

KOL MEVASSER

The Iraqi Jewish Archives Update

by Joseph Dabby

Members of Congress Ileana Ross-Lehtinen and Steve Israel have received no response to their bi-partisan letter to Secretary of State John Kerry. They are now writing again to the State Department with six definitive questions that they seek answers for – including the option of not returning the Iraqi archives to Iraq.

Senators Toomey and Blumenthal introduced a Senate Resolution on January 16, 2014, co-sponsored by Senators Schumer, Kirk, Cardin, Rubio, Roberts, Kaine, Boxer and Menendez.

Following is a copy of the Resolution (which was based in part on the 'Jewish communal statement') "Strongly recommending that the United States renegotiate the return of the Iraqi Jewish Archive to Iraq."

113TH CONGRESS 2D SESSION S. RES.
Strongly recommending that the United States renegotiate the return of the Iraqi Jewish Archive to Iraq.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES
Mr. TOOMEY submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on

RESOLUTION strongly recommending that the United States renegotiate the return of the Iraqi Jewish Archive to Iraq.

Whereas, before the mid-20th century, Baghdad had been a center of Jewish life, culture, and scholarship, dating back to 721 BC;

Whereas, as recently as 1940, Jews made up 25 percent of Baghdad's population;

Whereas, in the 1930's and 1940's, under the leadership of Rasheed Ali, anti-Jewish discrimination increased drastically, including the June 1-2, 1941, Farhud pogrom, in which nearly 180 Jews were killed;

Whereas, in 1948, Zionism was added to the Iraqi criminal code as punishable by death;

Whereas, throughout 1950–1953, Jews were allowed to leave Iraq under the condition that they renounce their citizenship;

Whereas, as result of past persecution, few Jews remain in Iraq today, and many left their possessions and treasured artifacts behind;

Whereas the Ba'ath regime confiscated these artifacts, later dubbed the Iraqi

(Continued on page 2)

KJ Schedule Parashat Mishpatim

Erev Shabbat / Shabbat Eve Friday, January 24th

Shaharit/Morning Prayer.....	6:30 am
Shir Hashirim	4:35 pm
Shabbat Candlelighting	4:57 pm
Minhah/Arbith	4:57 pm

Yom Shabbat / Shabbat Day Saturday, January 25th

Shaharit/Morning Prayer	8:30 am
Birkat Hachodesh for Adar I..... <i>during services</i>	
Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Daniel Bouskila	
..... <i>following services, approximately 12 noon</i>	
Minha, Seudah Shlisheet, Arvit	4:00 pm
Motzei Shabbat / Havdallah.....	6:01 pm

Weekdays

Sunday , January 26th

Shaharit	7:30 am
KJ Kids Sunday School	10:00 am
David Kelly KJ Youth Choir	12:00 pm

Monday to Thursday, January 27th to 30th

Shaharit	6:30 am
----------------	---------

Rosh Hodesh Adar I & Erev Shabbat Friday, January 31st

Shaharit/Morning Prayer.....	6:15 am
Shir Hashirim	4:45 pm
Shabbat Candlelighting	5:04 pm
Minhah/Arbith	5:04 pm

Torah & Haftara Readings Parashat Mishpatim

from Exodus/Shemot pages 306 to 322
Haftara Jeremiah / Yirmiyahu 323 to 324

(Continued from page 1)

Jewish Archive, from synagogues and communal organizations;

Whereas, on May 6, 2003, members of the United States Armed Forces discovered the Iraqi Jewish Archive, which included 2,700 books and tens of thousands of documents, in the heavily damaged and flooded basement of the Mukhabarat (secret police) headquarters;

Whereas, under great urgency and before adequate time could be dedicated to re-searching the history of the Iraqi Jewish Archive, an agreement was signed between the National Archives and Records Administration and the Coalition Provisional Authority on August 20, 2003, stating that the Iraqi Jewish Archive would be sent to the United States for restoration and then would be sent back to Iraq after completion;

Whereas, the Iraqi Jewish community is the constituency of the Archive and is now rep-

(Continued on page 3)

Refuah Shlemah

Mordechai Cohen / Mordecai ben Avraham
Moselle Amron/Mazal Tov bat Salha Matana
Tilda Levy / Tilda bat Miriam
Joseph Sharaf / Yossef ben Jamila
Maurice Ovadia / Moshe ben Noosha
Pnina Herzbrun / Pnina bat Esther
Michael Herzbrun / Michael Baruch ben Sarah

Please renew these names each week, as we will be regularly updating the list. If you would like to remove or add a member's name please call 310-474-0559

Shabbat Kiddush

is sponsored in memory of

Naima bat Farha, z"l
Norma Dabby, z"l

by

Karen & Frank Dabby

Seudah Shlisheet

is sponsored in memory of

Manachi ben Ezra, z"l
Manachi Kemareh, z"l

by

Merna Ironi and
Ourite & Abe Kamara

Condolences

*To the family and friends of
Manachi Kemareh, z"l
especially his children
Merna Ironi and Abe Kamara
his daughter-in-law, Ourite Kamara,
his grandchildren
Dror, Danny, & Dennis Ironi
Gabriella, Daniella, & Michael Kamara
May Hashem comfort them together
with all the mourners of Tzion.*

In Memoriam

We remember these yahrzeit anniversaries for January 25 to February 2, 2014. It is customary to light a memorial candle, donate tzedaka, & attend services the preceding Shabbat.

24 Shevat / Shabbat, January 25th

Rachel David *Rahel bat Regina*

25 Shevat / Sunday, January 26th

Norma Dabby *Naima bat Farha*
Morton Raymond Einy *Mordecai ben Rahamim*
Abraham Sales *Avraham ben Sassoon*

26 Shevat / Monday, January 27th

Mozelle bat *Simha*
Moshe Solomon *Moshe Hai ben David*
Abraham Haim Yaacov *Avraham ben Haim*

27 Shevat / Tuesday, January 28th

Ezra Avrahamy *Ezra ben Yosef*
Nathan Bass *Nathan ben Yisrael*
Moshe Dallal

28 Shevat / Wednesday, January 29th

Hilda Jacob *Haviva bat Masooda*
Nassim Shamash *Nassim ben Sarah Khatoun*

29 Shevat / Thursday, January 30th

Ramah Duke *Rahma bat Salha Khatoun*
Georgia Jiji
Mordechai Sassoon *Mordehai Hayim ben Moshe*

30 Shevat / Friday, January 31st

Nagi Avraham *Nagi ben Murad*
Shaul Cohen *Shaul ben David*
Haim Elazar *Haim ben Yisrael*

1 Adar I / Shabbat, February 1st

Yosef Soffer *Yosef ben Eliyahu*



David S. Kelly
KJ YOUTH CHOIR
Rabbi Batzri, Director
January 26th @ 12:00 noon, b"H

(Continued from page 2)

resented by the diaspora outside Iraq;

Whereas, the current Government of Iraq has publicly acknowledged the importance of the Archive and demonstrated a shared respect for the wishes of the Iraqi Jewish diaspora by attending the December 2013 burial of several Torah fragments from the Archive in New York;

Whereas United States taxpayers have invested \$3,000,000 to restore the Iraqi Jewish Archive, and the National Archives and Records Administration has worked diligently to preserve the artifacts;

Whereas the National Archives and Records Administration is displaying the Iraqi Jewish Archive in Washington, D.C. from October 11, 2013, to January 5, 2014, and in New York City from February 4, 2014, to May 18, 2014;

and Whereas the Iraqi Embassy to the United States has said that the Iraqi Jewish community, like other communities in Iraq, played a key role in building the country, shared in its prosperity, and also suffered exile and forced departure because of tyranny: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) strongly urges the Department of State to renegotiate with the Government of Iraq the provisions of the original agreement that was signed between the National Ar-

chives and Records Administration and the Coalition Provisional Authority in order to ensure that the Iraqi Jewish Archive be kept in a place where its long-term preservation and care can be guaranteed;

(2) recognizes that the Iraqi Jewish Archive should be housed in a location that is accessible to scholars and to Iraqi Jews and their descendants who have a personal interest in it;

(3) recognizes that the agreement between the National Archives and Records Administration and the Coalition Provisional Authority was signed before knowing the complete history of the Iraqi Jewish Archive;

(4) reaffirms the United States commitment to cultural property under international law; and

(5) reaffirms the United States commitment to ensuring justice for victims of ethnic and religious persecution.

Iraqi Jewish Archives

JIMENA is collecting a database of the rightful owners of personal documents in the Archives. Owners of documents or heirs to these owners can demand that their original documents, and therefore the Archives, be kept where they are accessible to the Iraqi Jewish community in the diaspora. If you find a document of yours or of your family's or if you recognize a document belonging to someone you know, please contact JEMINA at sarahlevin@jimena.org or call 847-514-7015. Search the National Archives:

www.ija.archives.gov

Kahal Joseph Congregation

Norma & Sam Dabby
Jewish Learning Center

Mommy & Me

Tuesdays@11 am

Starting February 4, 2014



Natural, Child-centered Play Area
Shabbat Fun & Holiday Celebration
Art, Music, Creative Play, Storytelling
Alef-Bet, Hebrew & Jewish Values
Warm Community & Joyful Learning

Tuition

\$80/month KJ members

\$110/month KJ guests

\$40 for one-time drop-in



For enrollment & information contact our
Educational Director, Dafna Ezran-Young
dafna@kahaljoseph.org or 310-502-8548
or call the synagogue office at
310.474.0559



Lunch & Learn

with Rabbi Daniel Bouskila, SEC Director

January 25, February 22 & March 29, 2014
following Shabbat Services

Come learn, discuss & expand your horizons with Rabbi Daniel Bouskila, Director of the Sephardic Educational Center, as he explores timely issues affecting the Jewish world.

January 25

**Women, Halakha & Modernity:
Irreconcilable Differences or Compatible Values?**

February 22

**Hebron, 1929: The True Origins of the
Palestinian-Israeli Conflict**

March 29

**Halakhic Genius, Political Revolutionary:
The Unique Legacy of Rav Ovadia Yosef**

\$10 for members w/ required reservation
\$26 for non-members w/ pre-paid advance reservation
*Please call the synagogue office at
310.474.0559 to make your lunch reservation.*

Kahal Joseph Congregation

Norma & Sam Dabby Jewish Education Center

Dafna Ezran-Young, Educational Director

Sunday School for KJ Kids

Nurture Creativity

Explore Spirituality

Learn Jewish Heritage



THINK



Arts & Crafts
Culture & History
Music & Drama
Shabbat & Holidays

Out of the Box

*Fun & learning all year long!
Limited spaces available.*

For information contact
Dafna Ezran-Young,
our Educational Director
at 310.502.8548 or
dafnayoung@gmail.com

*\$60 a month for
KJ Members
\$110 a month
Guests of KJ*

Friends &
Community



♥ Sunday
Buddies ♥



Home ♥ Study
with Computers