

KOL MEBASSER

Rabbi's Message

Hashabat Abeda is the positive *mitsva* to restore something to its rightful owner. God commands that once we notice something has been lost, we cannot ignore it, but must assume responsibility for the situation. Even if we don't know who left them behind, we should protect valuable things that we find in case the owner comes looking for them.

While it's not a perfect analogy, this passage from Sefer Debarim (22:1-3) moved me when I had the opportunity to play a role in saving two precious items on behalf of our congregation. In neither case are we talking about a lost item, but I did feel a sense of "thou shalt not ignore" as I helped reunite two long-lost cultural treasures.

During my first few weeks on the job, a box of donated books got confused for a box of *geniza* books, and I was asked to judge whether it could be buried in the cemetery. I found it to contain a mixture of everyday books that had outlived their natural lives, and a handful of stunning antiquarian pamphlets that would have been impossible to replace. Preserving them in my office, I noticed that one was a pocket-sized "Exercise Book" from Shanghai full of handwritten *pizmonim* in Hebrew.

13 months later, I was idly looking through an online Judaica auction when the publication city of "Shanghai" caught my attention. I was astonished that the photograph on the website showed a page identical to one that I remembered from the manuscript. Using money from the Iraqi



Books Fund that we raised, I bought the book, the first half of which turned out to be a nearly word-for-word match to the handwritten text in my office!

The published volume is called *Pizmonim Lesimhat Torah*, and the copy we now own is a 1935 reprint of the original of the same title that was first published in Bombay in 1885 by a Baghdadi Jew named Moshe Yehuda Cohen. Both it and the manuscript include special Iraqi songs to be recited for each man who is called to the Torah, and while the manuscript ends there, the published book also goes on to cover more songs for other special occasions.

Each of these items by itself would be a jewel to a community like ours, whose founders include Baghdadi Jews that lived in an interconnected diaspora across continental Asia. Each tells a rich story that is familiar to us, but not particularly known in the broader community: the flowering of Iraqi Jewry, its long influence bringing Jewish life to faraway China, and its cultural artifacts following the Shanghainese diaspora across the Pacific to Los Angeles. But to have them together is a much rarer privilege, one which I would never have imagined possible when the manuscript first crossed my desk a year ago. *Ma rabu ma'asekha Adonai* – how great are Your works, O Lord!

You never know when the time to "not ignore" may come. As I share the photo on the next page, I am eternally grateful to the partners whose attention to detail helped me notice these items, and the many more whose contributions made it possible for Kahal Joseph to become their loving custodian.

Parashat Ki Tetse

Fifth Week of Consolation

Torah: Deut. 21:10–25:19, 110 Pesukim

Hertz 840–857; Stone 1046–1067

Haftara: Is. 54:1–10

Hertz 857–858; Stone 1200

Tefillot: Morid Hatal

KJ Schedule

Ereb Shabbat

Friday, September 16th

Selichot	5:45 am
Shaharit	6:25 am
Shabbat Candle Lighting	6:39 pm
Minha	6:30 pm

Yom Shabbat

Saturday, September 17th

Shaharit / Morning Prayer	8:30 am
Keri'at HaTorah	10:15 am
Musaf	11:30 am
Women's Tehillim.....	right after kiddush

Minha	6:00 pm
Se'uda Shelisheet	6:45 pm
Arbit	7:25 pm
Habdala	7:41 pm

(Continued on page 2)

Shabbat Kiddush

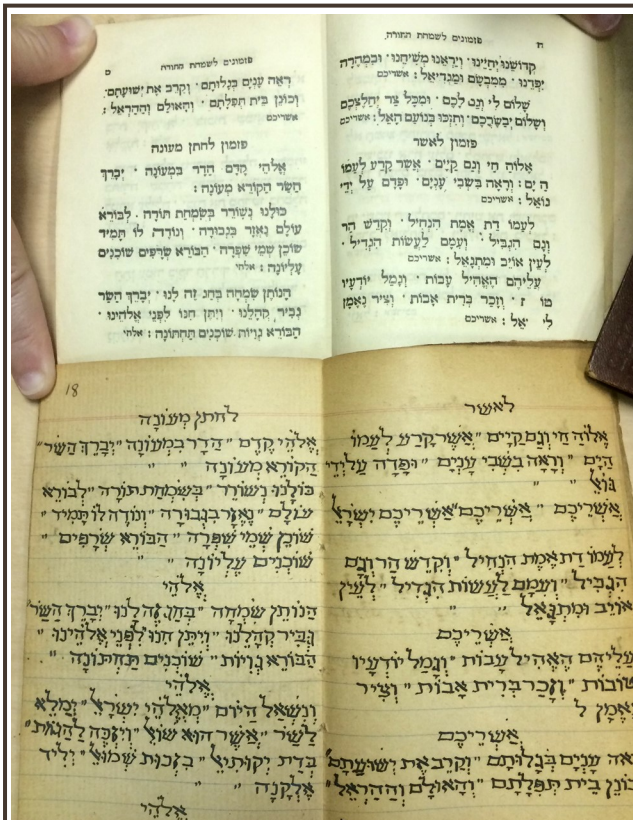
is sponsored
in memory of

Saleh ben Haim, z"l

Dr. Saleh Saleh, z"l

by

Viva & Charles Rabbie



From the Rabbi's Message

KJ's undated manuscript below the 1935 printed copy of "Pizmonim Lesimhat Torah."

Special Guest Speaker Rabbi Mois Navon

Elul: What Should We be Asking For?

Rabbi Navon is a native son of Los Angeles who lectures extensively on Torah, Halakha, and Jewish thought. A member of the Petil Tekhelet organization, he promotes the restoration of the blue thread to the tsitsit, but he is also an accomplished engineer who designed a chip that powers autonomous vehicles. He carved out special time for us on a busy circuit because of his fond memories of Kahal Joseph, where he came for his bar mitzva lessons as a boy. Please join us to enjoy his Torah and welcome him back to his old stomping grounds!



KJ Schedule

(continued)

Weekdays

Sunday, September 18th

Selihot6:45 am
Shaharit7:30 am

Monday to Friday, September 19th to 23rd

Selihot5:45 am
Shaharit6:25 am

Next Shabbat

September 23rd-24th

Shabbat Candle Lighting 6:29 pm
Friday Minha.....6:15 pm
Shaharit8:30 am
Saturday Minha5:45 pm

In Memoriam

We remember yahrzeit anniversaries from September 17 to 24, 2016. It is customary to light a memorial candle, donate tzedaka & attend Shabbat services.

14 Elul / Shabbat, September 17th

Nathan Assia

Haim ben Haim Elazar

Harry Brook Moses Haim Baruch ben Moshe Ezra

15 Elul / Sunday, September 18th

Sophie Meyer Simha bat Rifka

16 Elul / Monday, September 19th

Flower Elias Farha bat Yochevet

Saleh Saleh Saleh ben Haim

17 Elul / Tuesday, September 20th

Gala Nathan Gala bat Sheikoory

18 Elul / Wednesday, September 21st

Rahel bat Rahma Khatoon

19 Elul / Thursday, September 22nd

Malek Yehuda Malek bat Yehuda

Refua Shelema

Abe Abraham • Moselle Amron • Sally Amron • Yehezkel Avrahamy • Haskell Avrahami • Sylvia Cohen • Mordechai Cohen
Esther Duke • Sassoon Ezra • Lev Hakak
Yoel Iny • Tilda Levy • Florice Newberry
Albert Nissan • Maurice Ovadia • Grace Tizabi • Katie bat Farha • Miriam bat Yetta
Aliza bat Victoria • Devora bat Patricia

Urgent: LA Community Eruv to Close

The eruv needs funds! Donate to maintain the eruv:

- ♦ Send a check to LA ERUV at 8950 W. Olympic Blvd. Suite 179, Beverly Hills CA 90211
- ♦ Go to LAERUV.com and make a one time or monthly payment via Paypal or credit card.
- ♦ Email info@laeruv.com to make arrangements



High Holy Day Kids' Programming

REGISTER NOW!

Rosh Hashana

Monday, Oct. 2 and Tuesday, Oct. 3, 10AM to 2PM

Yom Kippur

Tuesday, Oct. 11, 5:30 - 9:30

Wednesday, Oct. 12, 10AM - 2PM, 3:30PM - 7:00PM

Join us this year as your children explore the meaning of Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur with creative programming and engaging children's services. Fun snacks and a holiday-themed class from mini yogi round out the new offerings.

Torah Tots (1 to 4 yrs) - *Parents welcome, but babysitting also provided*

Yeladenu (Pre-K to 2nd) - *Activities, children's service, and snacks*

Club Noar (3rd to 6th) - *Activities, children's service, and snacks*

Free for members! \$25 per holiday for non-members!
EVERYONE must register to get a wristband! Registration forms will be in the ticket mailing OR you can register online at www.kahaljoseph.org/hhd-kids.html

Questions? Email Jessica at jessica@kahaljoseph.org.



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Volunteer with the Kids Program!

Parents, grandparents, younger adults, older adults! Take a break from praying to do another kind of mitzva - helping out with the children's programming. Shifts are as short as 45 minutes, allowing you to both help out and still get to pray. All materials/activities provided, just bring yourself and your enthusiasm.

Please contact Jessica ASAP to volunteer (jessica@kahaljoseph.org) or if you'd like to get involved in a more substantial way (planning, coordinating volunteers, etc).

**Come for Dinner
& Stay to Learn!**
RSVP by Tuesday



Share Great
Company & Enjoy
Good Conversation

RABBI MELHADO'S NEW CLASS

YOU'VE GOT THE "RITE" STUFF, BABY

PRAYERS OF THE HIGH HOLY DAYS

Our daily prayers are a beautiful ceremony on their own, but for 40 days a year we really bump them up to the next level for the High Holy Days.

This deepens the spiritual force of our tefilla, but it is a lot to handle for worshipers who only see these special texts once a year.

Want to know the meaning of the prayers?
Have questions? Join Rabbi Melhado for a 5-session mini series on Wednesday evenings in September!

Aug 31: Structure of the Daily Tefillot
Sep 07: The Sephardic Selihot
Sep 14: Rosh Hashana
Sep 21: Yom Kippur
Sep 28: Comparison to Ashkenazim

All Classes on Wednesday at 7:00 pm

Dinner Available for \$15 with RSVP by Tuesday, Click Here

KAHAL JOSEPH CONGREGATION

10505 SANTA MONICA BLVD

310.474.0559

kahaljoseph.org

Our High Holy Days Special Guest Hazan Michael Ben Atar



Kahal Joseph is thrilled to announce that the wonderful voice of Hazan Michael Ben Atar will be joining us from Jerusalem for this Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur!

He will be an exciting addition to our beloved Hazanim Saeed Jalali and Sassoon Ezra, whom we are all truly blessed with. With a great team like that, our prayers will hopefully be as pleasant before God as they sound in our own ears!

Hazan Ben Atar is the scion of Iraqi families on both his father's and his mother's side, and his grandfather was born in Baghdad. The melodies of Iraqi hazanim were a constant companion growing up in his native Jerusalem, where he avidly followed voices like Moshe Habusha, David Halabi, and Gourgy Yair.

The music that surrounded him in his family life stayed with him through his religious education at Yeshivat Oz Meir. At home, he compliments his vocal talents by playing the violin and the oud.

He has now made music a centerpiece of his professional life, which revolves around hazanut, choral performances, semahot, and educational work with bene mitsva students. Along with his wife Batel, we feel fortunate to have Hazan Ben Atar at Kahal Joseph for our upcoming High Holy Day services.

We look forward to seeing all our members and friends attend our inspiring tefilot!

Tickets for the High Holy Days

Kahal Joseph welcomes you to celebrate Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur in our beautiful High Holy Day services!

Tickets are available to members and non-members, as are wristbands for the special kids' programming.

Membership comes with...

- ♦ Two tickets for families
- ♦ One ticket for singles
- ♦ Free tickets (if preregistered) for teens through high school
- ♦ Free wristbands (if preregistered) for children under bar mitsva
- ♦ Favorable rates for members' children in college.

Non-member tickets covering both holidays are available too!

- ♦ \$300 for adults
- ♦ \$150 for children, bar mitsva through college
- ♦ \$50 for children under bar mitsva
- ♦ The cost of non-member tickets can also be applied towards a new membership!

To reserve your tickets, you can either visit www.kahaljoseph.org/high-holy-days or call the office at **310-474-0559**. If you'd rather stop by in person, we'd love to see you!