

KOL MEVASSER

Rabbi's Message From Light to Darkness and Back Again

As I checked the television for a quick spot of news on Thursday, the unexpected image of Radovan Karadžić made a jarring contrast to the warm memories of Purim that we had just created at Kahal Joseph.

It was the sentencing from his much-anticipated trial for mass murder in the Balkans, and Judge O-Gon Kwon was reading out the verdict. For the charge of genocide... guilty. For the charge of extermination... guilty. For the charge of murder as a crime against humanity... guilty. Jessica and I watched in morbid fascination as he received a guilty verdict for 10 out of the 11 charges of which he was accused.

Although he still has the possibility of appeal, this is the most significant moment in the quest to bring him to justice since he fled from office as President of the Serbian Republic in 1996. Eerily, his face showed no reaction as the words that sentenced him to 40 years in prison washed over him. A man of 70, this modern-day Haman may well spend the rest of his life behind bars.

In a Purim drama gone awry, Karadžić's crimes against Muslims are but a present-day replay of what happened to the region's Jews fifty years



ago. Poor Yugoslavia stood little chance against the Nazis and their collaborators, who snuffed out most of the community between 1941 and 1944. Names like Franz Böhme and Harald Turner are seared into the memory of Balkan Jews with the same terror that Karadžić's name now evokes in our times. No Mordecai would save them, and now they are little more than a footnote in books that few have the stomach to read.

But from this low point that I tasted on Purim day came an uplifting message: thank God we now live in a world where those who commit genocide are recognized as the villains that they are! Although global society has not yet made it to the level where "never again" is a reality, few are shedding tears for Karadžić's fate. The primary reaction is that he got a taste of his own medicine, while those responsible for the two decades of work that it took to get him are treated as the real heroes.

So as I process a heavy news story about mass murder, I take much comfort in the fact that the world is striving to make such perpetrators few and far between. Where once the Nuremberg Trials were seen as an unprecedented one-off for an exceptional situation, we now have a permanent legal venue to address genocide and crimes against humanity. May God grant that these developments will one day relegate genocide to the fog of the past, to be commemorated in the future by a new Megillah in which such behavior is a distant nightmare from which we have moved on completely.

Parashat Tsav

Torah: Lev. 6:1–8:36, 97 Pesukim
Hertz 429-438; Stone 568-587
Haftarah: Jer. 7:21-8:3, 9:22-23
Hertz 439-442, Stone 1167–1168
Tefillot: Mashib Haruah

KJ Schedule

Ereb Shabbat

Friday, March 25th

Shaharit 6:15 am
Minhah..... 6:45 pm
Shabbat Candle Lighting 6:50 pm
Arbit / Kabbalat Shabbat.... 7:15 pm

Yom Shabbat

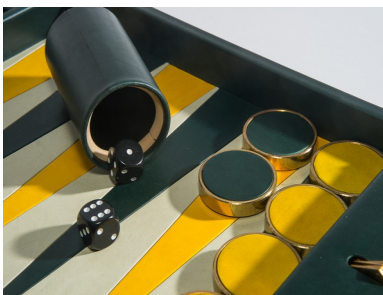
Saturday, March 26th

Shaharit / Morning Prayer.. 8:30 am
Keri'at HaTorah 10:15 am
Musaf 11:30 am

Minhah..... 6:15 pm
Se'udah Shelisheet..... 7:00 pm

Arbit 7:40 pm
Habdalah 7:55 pm

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An Evening of Coffee & Backgammon

Sunday, March 27 at 5:30 pm

An evening for adults replete with coffee and dessert, challenging games of backgammon and lively, enjoyable conversation to start the week with friends, community and fun

Norma & Sam Dabby Jewish Education Center
**Kahal Joseph Talmud Torah
& Sunday School**



Friends Creativity Jewish Learning

For information contact
Mrs. Hanna Elkouby, Director
at 424-283-0893

Shabbat Kiddush

is sponsored
in memory of

Yona ben Shlomo, z"l
Nazay bat Chava, z"l

by
The Radfar Family

Upcoming KJ Events



Interactive Family Haggadah

Sunday, April 17 @ 12 pm
Kids, parents & grandparents,

join us for an interactive presentation of the
Passover story with something for toddlers
through grade schoolers. Enjoy a delicious
lunch, and make a craft to use at your seder!
Email Jessica at Jessica@kahaljoseph.org
for more information or to RSVP.



Mimouna

Sunday, May 1
Traditional celebration &
community gathering after
Passover

Shabbat Shalom U'meborakh

KJ Schedule

(continued)

Weekdays

Sunday, March 20th

Shaharit 7:30 am
Talmud Torah 10:00 am

Monday, March 28 to Friday, April 1

Shaharit 6:25 am

Ereb Shabbat / Friday, April 1st

Shaharit 6:25 am
Minhah 6:45 pm

Shabbat Candle Lighting 6:56 pm

Arbit / Kabbalat Shabbat 7:15 pm

In Memoriam

We remember yearzeit anniversaries from
March 26 to April 2, 2016. It is customary to
light a memorial candle, donate tzedaka & attend
Shabbat services.

18 Adar II / Monday, March 28th

Nazay Radfar Nazeh bat Nisan

19 Adar II / Tuesday, March 29th

Charles Eric Ezekiel Saleh ben Ezra Yehezkel

20 Adar II / Wednesday, March 30th

Yona Radfar Yona bat Shlomo

23 Adar II / Shabbat, April 2nd

Rachel Jonah

Moshe Ezra Raphael Moses Moshe Ezra ben
Rafael Moshe

Refuah Shelemah

Abe Abraham • Moselle Amron
Sally Amron • Tilda Levy • Esther Duke
Mordechai Cohen • Sylvia Cohen • Lev Hakak
Maurice Ovadia • Florice Newberry
Doris Moshi • Miriam bat Yetta • Sassoon Ezra

KJ Photo Gallery: Rabbi's Installation

If you liked this collage, look forward to the next one on Purim coming soon.
Took your own pictures? Send them to jessica@kahaljoseph.org



Mommy and Me

starting Thursday, April 14!

Kahal Joseph and PlayCreations Kids are thrilled to announce Mommy and Me classes starting

Thursday, April 14th in the Kahal Joseph playroom. Each class will start with 30 minutes of music, instruments, scarves, and parachute time, followed by a sensory art project, like finger painting or edible sand. Each class is divided into age groups, and is carefully thought out to engage all five senses, and encourage development of motor and language skills.



Eight sessions, starting Thursday, April 14

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM - 6 months to 1 year

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM - 1 year to 18 months

Cost: \$215 for 8 weeks

*Each class is limited in size, so register early!
To register or for more information, contact Jessica at
jessica@kahaljoseph.org or 217.972.8993*

Information about PlayCreation Kids is available at www.playcreationkids.com