

# KOL MEVASSER

## Rabbi's Message

The big day is finally here! Months of careful planning ensured that everything would go right. The project's setbacks were recovered without losing momentum. The final installation was completed according to design, and the deadline of the first of Nisan was met. After much heartache and self-sacrifice, the Holy Tabernacle has arrived!

But what is it for? How do we use it? What makes it worth the effort?

As we ended Sefer Shemot last week, we didn't have very much to go on to answer these questions. It is only now, once we have the Tabernacle in place, that God explains the full procedure for the sacrificial cult. The description of the sacrifices, their first ceremonies, and some priestly troubleshooting take up the first two and a half parashiyot of Vayikra between them, fully ten times the space devoted to this topic in Shemot (ch. 29). By backloading the instruction manual for the Mishkan in this way, God encourages us to take a deeper look at why He commanded us to have it in the first place.

The two times He mentions this come before the ideal depiction of the Tabernacle is spoiled with the sin of the Golden Calf. In both cases, God frames the Mishkan as a way to affirm our close relationship with Him. *"Build for Me a Sanctuary that I may dwell in it" – "and I will dwell among the Israelites and be their God"* (Ex. 25:8, 29:45). We know from our own lives that it



is possible to feel close to God without a Mishkan, yet what He is offering is to enjoy a public display of His approval. We can always show our faith through organized worship and good works, but to have a divine endorsement of that loyalty before the eyes of world is a type of approval we might never have dared possible.

The flip side of this modest sense of purpose is that it is very easy to let God's attentions go to our heads. "Look everyone! We are the Chosen People! We are the Light Unto the Nations! See how special we are! Come and bask in our radiance! Me, me, me!" The step from divine confirmation to smug superiority is fairly small, opening the pure intention of the Mishkan to misuse for human glorification.

That is why God harps on a seemingly minor point in the sacrificial cult, banning the use of *hamets* or honey for meal-offerings (Lev. 2:11). The Midrash Lekah Tob notices that both of these foods share the property of becoming "puffed up" when cooked – the bread rises as dough and in the oven, and the honey bubbles. In each case they are symbols of arrogance, of filling ourselves up with hot air when there is no substance behind it.

By only using "humble" foods at the altar, we are reminded to keep our feet planted on the ground. The Mishkan is an awesome display of decorum, but it must be focused on God to be effective. If our supposed piety is only about ourselves, what have we achieved? Whether in ancient times or modern, letting go of our pride and giving ourselves wholeheartedly to our Creator is the key to our spiritual and personal maturation

## Parashat Vayikra

### Korban Shelumiel ben Tsurishadai

Torah: Lev. 1:1–5:26, 111 Pesukim

Hertz 410–423; Stone 544–567

Haftara: Is. 43:21–44:23

Hertz 424–428; Stone 1165–1166

Tefillot: Mashiv Haruah, Nesi'im (Num. 7:36–41); no Tsidkatekha

## KJ Schedule

### Erev Shabbat

Friday, March 31st

Shaharit .....	6:25 am
<b>Candle lighting</b> .....	<b>6:55 pm</b>
Minha .....	6:30 pm
Kabbalat Shabbat / Arvit .....	7:00 pm

### Yom Shabbat

Saturday, April 1st

<b>Shaharit / Morning Prayer</b> .....	<b>8:30 am</b>
Keri'at HaTorah .....	10:15 am
Musaf .....	11:40 am

Women's Tehillim .....	5:30 pm
Minha .....	6:15 pm
Se'uda Shelisheet .....	7:00 pm
Arvit .....	7:45 pm
Havdala .....	7:59 pm

(Continued on page 2)



## Young Professionals Dinner a Success!

**Next Shabbat Dinner  
Friday, April 28**

Twelve young professionals joined together at Rabbi Melhado's home for a Shabbat dinner and discussion last Friday night.

The participants, including new and old faces, got to know each other over a delicious meal, catered in part by Miriam Shadi, and then had an interesting discussion the idea of "Shabbat HaHodesh" led by Rabbi Melhado.

After a long evening together, all of the participants went home happy. We are looking forward to our next dinner, on Friday, April 28. All members and friends in their 20s and 30s are invited!

## Shabbat Kiddush

is co-sponsored

in memory of

Jalal ben Netanel Kohan, z'l  
by Rebecca & David Kohan and Family

in memory of

Yehudit bat Shalom Tizabi, z'l &  
Yehezkel ben Avraham Tizabi, z'l  
by Laleh and Joseph Tizabi

and in honor of their parents

Rex and Pat Young  
Rabbi Eliahu and Ora Ezran  
by Dafna and Rex Young

### Omer Counting Cards

This year, we received only 90 copies of the Omer counting cards, so Rabbi Melhado is handing them out in person. We also have it available as a PDF on KJ's website.

*(Continued from page 1)*

### Weekdays

*Sunday, April 2nd*

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

*Monday to Friday, April 3rd to 7th*

Shaharit ..... 6:25 am

*Wednesday, April 5th*

**'Stop on By' online class ..... 8:00 pm**

**Next Shabbat / Fri-Sat, April 7-8**

Shabbat Candle lighting ..... 7:00 pm  
Friday Minha ..... 6:30 pm  
Shaharit ..... 8:30 am  
Saturday Minha ..... 6:15 pm  
Havdala ..... 8:04 pm

## In Memoriam

We remember these yearzeit anniversaries from April 1 to 8, 2017. It is customary to light a memorial candle, donate tzedaka & attend Shabbat services.

**6 Nisan / Sunday, April 2nd**

*Mordechai ben Mattatya*

**8 Nisan / Tuesday, April 4th**

*Ada Ezra Ada bat Mindel Okin*

*Carolyn Frances Ezra Carolyn Frances bat Norman  
Ezra Sayegh*

*Allan Norman Steiner Alexander Nahum ben  
Mordechai*

**9 Nisan / Wednesday, April 5th**

*Malka Lurie*

**10 Nisan / Thursday, April 6th**

*Gohar Mashallah Gohar bat Aga  
Aziza Sassoon Aziza bat Miriam*

**11 Nisan / Friday, April 7th**

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

**12 Nisan / Shabbat, April 8th**

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

## 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  
Chaya Chana bat Batya



**Like us on facebook!**

[facebook.com/kahaljoseph.congregation](https://facebook.com/kahaljoseph.congregation)



# Stop on By

Wednesdays at 8PM ONLINE



Email [RabbiMelhado@kahaljoseph.org](mailto:RabbiMelhado@kahaljoseph.org) to get the link to the YouTube stream, or go to Kahal Joseph's Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/kahaljoseph.congregation](http://www.facebook.com/kahaljoseph.congregation)

## 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.

### Missed the first two classes?

**Stop the Insanity** - Pesah prep made sane again

**Stop Me if You've Heard This One** - Keeping the Seder interesting

Find them online at [www.kahaljoseph.org/pesah.html](http://www.kahaljoseph.org/pesah.html)

## Guest Speaker Arjang Zendeudel

**This Shabbat - April 1**



### **"The Mother of all Secrets of Success"** 45 minute presentation with extended kiddush

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.

# Sell your Hamets

Deadline Sunday, April 9 at noon

**Sell your excess hamets  
through Rabbi Melhado!**

Forms available in the lobby or online at  
[www.kahaljoseph.org/pesah.html](http://www.kahaljoseph.org/pesah.html)

Return the form via email  
([rabbimelhado@kahaljoseph.org](mailto:rabbimelhado@kahaljoseph.org)), fax (310.410.4059),  
mail them to Kahal Joseph, drop it off at the office, or  
hand it to Rabbi Melhado

# 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!





## Kids Room: Passover Edition

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

First Days: Tuesday, April 11 \* Wednesday, April 12

Shabbat Passover: Saturday, April 15

Last Days: Monday, April 17 \* Tuesday, April 18

Join us for special games, activities and  
snacks for Passover!

Let us know you're coming - email [jessica@kahaljoseph.org](mailto:jessica@kahaljoseph.org)



# Memouna!



Wednesday, April 19 at 7:00pm

Kahal Joseph Congregation  
& The Sephardic Educational Center  
invite all our members & friends!

Savor traditional delicacies! \* Enjoy festive music!

Relish the warmth of community!

\$18 per person

Register online at [www.kahaljoseph.org/memouna.html](http://www.kahaljoseph.org/memouna.html) or  
call Sarah at 310.474.0559

## Important Dates for Pesah

### Sunday, April 9

Noon - Form to Sell your Hamets due

[www.kahaljoseph.org/Pesah.html](http://www.kahaljoseph.org/Pesah.html)

After 8:05 PM - Search for Hamets

### Monday, April 10

6:25 AM - Shaharit

7:30 AM - Siyum with Rabbi Melhado

10:22 AM - Stop eating Hamets

Burn Hamets before 11:35 AM

5:45 PM - Early Mincha, Arvit & Hallel

7:02 PM - Candlelighting

Begin seder after 8:05 PM

### Tuesday, April 11

8:30 AM - Shaharit

6:45 PM - Early Mincha, Arvit & Hallel

8:06 PM - Second Seder begins

### Wednesday, April 12

8:30 AM - Shaharit

6:45 PM - Mincha, Discussion & Arvit

### Thursday, April 13

6:15 AM - Shaharit

### Friday, April 14

6:15 AM - Shaharit

6:30 PM - Mincha & Arvit

### Saturday, April 15

8:30 AM - Shaharit

6:30 PM - Mincha, Seuda, Arvit

8:10 PM Havdala

### Sunday, April 16

7:30 AM - Shaharit

6:30 PM - Mincha & Arvit

### Monday, April 17

8:30 AM - Shaharit

6:30 PM - Mincha & Arvit

### Tuesday, April 18

8:30 AM Shaharit

6:30 PM - Mincha & Arvit

וידבר ירוד אל משה במדבר סיני באהל מועד באחד  
לחדש השני בשנה השנייה ליצאתם מארץ מצרים

Save the Date

Yom HaShoah

Service of Remembrance

Sunday, April 23 at 5:00PM

including personal stories and a look at Kahal's  
own Holocaust Torah, presented by the Rosen  
Family & the Czech Memorial Scrolls Trust