

KOL MEVASSER

G-d, Israel, and the Torah are One

Rabbi Hagay Batzri

In this week's Torah portion we learn about Moshe's father-in-law, Yitro. Moshe Rabenu told Yitro about the miracle that G-d performed for the Jewish people, Bne Yisrael, by saving them from the Egyptians at Yam Suf, also known as the Re[e]jd Sea. When Yitro heard about the miracle, he became very excited and decided to convert to Judaism and become part of the Jewish nation.

The question that arises is this: Why did Moshe only tell Yitro about the miracle, the parting of the sea? Why didn't he tell Yitro about the Torah and the mitzvot that we received from Hashem?

The Ben Ish Hai answers that the story of Yitro teaches us a fundamental truth about the Torah. The non-Jewish nations of the world cannot understand our holy Torah properly, at a deep spiritual level. Having a good intellect and being smart is not enough. A person needs a soul, a neshama, that is connected with Israel, with its sanctity, and with the Jewish people to understand even a few simple sentences from the Torah. So even Yitro, who was a spiritual person, could not understand the Torah before he converted. Only then could Yitro understand the revelation at Mount Sinai. And Moshe would not tell Yitro about the Torah before he was ready.

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The Sound of Music

Yvette Dabby, Ron Einy, Louise Elias

The Tu B'Shvat Seder was amazing. We thank all who made the evening such a success.

Our children did a marvelous job in the Kahal Joseph Youth Choir and their presentation was enjoyed by all. Listening to them was an inspiration and they enhanced the Tu B'Shvat Seder with their young voices, joy, and creativity. Each one of them had a special personality that shines through with such expression. The community truly appreciated the new energy and life that the choir brings. They are the voices of our future and they stood proud to be singing together in such a wonderful way.

With the guidance of Rabbi Batzri and his wife Orly, they accomplished all this in such a short time—just a few weeks. Thank you to Rabbi Hagay and Orly Batzri. And thank you to each of the dedicated parents who took part in the effort of building this Kahal Joseph choir. We also give special thanks to Louise and David

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KJ Schedule

Erev Shabbat

Friday, February 10, 2012

Shaharit/Morning Prayer	6:30 am
Shabbat Candle Lighting	5:13 pm
Minhah/Arbith	5:15 pm

Shabbat Yitro

Saturday, February 11, 2012

Shabbat Shaharit/Morning Prayer.....	8:30 am
Guest Speaker Yoel Hasson, Knesset Member	
Tehillim Women's Reading	after kiddush
Shabbat Minhah, Seudah, Arbit.....	4:45 pm
Motzei Shabbat / Havdallah.....	6:18 pm

Sunday, February 12, 2012

Shaharit/Morning Prayer	7:30 am
KJ Youth Choir Rehearsal	11:00 am

Wednesday, February 15, 2012

Women's Tehillim Group	10:00 am
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Monday to Friday, Feb. 13 to 17, 2012

Shaharit/Morning Prayer	6:30 am
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Erev Shabbat

Friday, February 17, 2012

Shaharit/Morning Prayer.....	6:30 am
Shabbat Candle Lighting	5:20 pm
Minhah/Arbith	5:15 pm

Weekly Torah Portion

Parasha Yitro in Hertz 288 to 301
Haftara 302 to 305

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The same is true for a Jewish person who clouds his neshama, his soul, and distances it from the Jewish people through actions such as eating the wrong foods for a Jewish person or by filling his brain with the false ideas of other religions. That is not the way of the Torah and can cause a person to lose the ability to understand the Torah properly. Such a person may then interpret the Torah in the wrong way, in accordance with his own desires and wishes.

That is one of the reasons we say this blessing every morning; to remind us to be grateful for the gift of Torah we received each week. *Blessed are You G-d who chose us from among all the nations and gave us Your blessed Torah.*

Shabbat Shalom

KJ Youth Choir

Sundays at 11:00 am

Come practice with our children's choir, open to kids ages 6 to 12. At choir, kids learn beautiful songs in our tradition, Jewish concepts and Sephardic culture. We ask parents and children to be prompt!



**WOMEN'S TEHILLIM GROUP
WITH RABBANIT ORLY BATZRI**
*Shabbat after Morning Services
& Wednesdays at 10 am in the KJ Library*

Ladies! Enjoy insights into the Torah portion with Rabbanit Orly Batzri and your efforts will support those healing in our community. Bring yourself and a friend! If you would like to host Rosh Hodesh contact orlybatzri@gmail.com.

Welcome
to
**Kahal Joseph Congregation's
Guest Shabbat Speaker**
Mr. Yoel Hasson
**Member of the Knesset
Israel's Parliament**

Seudah Shlisheet

We want to thank the
Kahal Joseph Morning Minyan
for contributing towards part of
this week's afternoon Shabbat meal

Thank You

- ♥ Rabbi Hagay & Orly Batzri
- ♥ KJ Youth Choir and Parents
- ♥ Sisterhood of Kahal Joseph
- ♥ Event Sponsors Tooraj Aghalar,
Ron Einy, David Kohan
in memory of his brother, Yousef Saied ben Jalal, z"l
Fred Maslavi, Joseph Samuels
Joseph Tizabi, Faride Zakaryaie
- ♥ Our Volunteers, Louise & David
Elias, Diana Gazal, Elsa Singman
for a fabulous Tu B'Shvat Seder

In Memoriam

We remember the following yahrzeits, the annual anniversary of passings, for the week of February 11th to 18th, 2012. It is customary to light a memorial candle and donate tzedakah. Family members are encouraged to attend prayer services in honor of loved ones on the Shabbat preceding the yahrzeit. To update information call 310.474.0559.

18 Shevat / Shabbat, February 11

Raphael Mizrahie *Raphael Hai ben Eliyahu Mordechai*

19 Shevat / Sunday, February 12

Doris Shemtov David *Doris bat Kabela*

20 Shevat / Monday, February 13

Edward David *Ezra ben Meir Shemtov*

Nissim Moondani *Nissim ben Moondani*

Georgette Solomon *Georgette Solomon*

21 Shevat / Tuesday, February 14

Avraham Lubovsky *Avraham Yedidiah ben Ariyeh*

23 Shevat / Thursday, February 16

Victoria Elie *Victoria bat Caden*

Maurice Shamash *Menashe Hayim Shamash*

Carl Zekaria *Katsuri ben Sion*

25 Shevat / Shabbat, February 18

Norma Dabby *Naima bat Farha*

Morton Raymond Einy *Mordecai ben Rahamim*

Abraham Sales *Avraham ben Sassoon*

Refuah Shlemah

Gerry Shapiro

Eliezer Hai Saltoon ben Roz Saltoon

Kol Mevasser Newsletter

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A Shabbat Song: Yom Yom Odeh La'El

This piyut was composed anonymously and is traditionally sung in the Iraqi Jewish tradition on Shavuot. The piyut is sung primarily at the arrival of dawn after "Tikkun Lel Shavuot," the long night of Torah learning held on the eve of Shavuot. It's already not night, and yet it is not quite day either. Similarly, the piyut describes how the Jewish people stood in a suspended state, ready to receive the Torah at Mount Sinai, just before the occurrence of the momentous event. For this reason, the piyut is also sung on Shabbat days when the Ten Commandments are read. We sing This beautiful piyut before reading the Aseret Hadiberrot in Parashat Yitro and Parashat Va'et-hanan. Listen to my dear cousin R. Yehuda Ovadya Petaya: <http://www.piyut.org.il/textual/151.html>

Yom, yom odeh la'El asher bakhar banu
 Min ha'amim li'sgulah lo l'kakhanu
 Al Har Sinai et Torah-toh hinkhilanu
 Aseret dibrot kodshanu, hishmi-anu
 Tzva marom ribotayim yardu imo
 B'et asher niglah l'Yisrael amo
 Mi'Sinai ba ve'zarakh mi'Seir lamo
 Beh'kol shofar khazak meh-od ya-anenu
 Kharad ve'ragaz Har Sinai et bi-atoh
 Le'hankhil dat le'Yisrael segulatoh
 Al yad Moshe eved El ne'eman beh-toh
 Ve'sham ayin b'ayin ra-ata eyneynu
 Kadosh, k'az tegaleh malkhutkha alai
 Le'mikdashi shuvah ushkhon tokh ohalai
 Ve'li ha-te shalom ke'mei nahar ulai
 Ve'enenu yir-u ve'yismakh libenu

יום יום אודה לאל אשר בחר בנו מן העמים לסגולה לו
 לקחתו על הר סיני את-תורתו הנחלתו. עשרת הברות
 קדשו השמיענו:
 מרום רבותים ירדו עמו. בעת אשר נגלה לישראל עמו.
 מסיני בא וירח משעיר לנו. בקול שופר חזק מאד יענונו:
 וירגז הר סיני עת-בואתו. להנחיל דת לישראל סגולתו.
 עליד משה עבד אל נאמן ביתו. ושם עין בעין ראיתו
 עינינו:
 כהן תגלה מלכותך עלי. למקדשי שובה ושכן תוך אהלי.
 ולי הפה שלום כמו נדר אולי. תעינינו יראו השמחה לבנו:
 תעינינו יראו השמחה לבנו

Each Day I Thank G-d

*Each day I thank G-d who selected us
 Who took us, from the nations to be close to Him
 On Mt. Sinai He bequeathed His Torah to us
 The Ten Commandments, His Holiness resounded
 At the moment that He revealed Himself to Yisrael,
 His nation
 From Sinai He came and shone from Seir
 With the strong voice of the shofar He will answer us
 Mt. Sinai trembled and shook at the time of His arrival*

*To give faith to Yisrael His [nation] gathered round Him
 At the hand of Moshe, one devoted to G-d, His
 trusted servant
 And there, eye to eye, we saw
 Holiness. Like then, reveal your Kingship to me
 To my Holy place return and reside inside my tent
 And grant me peace, like the waters of a river
 And our eyes will see and our hearts will celebrate.*

(Continued from page 1)



Elias for assisting with the choir, and to Jack Shadi and Susan Zadeh for their support.

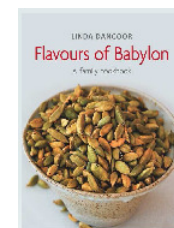
For organizing and putting together such a beautiful room and elegant table, and handling so many logistics we offer our thanks and gratitude to our tireless Sisterhood. We especially acknowledge the hard work of Elsa Singman and Diana Gazal who put hours into making everything festive and welcoming.

And finally, we thank our generous sponsors who invested in this wonderful event and made all the music and blessings possible: Tooraj Aghalar, Ron Einy, David Kohan (in memory of his dear brother, Yousef Saied ben Jalal, z"l), Fred Maslavi, Joseph Samuels, Joseph Tizabi, and Faride Zakaryaie

May our future always look as bright as it did on the eve of Tu B'Shvat, and may we always work hard to ensure it is so.

Flavours of Babylon

*An Iraqi Cookbook
 by Linda Dangoor*



A great cookbook gift for friends and family. And, 20% of proceeds are donated to Kahal Joseph. \$25 per copy
 Contact Yvette at ydabby@sbcglobal.net
 or call 310.474.0559

Purim



Baking for Community Gift Baskets

Sunday, March 4th starting at 10 am
Do a Mitzvah—or Two!

Give a few hours and have some fun baking treats for Kahal Joseph's beautiful Purim gift baskets. We personally deliver these cheery baskets to many appreciative members of our community. Donations in support of the Purim Baskets mitzvah project are welcomed. Please send your check to:

Kahal Joseph Congregation—Purim Baskets
10505 Santa Monica Blvd., L.A. CA 90025.

For more information call the office at 310.474.0559
or e-mail ydabby@sbcglobal.net.

Purim Sameah! ♦♦♦ Happy Purim!



**KAHAL JOSEPH NORMA & SAM DABBY
AFTERNOON HEBREW SCHOOL**

TUES & THURS, 4 TO 6 PM FOR KIDS AGES 5 TO 13
LEARNING & CREATING JEWISH FRIENDS FOR LIFE
CONTACT MOLLY AT MOLLY@KAHALJOSEPH.ORG

KJ PURIM CARNIVAL



Sunday, March 11th
11:00 am to 4:00 pm

Kahal Joseph Congregation
10505 Santa Monica Blvd. L.A. 90025

Game Booths • Fun Rides
Great Food • Prizes