

KOL MEVASSER



President's Message

by Ronald Einy

Dear Members and Friends,

Spring is the season for renewal, celebration, and the welcoming of life. Spring, or in Hebrew 'aviv,' brings us the birth of the Jewish people. Passover is the first holiday we celebrated as a historically distinct nation, rather than a collection of families who shared forefathers.

On the eve of our redemption from Egypt, on that first Passover millennia ago, the Jewish people were not what we are today. We were barely out of bondage. We had few resources with which to navigate the world. We were not yet independent people, keepers of our own destiny.

At the time of the Exodus, as in recent history, we were simply refugees. Little more than slaves set adrift by another culture, by other peoples who kept us down. But guided and protected by G-d, then as now, we created a place to call home.

Today as Jews, we enjoy a time of relative prosperity, a time when we can enjoy success, sovereignty and self-determination,

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A Word from the Rabbi

by Rabbi Hagay Batzri

Each person is obligated to see himself/herself as the one who went out of Egypt

Why?

Aside for the amazing historical fact of the Exodus from Egypt, or Yetziat Mitzrayim, a fact which is very important for us to remember, appreciate and analyze, there is another way we should look at the Exodus.

The Ben Ish Hai explains that each of us needs to look within ourselves for the attitude of enslavement, as if we were slaves in Egypt. We each need to answer the question, and discover within ourselves: "In what part of my life am I still enslaved?"

Any act that we do and we know deep in our hearts that it is not what we really want to be doing; any time there is something stopping us from fulfilling our life's purpose, pursuing what we wish and are meant to accomplish—that is slavery.

We can see this attitude in almost any matter in life.

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KJ Pesah Schedule

Shabbat HaGadol
Parashat Acharei Mot

Erev Shabbat HaGadol
Friday, April 11, 2014

Shaharit	6:30 am
Shir Hashirim.....	6:50 pm
Minha and Arbit	7:00 pm
Candle Lighting	7:03 pm

Shabbat HaGadol
Saturday, April 12, 2014

Shaharit	8:30 am
Guest Speaker, Rabbi Bouskila <i>morning services</i>	
Pesah Class with Rabbi Batzri	6:00 pm
Minha, Seuda Shlishit and Arbit	6:30 pm
Motzei Shabbat	8:07 pm

Sunday, April 13, 2014

Shaharit	7:30 am
Mekhirat Hametz <i>Sell hametz...</i>	<i>before 7:00 pm</i>
Checking for Hametz /Bedikat Hametz	
<i>Search homes for Hametz this evening after dark</i>	

PASSOVER, FIRST SEDER
Ta'anit B'chorim / Fast of Firstborn
Monday, April 14, 2014

Shaharit	6:30 am
Siyyum Masechet with Refreshments	
<i>Firstborns are invited to celebrate an achievement in Torah learning. They may then shorten their fast by joining in this mitzvah.</i>	

Stop Eating Hametz	<i>before 10:10 am</i>
Biur Hametz, Burn Hametz	<i>before 11:32 am</i>
Candle Lighting	7:05 pm
Minha, Arbit & Hallel Hagadol	6:30 pm
First Night Seder	<i>begins after dark</i>

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and a time when our children can follow the path of Torah, the path of mitzvot and good deeds; the path of the Jewish people. And we can stand proud and strong.

The Jewish people have done much more than survive; we thrive in the world. This is something to celebrate, but not to be taken for granted, as we remember our birth as a nation and our long journey to freedom.

On this our Passover, Letizia and I are remembering with you, the rich tradition of the Seder. As we wish you warmth and togetherness, a time of reflection, peace in our hearts and homes, and happiness always.

May our synagogue and the entire Kahal family be blessed with the bountiful gifts of life, the love of family and friends, and a year fresh with new hope and promise. Hag Sameach.

Congratulations

Jacob Oren Partiyeli &
Charlene Neman
on your engagement

Mazal Tov to your parents
Jaleh & Abner Partiyeli and
Suheila & Sion Neman



David Kelly YOUTH CHOIR

Rabbi Batzri, Director

Passover Break

Next Meeting Sunday, April 27@11:30 am

Shabbat Kiddush

is sponsored in honor of
the Bar Mitzvah of

Nathan Ebrahimian

by Mitra Mescobi

Congratulations

Nathan Ebrahimian
on your Bar Mitzvah

Mazal Tov

to mom, Mitra Mescobi, sisters,
Shantal and Negin and
grandparents Parvin & Albert Mescobi

Thank You

to Louis Nathan for organizing the cleaning of
KJ's Torah scrolls for Passover in memory of
her father Jack Sassoon, z"l

Thank you to the ladies & gentlemen who
polished the cases of KJs Torahs

Ben & Sophie Elias
Shoshana Goury
Baruch Isaac & Rita Zakoo
Doris Moshi
Diana Solomon
Soraya Vahedi
Anita Wozniak

And a special thank you to Shula Wyner for
preparing lunch for our volunteers



Welcome
Rabbi Daniel
Bouskila

our Guest Speaker
for Shabbat HaGadol

In Memoriam

We remember yearzeit anniversaries for April 12 to
19, 2014. It is customary to light a memorial candle, do-
nate tzedaka, & attend services the preceding Shabbat.

12 Nisan / Shabbat, April 12th

Flora Cohen *Farha Mitana bat Rahma Regina*
Ralph Ferris *Rafal ben Itzhak Faraj HaCohen*
Luna Kadoorie *Luna bat Mazal Cohen*
David Levi Solomon *David ben Shlomo HaLevi*

13 Nisan / Sunday, April 13th

Abraham Asher Ezra *Atraghji Avraham Asher ben Ezra*

15 Nisan / Tuesday, April 15th

Tillie Shansky *Tillie bat Evelyn*
Naima Shashoua *Naima bat Zvida*
Eyob Yehuda *Eyob ben Yehuda*

16 Nisan / Wednesday, April 16th

Errol Levi *Ezra ben Shaul HaLevi*
Sanford Norman Levine *Shlomo Nachmun ben Yaacov*
John Nahai *Homayoun Nahai*

Refuah Shlemah

Rahel bat Marcel

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
To change a name please call 310-474-0559

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Our holiday, Passover, is really more about the future and much less about the past.

The “geulah” or redemption we must look for is from our internal bonds, not from anyone else’s bondage or enslavement of us. People who are waiting for the Mashiach to come and solve all their problems are living in a dream.

As one Maimonides’ 13 Principles of Faith is the statement: “ I believe with a complete belief in the coming of the Mashiach; even if he should delay, I will wait for him.”

Every moment after you have freed yourself from a bad habit, you should continue to maintain that level of consciousness and introspection. We should continue to seek the Mashiach. If he has not appeared yet then it means we are not there yet, individually. We need to keep going and elevate every aspect of our life; we need to try to redeem ourselves, one by one. We need to believe we’ll achieve our “Mashiach” readiness within ourselves. If we experience this type of redemption in our own way, we’ll notice that by ourselves we have redeemed ourselves from our own Egypt, our own enslavement in a modern Mitzrayim of slavery.

I wish you all success with your individual redemption. Then, when we greet one another this Pesah we will be able to see the approach of “Mashiach” in each other. Amen.

Iraqi Ma Nishtana on Youtube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=651JGohwW-I>

Share with your children the traditional Iraqi melody for the 15 Seder steps and the Ma Nishtana sung by Rabbi Batzri for KJ’s Talmud Torah



What Is Different About These Four Questions?

Dafna Ezran-Young, KJ Talmud Torah Director

The Four Questions, also known as the “Ma Nishtana,” are traditionally recited by the youngest child who prompts the “Maggid,” the retelling of the Jewish people’s redemption from slavery.

Many Jews assume that the four questions come in one, fixed order:

1. the question about the matzah
2. a question about the maror or bitter herbs
3. a question why we dip our food twice (first in salt water, then in charoset) and
4. a question about why we recline and lean in our chairs while eating.

But some of us have had the experience of a grandparent, parent, aunt or uncle assuming a young child was mixing up the order of the questions. This is because, in the Sephardic world, the questions often did come in a different order:

1. first came the question about dipping twice,
2. then the question about matzah,
3. third the one about maror, and
4. the question about reclining in our chairs.

You might be asking yourself, why does this even matter? Well, first it may be confusing to a young child to learn one order, only to be told it is “wrong.” Second, it is important not only to do things for the sake of tradition, but to understand why we do what we do. Otherwise how can we answer our children’s questions meaningfully?

So, why do these two orders exist for the Four Questions? Here is one answer, and there are certainly more.

The current order prioritizes questions in terms of importance, perhaps reflecting a fear that

some children may, in fact, only learn the first or second questions when immersed in a largely secular society. So, the most important concept to understand about Passover comes first: matzah. This tips off the whole story of the Exodus because we need to tell the children why the Jewish people had no time to bake their bread. The second most important concept follows: maror or bitter herbs that symbolize the difficulty of slavery. And so on.

The Sephardic order has a different purpose. It assumes children will certainly learn all four questions. Given that, then the most important thing to teach is the order of the Seder itself, because children also need to learn how to eventually lead the Seder themselves. So the Sephardic order for the Ma Nishtana follows the order of the Seder steps.

The first thing we do at the Seder, after saying kiddush and washing hands, is dipping the Carpas or green vegetable in salt water reminiscent of the Jewish people’s tears in Egypt. Since kiddush and hand-washing are often familiar, the Carpas is the first action that requires explanation. The questions then follow in the order, or “Seder,” of the actions that we take: second, bless the matza; third, eat maror; fourth, recline while we enjoy the meal. Thus the Ma Nishtana becomes a primer that begins teaching children a basic version of the fifteen steps of the Seder.

Whatever order or ritual we choose, we should understand why we do what we do and we should communicate that meaning to our children. For after all, they will be the ones passing on our history in the not-too-distant future.

Hag Sameah! Happy Passover,

Dafna Ezran-Young, Educational Director
KJ Norma & Sam Dabby Talmud Torah

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PASSOVER, SECOND SEDER
Tuesday, April 15, 2014

Shaharit..... 8:30 am
A Class: AVOT w/Rabbi Batzri .. 6:00 pm
Minha, Arvit, & Hallel Hagadol ... 6:30 pm
Candle Lighting..... on or after 8:09 pm
Second Night Seder... begins after dark
Sefirat Ha'Omer First Night

Passover Yom Tov, Second Day
Wednesday, April 16, 2014

Shaharit 8:30 am
A Class: w/ Rabbi Batzri..... 6:30 pm
Minha & Arvit..... 7:20 pm
Havdallah, Yom Tov 8:10 pm
Sefirat Ha'Omer Second Night

Chol HaMoed Passover, Third Day
Thursday, April 17, 2014

Shaharit..... 6:30 am
Sefirat Ha'Omer Third Night

Erev Shabbat, Passover Fourth Day
Friday, April 18, 2014

Shaharit..... 6:30 am
Shir Hashirim 6:55 pm
Candle Lighting 7:08 pm
Minha & Arvit..... 7:00 pm
Sefirat Ha'Omer Fourth Night

Shabbat Pesah, Passover Fifth Day
Saturday, April 19, 2014

Shaharit..... 8:30 am
Class with Rabbi Batzri 6:00 pm
Minha, Arvit, Seuda Shlisheet.... 6:45 pm
Shabbat Havdallah..... 8:12 pm
Sefirat Ha'Omer Fifth Night

Erev Yom Tov, Passover Sixth Day
Sunday, April 20, 2014

Shaharit..... 7:30 am
Candle Lighting 7:10 pm
Minha and Arvit 7:00 pm
Sefirat Ha'Omer Sixth Night

Yom Tov, Passover Seventh Day
Monday, April 21, 2014

Shaharit..... 8:30 am
Class with Rabbi Batzri 6:15 pm
Minha and Arvit 7:00 pm
Candle Lighting after 8:14 pm
Sefirat Ha'Omer Seventh Night

Yom Tov, Passover Eighth Day
Tuesday, April 22, 2014

Shaharit..... 8:30 am
Class with Rabbi Batzri 6:15 pm
Minha & Arvit..... 7:25 pm
Havdallah 8:15 pm
Sefirat Ha'Omer Eighth Night

Kahal Joseph Congregation

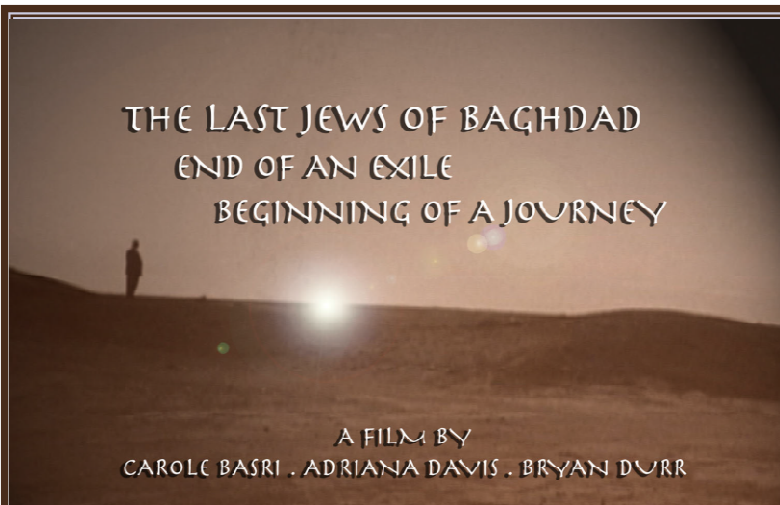
10505 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90025
310.474.0559 phone 310.441.4059 fax

Selling of Hametz
Mekhirat Hametz Form

*We must receive this form by fax or mail
before Sunday, April 13, 2014 at 7:00 pm.*

Know all by these present That I _____, do hereby authorize Rabbi Hagay Batzri, at Kahal Joseph Congregation, 10505 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90025, to sell, transfer and assign all Hametz of whatever kind and nature, of which I am possessed and seized, or in which I may have an interest, wheresoever situated, in my residence at _____ my place of business, or any other place, without reservation and limitation. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this on date _____, 2014.

Signature _____ Date _____



Thursday, May 1st at 7:00 pm at Kahal Joseph

Filmmaker Carole Basri will be present

*You haven't heard the whole story of Iraq until you meet **The Last Jews of Baghdad**.
Take a historical journey into their world of persecution, torture, escape and exile.*

Today, only 5 Jews remain in Iraq from a population of 160,000. It is shocking considering there has been a Jewish community in Iraq since 586 BCE This year, 2014 is exactly the 2600 year anniversary of the destruction of the first temple and the beginning of the Babylonian exile. This film asks the question, "Why did the Iraqi Jews leave?" The answer is found in the discriminatory laws and policies enacted by Iraq's government and leaders against these formerly important members of Iraqi society who today still consider themselves "Iraqi Jews". "The Last Jews of Baghdad" offers personal recollections from members of this exiled group, explaining the country's complicated political history. Through the words of those who survived discrimination, persecution and hangings, we are painted a picture of what it meant to be a Jew in Iraq - from joyous picnics on the Tigris to the unbearable terror of life under the Saddam Hussein that came to define their lives.