

# KOL MEVASSER

## Rabbi's Message

Jacob's arrival in Egypt begins the enactment of the Covenant Between the Pieces, in which God foretells our slavery to Pharaoh (Gen. 15). Our Sages agree that this period lasted for generations, plenty of time for the memory of our patriarchs to fade. For how long could a Hebrew identity be retained while embedded at the bottom rung of a hostile society? Whatever Torah was known at the time of Joseph must have sunk to a wretched level for God to start Sinai from a blank slate.

Several Midrashim record that one of the few treasures to survive slavery was our sacred Hebrew language. Though the Egyptians may have altered the way we think about the world, we could not let them take our way of talking about it. In the framing of the Midrashim, it was this loyalty that prompted God to redeem us.

In a very different set of circumstances, modern Sephardi communities also struggle with cultural retention. We have left the lands where our ancestors became great, and much has fallen by the wayside as we assume the lifestyle of our new homes.

Yet once in a while, a treasure from the past ignites a memory that may help save something from extinction. The facing column shows a charming poem once used to teach Hebrew to the children of Baghdad – much as the Israelites may have done millennia before in Egypt.

**My beloved elders, which of you can remember the melody for us to preserve for the future?** If you know it, email me at rabbimelhado@kahaljoseph.org or call the office at 310-474-0559.



אבו ארבעה רוס – א Has four heads – *Alef*

ראזונה – ב A window – *Be*

אבו גנח – ג Has a wing – *Gimal*

נחר – ד A hatchet – *Dal*

רגלהא מקטועה – ה Her leg is cut off – *He*

אברי – ו A needle – *Waw*

דנבוס – ז A pin – *Zan*

אם רגלתי צאג – ח Has both legs sound – *Heth*

רגלהא בבטנהא – ט Her leg is inside – *Teth*

אכתך אל זגירה – י Your younger sister – *Yod*

ראזונה מדורה – כ A round window – *Kaf*

אל גמל – ל The camel – *Lamad*

ראסהא זביבאי – מ Her head is a raisin – *Mim*

גנגאל – נ A hook – *Noon*

מדור – ס A circle – *Simmakh*

אבו ראסין – ע Has two heads – *An*

בתמהא זביבאי – פ A raisin in her mouth – *Peh*

ראסין ומחני – צ Two heads and is bent – *Sad*

רגלהו טוילי – ק His leg is long – *Qof*

מגרוך – ר Curved – *Rosh*

אבו תלת רוס – ש Has three heads – *Shin*

רגלהא מערונה – ת Her leg is crooked – *Ta*

אלף לאם סלאם – י Ligature Alef-Lam – *Goodbye!*

## Parashat Mikets

### Shabbat Hanukkah (VII)

Torah(§): Gen. 41:1–44:17, Num. 7:48–53

Hertz 155, 599; Stone 222, 770

Haftara: Zach. 2:14–4:7

Hertz 987–989; Stone 1210–1211

Tefillot: Mashiv Haruah, Al Hanisim (at Shahrar and Musaf), Full Hallel

## KJ Schedule

### Erev Shabbat

Friday, December 30th

Shaharit ..... 6:25 am

Hanukkah Candlelighting ..... 4:35 pm

**Shabbat Candles.....right afterwards**

Minha ..... 4:30 pm SHARP

Kabbalat Shabbat / Arvit ..... 4:45 pm

### Yom Shabbat

Saturday, December 31st

Shaharit / Morning Prayer ..... 8:30 am

Keri'at HaTorah ..... 10:15 am

Musaf ..... 11:45 am

Women's Tehillim ..... right after kiddush

Minha ..... 4:00 pm

Se'uda Shelisheet ..... 4:45 pm

Arvit ..... 5:25 pm

Havdala ..... 5:39 pm

Hanukkah Candles ..... right afterwards

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### Hanukkah (VIII)

Secular New Year / Sunday, January 1st  
Shaharit ..... 7:30 am

### Weekdays

Monday, January 2nd  
Shaharit ..... 7:00 am

Tuesday to Friday, January 3rd to 6th  
Shaharit ..... 6:25 am

**Next Shabbat / Fri & Sat, Jan 6th & 7th**  
Shabbat Candlelighting.....4:40 pm  
**Friday Minha** ..... **4:30 pm**  
Shaharit ..... 8:30 am  
Saturday Minha ..... 4:00 pm  
Havdala ..... 5:45 pm

Please note: the 10th of Tevet fast  
will take place on Sunday, January 8th

*Shabbat Shalom Umvorakh*

### Condolences

We send our deepest condolences to the  
family and friends of  
**Edmond Kamara, z"l**

may his memory be blessed. Our thoughts  
and prayers go out to his wife Dora, his  
children Steven, Sandy, and Shelly Kamara,  
and the entire family. May Hashem comfort  
the families together with all the mourners  
of Tsion.

### Condolences

We send our deepest condolences to the  
family and friends of our longtime member  
**Ronald Meyer, z"l**

may his memory be blessed. Our thoughts  
and prayers go out to his wife Rachel, his  
daughter Sabrina, and the entire family. May  
Hashem comfort the families together with all  
the mourners of Tsion.

### In Memoriam

We remember these yahrzeit anniversaries from  
December 31, 2016 to January 7, 2017. It is  
customary to light a memorial candle, donate  
zedaka & attend Shabbat services.

#### 2 Tevet / Shabbat, December 31st

*David ben Ezra*

#### 3 Tevet / Sunday, January 1st

Isaac Jacob *Itzhak ben Yaakov*  
Vicky Messiah *Rahma Victoria bat Khatoon*

#### 4 Tevet / Monday, January 2nd

Seemah Meyer *Simha bat Azizah*

#### 5 Tevet / Tuesday, January 3rd

Mida Judah *Masooda bat Dina*  
Esther Sales *Esther HaMalka bat Rivka*  
Elisha Samuel *Elisha ben Sassoon Shmuel Hacham*

#### 6 Tevet / Wednesday, January 4th

Raquel Emquies *Rahel bat Clare Levy*  
Salem Kooby

#### 7 Tevet / Thursday, January 5th

Eliezer David Levy *Eliezer ben David HaLevi*

#### 8 Tevet / Friday, January 6th

Abraham Khazoom  
Rabbi Elias Levi *Eliyahu Hayim ben Shlomo Halevi*  
Max Nathan *Mordechai ben Rafael Natan*  
David Sassoon Solomon *David Sasson ben*  
*Shlomo Reuven*

#### 9 Tevet / Shabbat, January 7th

Eddie Jacob Ezra *Yehezkel ben Yaacov Azoori*

### Refu'a Shelema

Moselle Amron • Sally Amron  
Haskell Avrahamy • Sylvia Cohen  
Simcha bat Rooha • Mordechai Cohen  
Esther Duke • Sassoon Ezra • Lev Hakak  
Yoel Iny • Tilda Levy • Florice Newberry  
Maurice Ovadia • Grace Tizabi  
Katie bat Farha • Miriam bat Yetta  
Aliza bat Rahel • Aliza bat Victoria  
Adam Moshe Chaim ben Olga



## This Hanukkah, Give to KJ

Every person's gift helps our community's light to  
shine.

On Hanukkah, give the gift that has lasted for  
generations. Include Kahal in your end-of-year donations.

[Click here to contribute with our secure online form](#) or mail a check with  
"Shine the Light" in the memo line to Kahal Joseph at  
10505 W. Santa Monica Blvd.

Nurture our light.





# Hanukkah Dinner at KJ

## Rabbi's Hanukkah Dinner Was Fun for the Whole Family

The Rabbi's dinner this past Sunday was a great way to continue our celebration of the Festival of Lights.

Families and friends gathered together to eat, socialize, and listen to Hanukkah music. From newborn Ellie Melhado to members in their ninth generation, bonds of friendship extended across all ages.

For dessert, an old Hebrew-Dutch pun has crowned the Belgian waffle as a traditional Hanukkah food among Western Sephardim, and we enjoyed them in classic style with all the fixins.

Rabbi Melhado led the children in lighting the Menorah and taught a traditional Italian melody for Ma'oz Tzur, as well as a rollicking 18th century song about the delights of Sephardic holiday cooking.

## Hakarat Hatov

Thanks to those who helped with planning, setup, and cleanup!

Rabbi and Jessica Melhado  
Racheli and Tehilla Moskowitz  
Jack and Miriam Shadi



## Hanukkah Halakhot & Blessings

- ♦ **Where should I light?** The aim is "persume nissa" or publicizing the miracle. Therefore, the candles should be placed where they will likely be seen by passersby.
- ♦ **When should I light?** The candles should be lit as soon as it is fully dark; if that is not possible, they may be lit all night. Either way, they should burn for at least 30 minutes.
- ♦ **How many lamps?** Sephardim have a custom of lighting one Hanukkah lamp per household. Ashkenazim have the custom of having one per person, even for children.
- ♦ **How do I assemble the lamp?** Place the candles from right to left, but light from left to right.
- ♦ **On Shabbat?** Light first, then the Shabbat candles. After Shabbat, read Havdala and then light.



## 8th Night of Hanukkah@KJ

Ring in the last night of Hanukkah with delicious, Hanukkah-themed Krispy Kreme donuts, to be served after Havdala. End the holiday on a high note with a Menorah full of lights and a tummy full of sweets!

*Donuts are dairy, so if your lunch menu and timing prevent you from eating them right away, take one home to enjoy later.*

### On all nights of Hanukkah, light the shamash, then say:

ברוך אתה ה'. אלהינו מלך העולם. אשר קדשנו במצותיו. וצונו להדליק נר חגכה:

Ba-ROOKH a-TA a-do-NAI e-lo-HE-nu ME-lekh ha-o-LAM a-SHER ki-de-SHA-nu be-mits-vo-TAV ve-tsi-VA-nu le-had-LIK NER ha-nu-KA

*Blessed are You, O Lord our God, Ruler of the Universe, Who has sanctified us with His commandments, and ordained that we kindle the Hanukkah light.*

ברוך אתה ה'. אלהינו מלך העולם. שעשה נסים לאבותינו. בימים ההם בזמן הזה:

Ba-ROOKH a-TA a-do-NAI e-lo-HE-nu ME-lekh ha-o-LAM she-a-SA ni-SIM la-a-vo-TE-nu ba-ya-MIM ha-HEM ba-ze-MAN ha-ZE

*Blessed are You, O Lord our God, Ruler of the Universe, Who has performed miracles for our forefathers, in the days of old and at this season.*

### On the first night of Hanukkah only (or the 1st night you light):

ברוך אתה ה'. אלהינו מלך העולם. שהענינו. וקיימנו. והגיענו לזמן הזה:

Ba-ROOKH a-TA a-do-NAI e-lo-HE-nu ME-lekh ha-o-LAM she-he-ye-YA-nu ve-ki-ye-MA-nu ve-hi-gi-A-nu la-ze-MAN ha-ZE

*Blessed are You, O Lord our God, Ruler of the Universe, Who has given us life and sustained us, and brought us to this happy occasion.*

### From left to right, light the candles. After beginning to light, sing:

הנרות הללו אנוחנו מדליקין. על הנסים. ועל התשועות. ועל הנפלאות. שעשית לאבותינו. על ידי פהניך הקדושים: וכל-שמונת ימי חגכה הנרות הללו קדש. ואין לנו רשות להשתמש בהם. אלא לראותם בלבד. כדי להודות לשמך. על נסיה. ונפלאותיה. וישועותיה:

Ha-ne-ROT ha-LA-lu a-NAH-nu mad-li-KIN AL ha-ni-SIM ve-AL ha-te-shu-OT ve-AL ha-nif-la-OT she-a-SI-ta la-a-vo-TE-nu AL ye-DE ko-ha-NE-kha ha-ke-do-SHIM ve-KHOL she-mo-NAT ye-ME ha-nu-KA ha-ne-ROT ha-LA-lu KO-desh ve-EN LA-nu reh-SHOOT le-hish-ta-MESH ba-HEM E-la lir-o-TAM bil-VAD ke-DE le-ho-DOT lish-ME-kha AL ni-SE-kha ve-nif-le-o-TE-kha vi-shu-o-TE-kha

*We kindle these lights to mark the miracles, salvation, and wondrous deeds that You did for our forefathers through Your holy Kohanim. For all eight days of Hanukkah, these lights are sacred, and we are not permitted to use them, but rather only to look at them so as to give thanks to Your name for your miracles, wondrous deeds, and salvation.*