

8 Nisan 5776

16 April 2016

KOL MEVASSER

Rabbi's Message From Accusation to Achievement

The month of Nisan was a roller-coaster of emotions for the Jews of Europe, who could look forward both to celebrating Pesah and to possible attacks from the Christian host societies. The most feared accusation for many centuries was the "blood libel," in which the death of a Christian child was blamed on Jews who supposedly used his bodily fluids to make matsa.

We often think of this as a problem experienced only by Ashkenazim, but 176 years ago it was felt in the heart of the Sephardic world, in a series of events that we now remember as the "Damascus Affair" of 1840.

On a fateful February morning, a Sardinian priest known as Father Thomas disappeared in Damascus along with his servant. As a prominent citizen and leader of the Franciscan convent in town, his death was reported to the French consul, who fell upon the Jewish quarter and threw the 8 most prominent Jewish leaders in prison. One died and one converted to Islam under unspeakable torture, and when their "confessions" were publicized, the synagogue at Jobar was sacked.

An extraordinary chain of events was launched when news of this offence and a similar one against the Sephardim of Rhodes made its way back to



Welcome Guest Hazan Jack Hobb for Shabbat HaGadol

- ♦ We welcome Hazan Jack Hobb to Kahal Joseph this week for **Shabbat Hagadol (April 15th-16th)**. Come for Friday night or Shabbat morning for the opportunity to hear a rising young hazan.
- ♦ Hazan Hobb will be joining us again for the last days of Pesah (April 28th-30th), giving us several more times to enjoy his many talents.



England. There, a Jewish philanthropist named Sir Moses Montefiore decided to personally take on the case, and he received permission to send a diplomatic mission to the Levant that summer.

This historic journey brought Sir Moses and his companion Adolphe Crémieux to the highest courts of the Ottoman Empire, where they met with thumping success. The surviving prisoners were released, and Sultan Abdul Mejid himself published a firman clearing the Jews of all charges. In delicious rationalism, he decreed that "the religious books of the Hebrews...prohibit them not only from using human blood, but even that of animals. Therefore, it follows that the accusations made against them and their religion are nothing but pure slander."

Looking back on these events, many historians point to it as a turning point in the Jews' sense of self and our ability to influence global politics. When

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Parashat Metsora Shabbat Hagadol

Torah: Lev. 14:1–15:33 90 Pesukim
Hertz 470–477; Stone 620–635

Haftarah: Mal. 3:4–24

Hertz 1005–1008; Stone 1220–1221
Tefillot: Mashib Haruah, Birkat Halebana

KJ Schedule

Ereb Shabbat Hagadol

Friday, April 15th

Shaharit 6:25 am

Minha..... 6:45 pm

Shabbat Candle Lighting 7:06 pm

Arbit / Kabbalat Shabbat.... 7:15 pm

Shabbat Hagadol

Saturday, April 16th

Shaharit / Morning Prayer.. 8:30 am

Keri'at HaTorah 10:15 am

Musaf 11:30 am

Minha..... 6:30 pm

Se'uda Shelisheet..... 7:15 pm

Arbit 7:55 pm

Habdala 8:11 pm

Weekdays

Sunday, April 17th

Shaharit 7:30 am

Talmud Torah 10:00 am

Mon to Wed, April 18th to 20th

Shaharit 6:25 am

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an Italian Sephardi and a French Comtadine could defeat a blood libel accusation from 2000 miles away, perhaps other Jews could make a positive difference in the world. The Damascus Affair now seen as the inspiration for many great ideas, including the Jewish press, the Alliance israélite Universelle (whose schools some of our own members attended), and even Zionism.

May we all use this story to help touch one of the major themes of Pesah: turning our lowest falls into our biggest successes! May the can-do spirit of Montefiore and Crémieux continue to make positive waves in our own time today!

Refuah Shelemah

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

Thank You

to the volunteers who polished the Torah scroll cases for Pesah &
to Louise Nathan who organizes this event twice every year

Sophie & Ben Elias	Joshua Sarabia
Louise & David Elias	Yulhianna Sarabia
Baruch & Rita Isaac	Diana Solomon
Farah Harouni	Tammy Stockfish
Jessica Harouni	Ty Tratner
Rabbi Raif Melhado	Shula Wyner
Fereshteh Mastour	Barbara Zakoo
Roya Najibi	Mahnaz Zoleikhaeian
Elizabeth Sarabia	



Shabbat Kiddush

is sponsored
in memory of
John P. Melhado, z"l

by
Lee & Evan Melhado

Seudah Shelisheet

is sponsored
in memory of

Moses Judah, z"l

by his brother, Gerry Meyers

Condolences

for Family of Moses Judah, z"l

We offer our deepest condolences to the family of Moses Judah, z"l, brother of our dear member, Gerry Meyers. May Hashem comfort them together with all the mourners of Tzion.

In Memoriam

We remember yahrzeit anniversaries from April 16 to 23, 2016. It is customary to light a memorial candle, donate tzedaka & attend Shabbat services.

8 Nisan / Shabbat, April 16th

Ada Ezra Ada bat Mindel Okin
Carolyn Frances Ezra Carolyn Frances bat Norman
Ezra Sayegh
Allan Norman Steiner Alexander Nahum ben
Mordechai

9 Nisan / Sunday, April 17th

Malka Lurie

10 Nisan / Monday, April 18th

Gohar Mashallah Gohar bat Aga
Aziza Sassoon Aziza bat Miriam

11 Nisan / Tuesday, April 19th

Kitty Israel Messiah Khatoon bat Simha
Abraham G. Solomon Avraham ben Shlomo
Reuven

12 Nisan / Wednesday, April 20th

Flora Cohen Farha Mitana bat Rahma Regina
Ralph Ferris Raful ben Itzhak Faraj Hacoheh
Luna Kadoorie Luna bat Mazal Cohen
David Levi Solomon David ben Shlomo Halevi

13 Nisan / Thursday, April 21st

Abraham Asher Ezra Atraghi Avraham Asher
ben Ezra

15 Nisan / Shabbat, April 23rd

Tillie Shansky Tillie bat Evelyn
Naima Shashuoa Naima bat Zvida
Eyob Yehudah Eyob ben Yehudah



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 information or to RSVP

FIDF Event for Yom Hazikaron

Tuesday, May 10th 2016 at Saban Theatre

FIDF (Friends of Israel Defense Forces) will be hosting the 2nd annual Yom Hazikaron Community Wide Night of Remembrance at the Saban Theatre. Kahal Joseph, along with dozens of schools, shuls and organizations will join together as community partners for this event. We encourage you to attend in honor of those who have defended the Jewish people throughout the ages.

Passover Maot Hittim Food Donations Requested

Amude HaShalom Soup Kitchen in the Pico / La Cienega area provides daily hot nutritious meals to Jewish needy families and food boxes for the holidays. Currently, the Soup Kitchen is seeking donations for Passover. Please call Ifat at 323-449-8184 or visit their website go make a contribution.

www.amude-hashalom.com

Kashering and Seder Planning

Kashering your house and need some advice? Specific question about a food? Need some seder tips? Rabbi Melhado would love to answer your questions and give you resources. Contact him at rabbimelhado@kahaljoseph.org or [310.474.0559](tel:310.474.0559). Or for more information check out Kahal's Pesah page at <http://www.kahaljoseph.org/pesah.html>

Seder Matching :)

Hosting?

If you are planning on hosting a seder, please consider offering even just one space at the meal. To let Jessica know you'd like some guests email Jessica@kahaljoseph.org!

Ready to be Hosted? If you would like to be hosted for a seder, email Jessica at Jessica@kahaljoseph.org.



Mommy & Me

NEW Start Date—Thursday, April 21

Kahal Joseph and PlayCreations Kids are thrilled to announce Mommy and Me classes with a new start date on Thursday, April 21 in the Kahal Joseph playroom. Each class will start with 30 minutes of music, instruments, scarves, & 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, NEW Start Date, Thursday, April 21st

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

Classes are 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 playcreationkids.com



MEMOUNA

CELEBRATION AT KJ

SUNDAY, MAY 1ST
AT 7 O'CLOCK IN THE EVENING
IN THE ERROL LEVI SOCIAL HALL

RABBI RAIF MELHADO
RABBI DANIEL BOUSKILA &
THE SISTERHOOD OF KAHAL
invite all members and friends
to our Memouna Celebration



We invite you to celebrate springtime, renewal
and the conclusion of Passover with a delightful
evening among members and friends

Savor traditional delicacies
Relish intricate rhythms and festive music
Enjoy the warmth of community

\$18 per person RSVP online at
<http://www.kahaljoseph.org/memouna.html>

or by calling Sarah at 310.474.0559
or Elsa at 323.934.3439

KJ Pesah Schedule 5776

Checking for Hamets

Thursday, April 21

Shaharit 6:25 am

Hamets form due by 11:00 am

Mommy & Me (younger) 10:00 am

(older) 11:30 am

Search for hamets after 8:14 pm

Fourteenth of Nisan

Ta'anit Bekhorim/Fast of Firstborn

Friday, April 22

Shaharit 6:25 am

Siyum w/Rabbi Melhado 7:30 am

Stop Eating Hamets before 10:14 am

Burn Hamets before 11:33 pm

Passover Second Day

Sunday, April 24

Shaharit 8:30 am

Minha, Discussion & Arbit

(no seuda) 7:00 pm

2nd night of the Omer

Habdala: Yom Tob becomes Hol

Hamo'ed 8:17 pm

Hol Hamo'ed I to IV

Third to Sixth Days of Pesah

Monday to Thursday, April 25 to 28

Shaharit 6:15 am

3rd to 6th nights of the Omer

Ereb Yom Tob

Thursday, April 28

Shaharit 6:15 am

Mommy & Me (younger) 10:00 am

(older) 11:30 am

Erub Tabshilin before 7:16 pm

Minha and Arbit 6:30 pm

Candle Lighting 7:16 pm

6th night of the Omer

Ereb Passover, First Seder Night & Ereb Shabbat

Friday, April 22

Early Minha, Arbit & Hallel 6:00 pm

Candle lighting 7:12 pm

First Seder begins after 8:15 pm

Shabbat &

Passover First Day

Saturday, April 23

Shaharit 8:30 AM

Guest Hazan, Torah Reading TBA

Minha, Arbit and Hallel (no seuda)

7:00 pm

Yom Tob, Passover Seventh Day

Friday, April 29

Shaharit 8:30 am

Guest Hazan, Jack Hobb

Minha and Arbit 6:30 pm

Candle Lighting 7:17 pm

7th night of the Omer

Second Seder Night

Saturday, April 23

Candlelighting after 8:16 pm

Prep for Second Seder after 8:16 pm

Second Seder begins after 8:16 pm

1st night counting the Omer (at seder)

Shabbat & Yom Tob, Eighth Day

Saturday, April 30

Shaharit 8:30 am

Guest Hazan, Jack Hobb

Minha, Seudah, Arbit 6:30 pm

Habdala 8:17 pm

8th night of the Omer