

# KOL MEVASSER

## Rabbi's Message

It may sound irreverent, but the movie *Blazing Saddles* gets me thinking about the 13 Attributes of God. If you are surprised by this comparison, you would not be the first. While the Attributes are a serious explanation from God Himself about His merciful nature, *Blazing Saddles* is a sassy, profane comedy that pokes fun at traditional American racism. What could these possibly have in common?



This is what “visiting the sins of the fathers on the children” looks like, so are we to understand that the town of Rock Ridge was following the example of God?! This is consistent with His other Attributes like fairness, mercy, and a level head?!

That problem is acknowledged by Rashi (1040-1105), who admits that the literal reading of this Attribute makes God appear stern and unfair. But instead of giving up hope in a just God, he reminds us that Jews do not always interpret every verse in the Torah literally, and points us to a beautiful explanation from the Tosefta.

In English, the 13th Attribute says that God “will by no means” forgive sin, but the Hebrew structure is simply a double verb and a single negative: “*nake lo yenake*.” According to the Rabbis, this should be read that God “will **both** forgive **and** not forgive,” depending on the merits of the situation (Tosefta Yoma 4:10).

In the Tosefta’s portrayal of God, those who are eager to repent and try to resolve the problems they create will be accepted with the love and compassion of His other Attributes. It is only when a person is too proud and insensitive to repent that later generations will be affected. Since they will have created a harsh world, their children and grandchildren may inherit that harshness, having to work themselves to repair the damage that their parents and grandparents left behind.

This “ultimate fairness” is both a comfort and a call to action. It is a comfort because it means that God is eagerly waiting to help us restore justice. And It is a call to action because He wants us put our own skin in the game to make it happen. He is ready to assist – so what will we do to show that we want His help?

To explain myself, I will highlight the last of the 13 Attributes, which seems harsh in comparison to the rest. If God is so compassionate and ready to forgive, why does He end by saying that He “will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the sins of the fathers onto the children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren”? (Ex. 34:7)

In *Blazing Saddles*, this is very much the experience of Sheriff Bart, the only African American in a town populated entirely by white people. His only “sin” is being black, something that he had no role in choosing for himself. If there is even anything transgressive about his skin color, the “fault” must lie with his ancestors, who passed it along to him without his consent.

Yet for this sin of blackness, he is shunned all over Rock Ridge. As he tries to assume the responsibility for protecting the town, doors of welcome or assistance are slammed in his face, and he is referred to by nasty racial slurs with a casualness that was shocking even when the film came out 43 years ago.

### Parashat Ki Tisa / Para Bar Mitsva of Jacob Kahtan

Torah: Ex. 30:11–34:35, Num. 19:1–22  
Hertz 352, 652; Stone 484, 838  
Haftara (§): Ezekiel 36:16–36  
Hertz 999–1001; Stone 1216–1217  
Tefillot: Mashiv Haruah

## KJ Schedule

### Erev Shabbat

Friday, March 17th

Shaharit .....	6:25 am
<b>Candle lighting</b> .....	<b>6:44 pm</b>
Minha .....	6:30 pm
Kabbalat Shabbat / Arvit .....	7:00 pm

### Yom Shabbat

Saturday, March 18th

Shaharit / Morning Prayer .....	8:30 am
Keri'at HaTorah .....	10:15 am
Musaf .....	11:45 am
Women's Tehillim .....	5:30 pm
Minha .....	6:15 pm
Se'uda Shelisheet .....	7:00 pm
Arvit .....	7:35 pm
Havdala .....	7:48 pm

(Continued on page 2)

## Shabbat Kiddush

is sponsored  
in honor of

**Jacob Kahtan's Bar Mitsva**

by  
Tikva & Yoel Iny

Mazal Tov  
to his parents & siblings  
Mickey & Haim Kahtan, Isaac & Michael  
and his grandparents, Tikva & Yoel Iny  
and Najeba Kahtan

## Condolences to the Family of Adam Krief

Kahal Joseph joins the family of Adam Krief in mourning an affable young husband and father of three who touched so many in our community. Adam's search for a cure inspired thousands to help him and others get matched for bone marrow donation. To honor his memory, we can do no better than his family's touching epitaph:

*Adam. To the man, the tzadik, who touched the hearts and the lives of all of us. Who united us. Who gave us a reason to come together. To fight. To pray. To love. It's only fitting that your name is Adam. You represent what it means to be a man. A good man. A strong man. The man we all strive to be. You have left this earth physically, but have left a little piece of you, your goodness, your unwavering will to live, within all of us. You have become our son, our father, our family, our friend. Thank you for sharing yourself with us. Thank you for being you. To know you is to love you. And we love you.*

## Se'uda Shelisheet

is sponsored  
in loving memory of

**Moshe ben Naima, z"l**

by Ida & Ilan Elisha

*(Continued from page 1)*

### Weekdays

*Sunday, March 19th*

Shaharit ..... 7:30 am  
Talmud Torah ..... 9:45 am

*Monday to Friday, March 20 to 24*

Shaharit ..... 6:25 am

**Next Shabbat / Fri & Sat, March 24 - 25**

Shabbat Candle lighting..... 6:49 pm

Friday Minha ..... 6:15 pm

**Shaharit ..... 8:15 am**

Saturday Minha ..... 6:00 pm

Havdala ..... 7:54 pm

### Refu'a Shelema

Moselle Amron • Sally Amron • Haskell  
Avrahamy • Sylvia Cohen • Simcha bat Rooha  
Mordechai Cohen • Esther Duke • Sassoon Ezra  
Tilda Levy • Florice Newberry  
Maurice Ovadia • Katie bat Farha  
Miriam bat Yetta • Aliza bat Rahel • Aliza bat  
Victoria • Yvonne Moalim • Latifa bat Louisa  
Bracha Simha bat Louisa • Miryam bat Malka  
Malka bat Rahel • Moshe Ezra ben Mazal Tov



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## Condolences

We send our sincere condolences to the family of **Bernard Lurie, z"l**, who passed away on the 13th of Adar. He is survived by his brother Fred Lurie and his sister Bobbi Lurie. Fred is a beloved member of Kahal Joseph and the son-in-law of our first Rabbi, Elias Levi, z"l. May the family be comforted together with all the mourners of Tsion.

## In Memoriam

We remember these yahrzeit anniversaries from March 18 to 25, 2017. It is customary to light a memorial candle, donate tzedaka & attend Shabbat services.

**20 Adar / Shabbat, March 18th**

Victoria Simanian *Miriam Victoria bat Ester*

Edward Wyner *Itzhak ben Simha*

Yona Radfar *Yona ben Shlomo*

**21 Adar / Sunday, March 19th**

Gershon Doustar

Itzhak Rahmin *Itzhak Rahmin Pinhas*

**23 Adar / Tuesday, March 21st**

Bernard Jonatan Amron *Bernard Yonatan ben Mishael*

Eliyahu Kattan *Eliyahu ben Salim*

Elisha Nawy *Elisha ben Nassim*

Rachel Jonah

Moshe Ezra Raphael Moses *Moshe Ezra ben*

*Raphael Moshe*

**24 Adar / Wednesday, March 22nd**

Fortunate Dallal *Fortunate bat Naima*

**25 Adar / Thursday, March 23rd**

Rivka Blank *Rivkah bat Sarah Hannah*

*Sarah bat Gurjiyee*

**26 Adar / Friday, March 24th**

Moses Solomon Noah *Moshe ben Shlomo Noah*

Yaghoub Partiyeli

Salomon Emquies *Shlomo ben Messod*

**27 Adar / Shabbat, March 25th**

Elias M. Judah *Eliyahu Hayim ben Meir Yehuda*

Achajal Aghalar *Nisim ben Jacob*

Saul K. Masliah *Shaul ben Hacham Moshe Yakob*





## Erev Purim & the Purim Carnival







# BOARD OF DIRECTORS SHABBAT LUNCHEON

SATURDAY, MARCH 25

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**HONORING**  
OUTGOING BOARD PRESIDENT  
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**THANKING**  
THE 2014-2017 BOARD

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INCOMING BOARD PRESIDENT  
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AND  
THE 2017-2020 BOARD

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**Free, for members only**  
RSVP to the office at 310.474.0559  
by Wednesday, March 22

Interested in becoming a member?  
Talk to Rabbi Melhado or call the office

## Kahal Joseph 2017 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Purim Carnival

### Event Chairs

Molly Jalali Jonathan Kelly Jessica Melhado

### Event Committee

Sarah Bouchoucha • Yvette Dabby • Ron Einy  
Louise Elias • Rabbi Melhado • Penina Solomon

### Booth Sponsors

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**Thank you to our generous sponsors!**



## Young Professionals Shabbat Dinner

with

## Rabbi Ari Weber

Friday, March 24

### **"New Age Judaism...3500 Years ago"**

Join Rabbis Weber and Melhado for an interesting discussion and a delicious dinner! Free. RSVP to [rabbimelhado@kahaljoseph.org](mailto:rabbimelhado@kahaljoseph.org)

Rabbi Ari Weber is currently serving as the Clinical Pastoral Resident at St. Mary's Hospital in San Francisco. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Following college, he spent four years in Israel, where he learned in yeshiva, served in the Nachal Infantry Brigade of the IDF, and volunteered at the Youth Futures branch of the Jewish Agency for Israel in Tiberias and Livnot U'Lehibanot in Tzfat.

## Guest Speaker Arjang Zendeudel April 1, 2017



### **"The Mother of all Secrets of Success"**

Interested in inner freedom, power, and self mastery? Do you know one essential feature of success and wealth? What about developing great relationships? Discover this root cause of problems with this hidden Torah concept, and accelerate your inner preparation for Passover.

\* \* \* \*

For over 23 years, Arjang Zendeudel has been training and researching to master the secrets of success & fulfillment. In the process, he received his Bachelor's in Communications from UCLA, earned a Masters in Business Administration and became a Certified Mediator at Pepperdine University. Arjang is also a certified Master Coach and Master Practitioner of Neuro Linguistic Programming. After 10 years as the host of a successful coaching radio program, he founded Dreamality Education & Coaching to teach people how to reach their potential and live their dreams.

שרה פי א ערבי

אדי וצעת בפמנא. הודא הום ישכרון ויבארבון ויסבכון  
ויפכרון וימגדון לא אסמך יא צלטאננא דאיימן. לאן כל פם

## Do you speak Judeo-Arabic or Judeo-Persian?

The Mother Tongue Project at the University of Haifa wants to record a conversation with you to help preserve these dying languages.

Make an appointment with Rabbi Melhado at  
[rabbimelhado@kahaljoseph.org](mailto:rabbimelhado@kahaljoseph.org) or call the office at 310-474-0559

Each conversation will be recorded and then uploaded to the Mother Tongue project website to be shared and used for research.

Find out more information about  
the Mother Tongue Project at [www.lashon.org](http://www.lashon.org)

## Living Room Learning



**Got a pressing Jewish question?**

**Something on your mind? A topic of interest?**

Host Rabbi Melhado in your home for a class to explore a topic of your choice, or work with the rabbi to find something that interests you. Invite your friends, and learn together with the rabbi in a relaxed environment.

Interested? Questions?

Email the rabbi at [RabbiMelhado@kahaljoseph.org](mailto:RabbiMelhado@kahaljoseph.org).



# Stop on By

Wednesdays at 8PM ONLINE



Rabbi Melhado pulls out all the stops for  
a three-part, ONLINE mini-series about Pesah.

Email [RabbiMelhado@kahaljoseph.org](mailto:RabbiMelhado@kahaljoseph.org) to get connected!

## March 22 - Stop the Insanity!

Get to Pesah in one piece, and on budget! Learn what and how to kasher, what needs a special hekhsher and what doesn't, and how to remain grounded in the spirit of the holiday throughout

## March 29 - Stop Me if You've Heard this One

How do we keep the story of the Seder fresh, year after year? Gather new insights, interesting customs, and ways to liven up your Seder, whether hosting or as a guest.

## April 5 - Stop and Smell the Roses

Learn about a less well known custom of Pesah, Birkat Ha'Ilanot. This special blessing on seeing fruit trees in bloom can only be made once a year, helping us to appreciate the blessings of nature anew each spring.



**Celebrate** the 50th Anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem  
**Experience** Israel through the SEC's unique educational itinerary  
**Journey** through Jerusalem, Northern Israel, Tel Aviv & Masada  
**Stay** at the SEC's historic *Sephardic House*, moments from the Kotel  
**Learn** with trip leader Rabbi Daniel Bouskila

To register, contact the SEC at 323.272.4574 or  
[www.sephardiceducationalcenter.org/jerusalemunited50](http://www.sephardiceducationalcenter.org/jerusalemunited50)



## Seder Matching

On your own for the seders?

We can help!

Do you have an extra seat at your  
seder table?

We can fill it!

Simply email Jessica at [jessica@kahaljoseph.org](mailto:jessica@kahaljoseph.org)  
by April 3 to be matched!