

KOL MEBASSER

Rabbi's Message

A hundred years ago this week, a series of diplomatic letters between Sir Edward Grey and Paul Cambon established an agreement between the British and French empires about how to divide up the Middle East if the Ottoman Empire fell in World War I. Popularly known as the "Sykes-Picot Agreement," it is named for Mark Sykes and François Georges-Picot, the chief negotiators who hammered out the terms.

Its main goal was to ensure that the biggest winners of an Ottoman collapse would be the European Great Powers, whose strategic interests would be given first priority over local needs. If new countries were to be allowed to form, this could only be done in a way that served the British and French colonial systems, which between them governed half a billion subjects and more than 30% of the Earth's landmass. When combined with other partition plans favoring the Russian and Italian empires, even fewer pieces of the Ottoman pie would be left for the people actually living in the area.

Over the past century, the agreement has attracted a flood of criticism from many groups with a stake in the region, including religious and nationalistic ideologues; colonizers and the colonized; dreamers for peace and terrorists. The first to include an actual map of the terms, it left a visual impression on the post-war negotiations



that set the borders we now recognize. Many are still fighting over the depth of its legacy and how much attention should be paid to its role in shaping modern conflicts.

From this map that superimposes the modern borders onto the original terms, we can see that the frontiers between several modern states were first established in Sykes-Picot, including significant stretches of Syria's borders with Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, and Iraq; and Iran's western border. Because of this, Sykes-Picot is still a reference point in discussions of Middle East policy today, including among Zionists, who remember that Bolshevik Russia exposed the secret terms of the agreement in 1917 only three weeks after the Balfour Declaration.

The high-stakes background of Sykes-Picot has meant that the Jewish community tends not to remember the agreement through the eyes of Mizrahim who lived in the affected areas. As the first international accord to seriously contemplate what the world would look like after "Ottoman" disappeared as a national identity, it should have ranked indigenous Jews among its stakeholders, and the fact that it did not reflected a prevailing trend in global diplomacy that ultimately saw the end of their stately communal life. When push came to shove, the Great Powers put themselves first and made room for (mostly Muslim) local nationalism a distant second, leaving the Jews as an afterthought primarily focused on Israel.

While Sykes-Picot is likely not the cause of this problem, it is one of the first times that the diplomatic trends abetting the dispersion of Mizrahi Jewry were captured on paper. Several of our members ultimately left the region under conditions first anticipated by this agreement, signed (oddly enough) long before they were born. So in a year that mainly marks



Parashat Emor

Omer 28 / Ereb Pesah Sheni

Torah: Lev. 21:1–24:23 124 Pesukim

Hertz 513–528; Stone 672–695

Haftarah: Ezek. 44:15–31

Hertz 528–530; Stone 1176–1177

Tefillot: Morid Hatal, no Tsidkatekha at Minha because of Pesah Sheni

KJ Schedule

Ereb Shabbat

Friday, May 20th

Shaharit 6:25 am

Shabbat Candle Lighting 7:33 pm

Minha 6:30 pm SHARP

Yom Shabbat

Saturday, May 21st

Shaharit /Morning Prayer ... 8:30 am

Keri'at HaTorah 10:15 am

Musaf 11:30 am

Minha 7:00 pm

Se'uda Shelisheet 7:45 pm

Arbit 8:25 pm

Habdala..... 8:37 pm

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deserved criticism of Sykes-Picot, we might also remember it at Kahal Joseph as the first sign that an important part of what would become our community would be leaving the Middle East to join us.



KJ Welcomes Hazan Hobb

We look forward to celebrating this Shabbat with Hazan Jack Hobb during the reading of Parashat Emor, May 20th-21st. His smiling presence and powerful voice made an impression at Pesah, so if you missed him a few weeks ago you'll enjoy have a chance to hear him tonight and tomorrow.

We expect that Hazan Hobb will be visiting us on a regular basis this spring and summer, serving as guest hazan about once a month. Look out for reminders to keep up with when he's coming!

Mommy & Me

First Round SOLD OUT!

Want to sign up? There are two groups, one for 6-12 months and one for 12-18 months. The next round begins in June, so to reserve email Jessica@kahaljoseph.org

Refuah Shelemah

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

Shabbat Kiddush

is co-sponsored in honor of
the Bar Mitzvah Anniversary
and Birthday of

Joshua Nourafshan
grandson of
Manijeh & Jacques Mashihi

Shabbat Kiddush

is co-sponsored in honor of
the Birthday of

Jessica Melhado

by Rabbi Melhado & the
Cavanagh Family

Congratulations Jennifer Reiz

Mazal Tov to Jennifer Reiz on her
acceptance to both the
California and Florida Bars.

Mazal Tov also to grandfather,
Senior Hazan Sassoon Ezra and to
her parents, Renee & Norman Reiz

In Memoriam

We remember yahrzeit anniversaries from May 21 to 28, 2016. It is customary to light a memorial candle, donate tzedaka & attend Shabbat services.

13 Iyar / Shabbat, May 21st

Devorah Lubovsky *Devorah bat Aharon*
Joseph Robert Saul
Violet Aziza Sheeri

14 Iyar / Sunday, May 22nd

Sally Ekaireb *Salha Matana bat Matooka*
Tala Eradat *Tala bat Jahaver*
Amir Ghoulain

Salman Khadoori Shaby *Salman ben Khadoori*
Eliyahu Hai Abraham Shamash *Eliyahu Hai ben Avraham*

15 Iyar / Monday, May 23rd

Daniel Hakimipour *Daniel ben Meir*
Rivka Matana bat Miriam
Rachel Yitzhaki *Rahel bat Chana*

16 Iyar / Tuesday, May 24th

Eliza Moses Aziza *bat Chana*
Albert Abraham Gazal Sassoon
Joseph Yehudah Yoseph *ben Yehudah*

18 Iyar / Thursday, May 26th

Rachel Judah *Rahel bat Tifaha*
Seemah Sofaer Shemash *Seemah Sofaer bat Hanna*

19 Iyar / Friday, May 27th

Helen Ezra Shemtob *Habiba bat Lulu*

Condolences

We are saddened to announce the passing of Azie Judah, z"l, the sister of Morris & Elias Sassoon and the mother of Sephora Joseph. Our condolences go to the entire family on their loss. May Hashem comfort them together with all the mourners of Tzion.

KJ Schedule (continued)

Pesah Shenil/ Sunday, May 22nd

Shaharit..... 7:30 am

Talmud Torah 10:00 am

Weekdays

Monday to Wednesday, May 23 to 25

Shaharit 6:25 am

Lag La'Omer

Thursday, May 26

Shaharit 6:25 am

Ereb Shabbat / Friday, May 20th

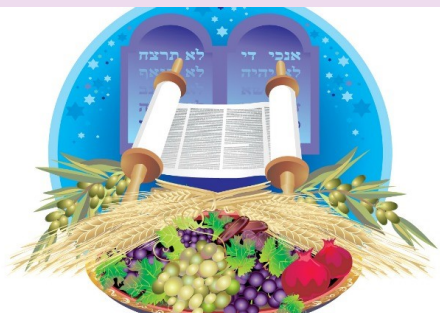
Shabbat Candle Lighting..... 7:38 pm

Minha 6:30 pm SHARP



New Milestones on KJ's Tree of Life

Stones now available at the roots of our welcoming Tree of Life in the lobby. What a great opportunity to commemorate a happy occasion—an anniversary, wedding, birth, or bar or bat mitzvah! Have your contribution to Kahal Joseph recognized in perpetuity. Engrave a Milestone for a donation of \$1800. Contact Sarah at 310.474.0559



Passing Down the Torah

KIDS AT KAHAL

1st Day of Shabuot during services
Sunday, June 12
from 10 am to 12pm

Torah and Tots - ages 0 to 4

Tots and guardians (at least 18, please) join together for songs, stories and games on the theme of Shabuot

Yeladenu - ages 5 to 12

Join us for games, activities, songs and a short prayer service

Please RSVP to Jessica
by Friday June 10 so we have enough materials

Interested in helping out?
Email Jessica to help plan and get involved!

Jessica@kahaljoseph.org



17th Annual Jewish Community Day at Dodger Stadium

**Los Angeles Dodgers v. Chicago Cubs
Sunday, August 28, 2016
Game time 1:10 PM**

Seats are limited and may be purchased through
Sarah at the Kahal Joseph office
by calling 310.474.0559.

**Tickets are in the
Infield Reserve @ \$34 each
and include a commemorative
Dodgers T-Shirt**

The last day to purchase tickets is
Friday, June 10th 2016.
Please remember to call before noon.



***What a fun day for the KJ family to enjoy
the great American pastime!
What a great way to savor summer
and join together with the
Jewish Community of Los Angeles!***