharoah) (when he and the rest of his family entered Egypt) that he was 130 years old.
- 60 + 130= **190 years before going down to Egypt**

Time in Egypt
210 years in Egypt

Time from Birth of *Avraham's* Son to *Exodus*
190 Before going down to Egypt
+ **210** In Egypt
= **400 years from *Yitzchak's* birth to the *Exodus***.

NOTE *Yitzchak* and *Yaakov* did not yet “own” *Eretz Yisrael*. Since the Israelites were not given *Eretz Yisrael* until after the *Exodus*, *Avraham's* offspring were living in “lands not their own” for 400 years.

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