

# KOL MEVASSER

## Passover: Getting To Know Your Audiences

By Rabbi Daniel Bouskila, SEC Director

This week we officially begin our countdown to Passover, the holiday that marks the birth of the Jewish people as a nation. Every year on the Shabbat immediately preceding *Rosh Chodesh Nisan* (the beginning of the Month of Nisan, which falls this coming Tuesday) we read (in addition to the week's Torah Portion - this year *Parashat Tazria*) an additional section from the Torah -- twenty verses from Exodus 12:1-20 .

These verses describe the ritual of the *Korban Pesach* (Passover offering) and the commandment to remove Hametz (leaven) from our homes and to eat Matzah (unleavened bread). The Talmud named this Shabbat "*Shabbat Hachodesh*" (The Shabbat of "The Month" - announcing the coming of *Nisan*), and it formally takes us into "Passover mode."

No holiday requires more detailed and elaborate preparation than Passover. Many have certainly started the grand "spring cleaning," an elaborate "koshering" for Passover of our homes, kitchens and utensils, and, of course the menu preparations and shopping for the Seder. *Parashat Hachodesh* reminds us of all of this, but it also reminds us of another

preparation that is no less central to Passover —the intellectual and spiritual preparation for the Seder and the reading of the Haggadah.

The Seder table is much more than a meal. It is a Jewish symposium. The Haggadah's question and answer format is meant to trigger meaningful discussions about Jewish history, Jewish experiences and Jewish identity. At the Seder, questions and discussions are not the exclusive property of rabbis and scholars, but everyone has a stake in the discussion. Singing is not about cantorial performances, but everyone sings along. An effective Seder leader knows that on this night, he or she should be prepared to teach the meaning of the Exodus from Egypt and the Passover story to a wide variety of audiences gathered around the Seder table.

The Torah and her rabbinic interpreters set the stage for our "multiple audiences" experience. Based on the rabbinic interpretation of four verses from the Torah (three from



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## KJ Schedule Parashat Tazria Shabbat HaChodesh

### Erev Shabbat HaChodesh Friday, March 28th

Shaharit/Morning Prayer .....	6:30 am
Shir Hashirim .....	6:40 pm
Shabbat Candlelighting .....	6:52 pm
Minhah/Arbith .....	6:52 pm

### Shabbat HaChodesh Saturday, March 29th

Shaharit/Morning Prayer .....	8:30 am
Minha, Seudah Shlisheet, Arvit .....	6:30 pm
Motzei Shabbat / Havdallah .....	7:56 pm

### Sunday, March 30th

Shaharit .....	7:30 am
Talmud Torah .....	10:00 am

### Erev Rosh Hodesh Nisan Monday, March 31, 2014

Shaharit .....	6:30 am
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### Rosh Hodesh Nisan Tuesday, April 1, 2014

Shaharit .....	6:15 am
Women's Tehillim Group Rosh Hodesh .....	TBA
Mommy & Me .....	10:45 am

### Weekdays

#### Wednesday to Friday, April 2 to 4

Shaharit .....	6:30 am
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### Erev Shabbat Friday, April 4th

Shaharit/Morning Prayer .....	6:30 am
Shir Hashirim .....	6:45 pm
Shabbat Candlelighting .....	6:57 pm
Minhah/Arbith .....	6:57 pm

Thank You to  
KJ Purim Carnival's  
**Wonderful Volunteers**

for the *spirit, joy, & hard work* that make possible our Kahal Joseph Purim Carnival. We especially recognize our responsible & dedicated **teen volunteers** who helped so many children smile



**David Kelly**  
**YOUTH CHOIR**  
with Rabbi Batzri  
Director  
**Passover Break**

Next meeting will be at the end of the month on April 27th at 11:30 am

**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*

**Errol Levi Social Hall & Ballroom**

*Engagement? Wedding? Brit Milah? Bar Mitzvah? Kahal Joseph has one of the most beautiful ballrooms on the Westside for your private event. KJ is fabulous for parties up to 200 guests! Contact Sarah at 310.474.0559*

**Shabbat Kiddush**

is sponsored  
in honor of

Cherie & Moshe Hagooli's  
Babynaming of their Daughter

by her grandparents  
Ruth & Edmond Hagooli

**Mazal Tov**

to parents  
Sherie & Moshe Hagooli  
and brother, Holden  
on the birth of a baby girl

Congratulations to grandparents  
Ruth & Edmond Hagooli  
Greta and Steven Zarember

**Seudah Shlisheet**

is sponsored in memory of

Nessim ben Yaacov, z"l  
Aghakhan Aghalar, z"l

by Desiree & Tooraj Aghalar

**In Memoriam**

We remember these yearzeit anniversaries for March 29 to April 5, 2014. It is customary to light a memorial candle, donate tzedaka, & attend services the preceding Shabbat.

**27 Adar II / Shabbat, March 29th**

Achajal Aghalar *Nisim ben Yaacov*  
Saul K Masliah *Shaul ben Moshe Hacham Yakob*

**28 Adar II / Sunday, March 30th**

Moshe Haim Navid  
Tefaha Perry *Tefaha bat Salima*  
Rahmatollah Rahamim

**29 Adar II / Monday, March 31st**

Lulu Raymond *Lulu bat Maatooka*  
Mordechai Sarraf *Mordechai ben Yehuda*

**1 Nisan / Tuesday, April 1st**

Lotfollah Nassi  
Clara Saltoun *Ghala bat Esther*  
Sydique Charlie Zakoo *Sadik Salah ben Ezra HaLevi*

**2 Nisan / Wednesday, April 2nd**

Sharlo Benbeniste *Shlomo ben Moshe*  
*Aharon Yosef Eliyahu ben Amouma*  
Sarina Levy *Sara bat Khatoon*

**3 Nisan / Thursday, April 3rd**

Hilwa Farha Ezair *Hilwa Farha bat Tiffahah*  
Jalal Kohan  
Naim Sassoon *Naim ben Sassoon*

**4 Nisan / Friday, April 4th**

Sammy Dallal

**5 Nisan / Shabbat, April 5th**

Moshe Somekh *Moshe Shemuel*

**Torah & Haftarah Readings**  
**Shabbat HaChodesh**

Vayikra / Leviticus: Tazria 460 to 466  
Bamidbar/Numbers XII: 1-20, pp. 253 to 257  
Haftara Yehezkel / Ezekiel 1001-1004

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Exodus and one from Deuteronomy), the rabbinic tradition teaches that regarding the mitzvah of teaching the Passover story, "The Torah speaks in reference to four children." Here are the four verses:

1. **"Your children may ask you what is this service to you? You must answer, it is the Passover service to God." (Exodus 12:26-27)**

2. **"On that day you must tell your child: all of this is because that which the Lord did for me when I came forth from Egypt." (Exodus 13:8)**

3. **"Your child may later ask you what is this? You must answer him, with a show of power God brought us out of Egypt, the place of slavery." (Exodus 13:14)**

4. **"In the future your child may ask you what are these rituals rules and laws that God has commanded you? You must tell him, we were slaves to Pharaoh in Egypt, but God brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand." (Deuteronomy 6:20-21)**

The rabbis wondered why the Torah could not consolidate all of these seemingly repetitive instructions regarding teaching the Passover story to children into one unified verse. Why is this mitzvah listed four separate times?

The rabbis concluded that although on the surface the verses seem somewhat repetitive, each verse actually addresses a *different type of child* who represents a different potential "audience" present at the Seder

--  
**Wise  
Wicked/Skeptical  
Simple and Uninformed.**

The Haggadah instructs us that each category requires a unique and different approach to the effective teaching of this story.

The Mishnah in Tractate Pesachim 10:4 states "According to the son's intelligence, the father instructs him." This means that it is a commandment to address each Seder participant in a language and style that will be appropriate and meaningful to him/her. More complex than the typical "know your audience," the Haggadah requires that you "know your multiple audiences." **Nobody** is excluded. On this night, the wise, wicked/skeptical, simple and uninformed all have an equal stake in this story, and a truly effective Seder is one whose experience will deeply impact everyone seated around the table.

Once you have established who will be around your Seder table, take a moment to make some notes about your audience. See who fits into the different categories stated by the Haggadah. They could be



children, they could be adults - these categories apply to all age groups. Try and see how to form fit your Seder to these audiences, so that the discussions will be meaningful to them. No two Sedarim are the same. From the first night to the second night, and from home to home, the Seder's Haggadah and rituals are uniform, but the audiences are different, causing us to adjust our questions and discussions to appropriately fit the audiences.

This small preparatory exercise will go a long way to make sure that nobody is bored, nobody feels left out, and everybody walks away inspired with something meaningful.

Shabbat Shalom

THE LAST JEWS OF BAGHDAD  
END OF AN EXILE  
BEGINNING OF A JOURNEY

A FILM BY  
CAROLE BASRI . ADRIANA DAVIS . BRYAN DURR

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

**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 most 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, contextualizing the country's complicated political history. Through the words of those who survived discrimination, persecution and even 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.

מלך גואל ומושיע • ר' משה חוצין  
בגדד / מאה 18

אל נערץ בסוד קדושים  
מסזים רקיון די רשים  
בני ישראל חמושים

עלי נבל ועלי עשור  
ויזציא עמו ממצור  
קחו לכם שיה בעשור  
על אלהים ואנשים

בלתי פחד ממוצרים  
בשלה בתות מתנים  
וקוראים דהערבים  
ונא כי אם עלי אשים

הראה להושיע למו  
העם מתבוסס בדמו  
אזי עבר הוא בעצמו  
הוציא מעבדות לחפשים

לכני אדום ופילגשים  
ערי אשורים ולטושים  
ושלה לעם קד דורשים  
בניסן ראש התדשים

מלך גואל ומושיע  
ולאין אונים עצמה נרבה  
כי הוציא בחדש אביב  
הודו לאל כי החדש הזה לכם ראש תדשים

שמו נחדו נרוממה  
כי זכר את דבר קדשו  
והוא צנה אלי עמו  
להודיע כי הוא ישור  
הודו לאל כי החדש הזה לכם ראש תדשים

העם עשו את פסחיהם  
בשיירי זמרה ותהלה  
אכלו אותו עלי מצות  
בלתי מבשל במים  
הודו לאל כי החדש הזה לכם ראש תדשים

חסן ישע מינו אל  
כי השקיף ממעון קדשו  
דם פסח ודם המילה  
למצרים ואת עמו  
הודו לאל כי החדש הזה לכם ראש תדשים

הזק חושה שלח זרים  
שיטם כמהפכת ערים  
ותכניע גאון זרים  
האדון אשר סבבקים  
הודו לאל כי החדש הזה לכם ראש תדשים