

KOL MEVASSER

The Jerusalem Passover, 1949: The First Ever Passover in the Modern State of Israel

By Rabbi Ben-Zion Meir Hai Uziel

The First Sephardic Chief Rabbi of Israel

(translated from Hebrew by Rabbi Daniel Bouskila)



This year, we have named Passover "The Jerusalem Passover," as this marks the very first year that we celebrate the festival of freedom as a truly free people in our land, in our holy city of Jerusalem. In addition to all of the traditional symbols of freedom associated with Passover, such as reclining and drinking the 4 cups of wine symbolic of our past and future

redemption, this year we express our freedom on Passover by celebrating the holiday in a Jerusalem that is no longer threatened by enemies and is no longer under siege (as it was just last year). We celebrate our freedom through the wonderful victories and heroism of our soldiers, who are armed with both spiritual faith and physical strength. This year, we celebrate our freedom by expressing our national independence in our newly established "State of Israel," which, in addition to providing shelter and independence for our people, gives us elevated political and economic status amongst the nations of the world. By witnessing all of these miracles before our eyes this

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President's Message

Dear Members and Friends,

The story of the Exodus is thousands of years old, yet it remains as relevant today as ever.

Throughout our history, there have been those who targeted the Jewish people, as we are painfully and constantly reminded; just as, throughout history, there have been those who seek to oppress others because of their religion, ethnicity or the color of their skin.

During Passover, Jews around the world renew their faith that liberty will ultimately prevail over tyranny. We give thanks for the blessings of freedom, while remembering those who are still not free. We ask one of life's most difficult questions: once we have passed from bondage to freedom, how do we make the most of what God has given us? The search for this answer has deepened the Jewish people's commitment to repairing the world with selflessness, with a common hope, and with a remarkable sense of obligation.

Letizia and I are proud to celebrate Passover with family and friends, and we wish all our members, Rabbi Daniel Bouskila and his family, Hazan Saeed Jalali and his family, Hazan Sassoon Ezra and his family, and our entire Kahal Joseph family a beautiful and meaningful holiday focused on all the things that matter most in our lives. May each of us rejoice in the rich traditions of Pesah, with warmth and reflection, togetherness, prosperity and happiness always.

Hag Sameach,

Ronald Einy, President

KJ Schedule

Passover 2015 / 5775

Erev Yom Tov, Sixth Day Passover

Thursday, April 9th

Shaharit / Morning Prayer .. 6:30 am

Eruv Tavshillin before candle lighting

Candle lighting..... 7:02 pm

Minha & Arbit..... 7:00 pm

Sefirat Ha'Omer, Sixth Night

Erev Shabbat & Seventh Day Pesah

Friday, April 10th

Shaharit / Morning Prayer .. 8:30 am

Candle lighting..... 7:02 pm

Minha & Arbit..... 7:00 pm

Sefirat Ha'Omer, Seventh Night

Shabbat & Eighth Day Passover

Saturday, April 11th

Shaharit / Morning Prayer .. 8:30 am

Minha & Arbit..... 7:25 pm

Havdalla..... 8:11 pm

Sefirat Ha'Omer, Eighth Night

Weekdays / Sunday, April 12th

Shaharit / Morning Prayer .. 7:30 am

Sefirat Ha'Omer, Ninth Night

Monday to Friday, April 13 to 17

Shaharit / Morning Prayer .. 6:30 am

Sefirat Ha'Omer, Tenth to Fourteenth

Yom Hashoah/Holocaust Day

Thursday, April 16th

Erev Shabbat/ Friday, April 17th

Shaharit / Morning Prayer .. 6:30 am

Minha / Arvit .. 7:08 pm

Candle Lighting .. 7:08 pm

Sefirat Ha'Omer, Fourteenth Night

Rabbi Daniel Bouskila

will be delivering the sermon
at KJ this Shabbat, the 8th Day of
Pesah on the topic of

"The Valley of the Dry Bones: Auschwitz, 1945"

*Rabbi Bouskila's sermon will connect
the Haftarah of the 8th Day of Passover
to this week's upcoming observance of
Yom Hashoah.*

Congratulations

Karen & Daniel Levi
on the birth of a son
Elias Levi

Mazal Tov on the
first great grandson of
Rabbi Elias Levi, z"l & Vera Levi
grandson of Miriam & Ariel Levi
and to Aunt Rena, also rejoicing

Congratulations

Naomie & Shmuel Ezran
on the birth of a daughter

Mazal Tov to grandparents
Rabbi Eliahu Shalom & Hana Ora
Ezran and Esther Sakoun
and the Ezran & Harroch families

Thank You

to our generous donors who
helped sponsor KJ's new tallitot

Desi and Jacob Aghalar
Audrey and Vlady Cornateanu
Dr. Eva Dloomy
David and Louise Elias
Rylla and Ben Elias
Rica and Messod Emquies
Diana and Isaac Gazal
Helen Jonah
Reggie Judah
Soraya and Fred Khorshidi
Rebecca and David Kohan
Blanche and Fred Maslavi
Ruby and Joe Samuel
Susan and Bijan Zadeh

Refuah Shlemah

Moselle Amron • Maurice Ovadia • Tilda Levy
Esther Duke • Abe Abraham • Sassoon Ezra

In Memoriam

We remember these yearzeit anniversaries for
April 11 to 18, 2015. It is customary to light a me-
morial candle, donate tzedaka, & attend services
the preceding Shabbat.

22 Nisan / Shabbat, April 11th

Edward Ezrapour *Eliyahu ben Ezra Avraham Hayim*
Hanini Horesh Suleiman

25 Nisan / Tuesday, April 14th

Frederick Tizabi *Yehezkiel ben Avraham*

27 Nisan / Thursday, April 16th

Aharon Levy *Aharon Isaac Levy*

Torah & Haftara Readings

Fri: Shemot / Exodus XIII:17-XV:26 pp. 265 to 274
Sat: Devarim / Deut XIV:22-XVI:17 pp. 810 to 818
Both: Bamidbar / Numb XXVIII: 19-25 pp. 695-696

Fri: Shmuel Bet / Samuel II pp. 1017 to 1022
Sat: Yishayahu / Isaiah pp 1023 to 1026

24 Days / 24 Jours

"24 Days" will have a nationwide release on April 24, 2015.

In Los Angeles, the film will be playing at Laemmle's Music Hall.

"24 Days" will also be available on iTunes the same day

January 20, 2006. After dinner with his family, Ilan Halimi called an attractive girl he had met at work and made plans to meet her for coffee. Ilan did not suspect a thing; he was 23 and had his whole life ahead of him. The next time Ilan's family heard from him, it was through a cryptic online message from kidnappers demanding a ransom in exchange for their son's life. Director Alexandre Arcady presents the vicious circle from the kidnapping and torture of Ilan Halimi, to the 100s of phone calls, insults, and threats received by the family, through the Parisian police's incompetence in dealing with what was clearly an anti-Semitic crime.



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past year, we feel the depth of complete independence and freedom that God has once again given us, and we especially feel all of this through the spiritual merit of our holy city of Jerusalem.

In every generation, the enemies of Israel cast their eyes on Jerusalem, seeking to destroy her walls and exile her people. They knew that emptying Jerusalem of her children would destroy the spirit of Israel, and would lead to the conquest of the entire Land of Israel. This was the case during the destruction of both the First and Second Temple, and during the Bar-Kochba revolt. This was also the case in our generation, as the enemies of Israel cast their eyes on Jerusalem and her Jewish inhabitants, seeking to demoralize both the city and her people, attempting to bring them to their knees in humiliating surrender. But Jerusalem stood firm like a solid rock, even during the most awful days that threatened her existence.

Just a year ago on Passover, under extreme conditions, we prepared and celebrated the Seder. By the same merit that our ancestors were redeemed in Egypt, we, the people of Jerusalem, were also redeemed, and our redemption spread out all across the land. So here we are today, one year later, celebrating Passover in Jerusalem, this time with joy and happiness.

Our joy is tempered by the fact that Jerusalem "within the walls" (The Old City) lies in ruins, emptied of her Jewish people, with the Kotel standing alone. This breaks our hearts, and we will never feel comforted until the day comes when we merit to return to the sacred Old City, which is the eternal capital of the

State of Israel.

Despite this, we nevertheless rejoice on the establishment of the "New Jerusalem" that we currently live in by the good grace of God, secure from the threat of the enemy.

Let us now rejoice on this Passover, the holiday of freedom, and let us celebrate it with aspirations that peace and justice reign throughout our land. Let us together lift our voices to God and pray:

Lord our God, give strength to our army, spread over them the tabernacle of peace and save them from all enemies. Endow our state and leaders with wisdom, understanding and strength, bring peace in our land and in the world, and establish the Kingdom of David in your holy city of Jerusalem. Bring freedom and redemption to our Jewish brethren in Arab lands, save them from the hands of their oppressors, and bring them home to their land together with all Jews dispersed in the diaspora.

As we celebrate Passover this year in our newly liberated City of Jerusalem, next year, and for many years to come, may we merit celebrating Passover in the Holy Temple in Jerusalem, with great joy, happiness and songs of praise to God, Amen.

Kahal Joseph Membership

We want you to be a member!

Did you join us for the Operation Michaelberg talk? Did you enjoy "Ask the Rabbi about Passover?" Join our wonderful community! Call Sarah about an annual membership at 310.474.0559



FIDF, TEMPLE OF THE ARTS AND THANK ISRAELI SOLDIERS PRESENT:

Yom Hazikaron Community Wide Night of Remembrance
Join Us As We Stand Together to Commemorate Israel's Fallen Soldiers and Victims of Terror

APRIL 21, 2015 7:30PM

FEATURING SCREENING OF JERUSALEM U PRODUCTION:

**BENEATH
THE HELMET**
From High School to the Home Front

SABAN THEATRE STEVE TISCH CINEMA CENTER

8440 Wilshire Blvd. | Beverly Hills, 90211

Free Admission. Limited Seating Available. Kosher Refreshments Will Be Served.

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In Loving Memory of Samuel Werthman, Z"L

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23,169



FALLEN SOLDIERS & VICTIMS OF TERROR

What is a Mimouna?

By Rabbi Daniel Bouskila

In Arabic, the word *mimoun* means “*mazal*”; it’s a night when we bless each other and pray for “*mazal*” in our lives. Because Passover is the anniversary of our deliverance from slavery to freedom, we conclude Passover with an expression of belief — which in Hebrew is *emunah* (sounds like Mimouna) — that God will continue to bless and protect us beyond Passover. We greet each other by saying *Tirbah u’tissad* or “may you prosper and succeed.”

Mimouna centers around a colorful table adorned with symbols of blessing. A bowl of flour filled with gold coins represents livelihood and sustenance. Branches of greenery symbolize a successful agricultural spring season, and a fish represents fertility and plentitude. The table is colorful, and so are the clothes we wear. The women wear long, elaborately embroidered dresses called *kaftan*, and the men wear embroidered shirts or long robes called *jalabiya*. The sounds of Andalusian music fill the room, and as things warm up, so does the hand clapping and dancing. Shot glasses of *mahya* (the Moroccan name for arak) are passed around.

There are two “mandatory Mimouna foods” that everyone must eat. The first is a date filled with butter and honey. The host of the Mimouna welcomes you with this delicacy, accompanied by the greeting “*Tirbah u’tissad*.” Eating this indulgent combination of sweets symbolizes the sweetness of prosperity and success. Then there is *moufletta*, the *piece de resistance* of any authentic Mimouna. *Moufletta* is a thin, tortilla-style crepe fried in oil and served hot with butter, honey or jam. It’s our first post-Passover chametz, and — appropriately for Mimouna — it’s sweet!

Some additional features of a Mimouna table include fresh and dried fruits, marzipan pastries, sesame cookies rolled in honey, a variety of jams and jellies, buttermilk and Moroccan tea with *nana* (fresh mint).

We kick off the night with a long, festive, beautifully chanted *havdalah* that not only “distinguishes between Passover and weekday,” but also features blessings for health, prosperity, happiness and safety.



**KAHAL JOSEPH
MEMOUNA CELEBRATION**

with Rabbi Daniel Bouskila

Sunday, April 12th@7 pm
The Errol Levi Social Hall

**Come enjoy with your community
a delightful evening of Live Middle Eastern Music
Food, Friendship, & Fun**

\$18 per person Please RSVP to Sarah 310-474-0559



**Join the SEC for our
Yom HaShoah Observance 2015**

**A Screening of the film
“God on Trial”**

**memorial service & discussion
with Rabbi Daniel Bouskila**

Program will be held at the
Jewish Federation, 6505 Wilshire Blvd
RSVP required to info@secjerusalem.org
or 323.272.4574

Wednesday Night, April 15, 2015
Doors open at 6:30pm - Program at 7:00pm sharp



“...a gripping exploration of faith and reason. Remarkable.”
— TIME OUT (LONDON)

GOD ON TRIAL

MASTERPIECE
AS SEEN ON PUBLIC TELEVISION