

19 Nisan 5777

15 April 2017

# KOL MEVASSER

## Rabbi's Message

This year's presidential inauguration, with its fanfare and press coverage, offered a renewed look at the traditions of American ceremonial dress. Through an attractive display of paintings, drawings, and photographs, the *Gentlemen's Gazette* recently treated its readers to a survey of presidential attire from George Washington to Donald Trump.

Among the little details that caught my attention was the fate of the bow tie. Andrew Jackson wore one at his inauguration in 1829, and this neckwear was subsequently seen at many presidential swearings-in throughout the 19th century. Yet those decades of tradition were shattered by Theodore Roosevelt, who wore a regular necktie to his inauguration in 1901. The plain tie, at 116 years and 20 presidents, has become the go-to choice for US presidents at inaugurations ever since, surpassing even the bowtie's long run!

Nevertheless, a careful look at photos of the balls celebrating inaugurations reveals a different picture. The bow tie has made a new comeback as an ultra-formal accessory. Even presidents who ended other customs kept this tie for their fanciest events: Lyndon B. Johnson nixed the top hat and George H. W. Bush killed the stroller suit, but both had bow ties at their inaugural balls. Indeed, the bow tie is now so associated with formality that "black tie" has become a byword for our most fancy-dress occasions.

All these changes in neckwear fashion can be framed as a symbol for the challenges facing us as we seek continuity of Jewish traditions. Our religion has so many regulations of everyday life,



from the hugely symbolic to the seemingly trivial. Yet as our leadership works toward preserving and transmitting these rules, the world constantly changes around them with the tastes of fashion—be it moral or otherwise. What may have looked progressive and modern in one age now seems tired and repressive in another, forcing a constant reassessment of what is really central (*ikar*) and what is extraneous (*tefel*).

The Torah reading on the seventh day of Pesah is but one example among thousands. This "Song of the Sea" was initially a spontaneous celebration of our Exodus from Egypt in the Torah. After Bene Yisrael conquered Erets Kena'an it was recast as part of the liturgy for the Mincha sacrifice on Shabbat, a completely new role and meaning for a familiar text. Yet this could not remain in effect once the Temple was destroyed, and it was transformed again into a ritual of devotion in the morning prayers.

Out in faraway Babylon (now, modern Iraq) the "Song of the Sea" was almost completely forgotten except when it was part of the Torah reading; initially, it suffered a fate similar to the presidential top hat and stroller suit. Yet centuries later, like the bow tie, it slowly began making a comeback, first as a hymn for Shabbat and holidays, and finally as a daily meditation of connection with God. Now the "Song of the Sea" is imprinted on the hearts of all who regularly attend prayers, many of whom can recite it from memory.

What might we learn from these changes? Perhaps it is that what will persevere—what traditions endure, what prayers retain meaning—will change. For now, this hymn is the "bow tie" of our minhag. May it live to grace the best of our Jewish ceremonies, planting a love of God in our hearts with renewed meaning for the ever-rising challenges of a changing world!

## Shabbat Hol Hamo'ed Pesah

Torah: Ex. 33:12–34:26; Num. 28:19–25

Orot Seph Pesah 554–556

Haftara: Ezek. 37:1–14

Orot Seph Pesah 557–558

Tefillot: omit Ps. 107; read Shabbat Amida w/ Morid Hatal and Ya'ale Veyavo, Half Hallel Musaf of Pesah w/ Shabbat additions

## Pesah Days 7 and 8

Torah P7: Ex. 13:17–15:26, Num. 28:19–25

Orot Seph Pesah: 316–319 (5 aliyot)

Haftara P7: II Sam. 22:1–51

Orot Seph Pesah: 319–321

Torah P8: Deut. 15:19–16:17, Num. 28:19–25

Orot Seph Pesah: 322–324 (5 aliyot)

Haftara P8: Is. 10:32–12:6

Orot Seph Pesah: 324–325

Tefillot: Ps. 107, Vatikah Miryam (P7 only)

Morid Hatal, Half Hallel

Omer: Counted daily after Tset Hakohavim, from the 2nd night of Pesah until Shavuot. The blessing is said if you are counting at night and have not missed any days.



## Omer Counting Cards

This year, we received only 90 copies of the Omer counting cards, so Rabbi Melhado is handing them out in person. For those who cannot get one from him, we have it available as a PDF.

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

## A Song for Pesah: Ashir La'el

### פזמון לשביעי של פסח

אֲשִׁיר לְאֵל גָּאָה גָּאָה. הָרָאָה יְדוּ הַנִּפְלְאָה. עַל צַר לִפְנֵינוּ הַתְּגָאָה. וְאָמַר מִי הוּא ה':

אֶז יִשְׂרָאֵל. הַשִּׁירָה הַזֹּאת לֵה':

מִרְקָבוֹת פָּרְעָה וְחִילוֹ. בְּמִי אֲדִירִים צָלְלוּ. שְׁמַעוּ עַמִּים אֶז נִבְהָלוּ. וְאָמְרוּ אֵין אֵל כֵּה':

שְׁנֵעַת עַמָּה הִקְשַׁבְתָּ. וְיָם סוּף לָהֶם בְּקַעַת. וְרוֹדְפֵיהֶם בּוֹ טִבַּעַת. נִלְחַמְתָּ לָהֶם ה':

הִגְדִּילוּ מִהֶלֶל לְשִׁמּוֹ. מֹשֶׁה וְיִשְׂרָאֵל עִמּוֹ. עַל סוֹס רֹכְבּוֹ יָם כְּסֻמּוֹ. אֶז שָׁרוּ שִׁירָה לֵה':

הַלְלוּם שָׁרוּ בְּמַחֲלוֹת. כִּי מִצְרַיִם בָּא בְּמַצּוֹלוֹת. וַיִּכְסּוּמוּ הַתְּהוֹמוֹת. אֶז הָאֲמִינוּ כֵּה':

חֲזָק הַשֵּׁב שְׂכִינְתֶּךָ. עַל הַר צִיּוֹן נִחַלְתֶּךָ. מְקוֹם מְכוֹן לְשִׁבְתֶּךָ. כּוֹנֵנוּ יְיָהּ ה':



## In Memoriam

We remember these yearzeit anniversaries from April 15 to 22, 2017. It is customary to light a memorial candle, donate tzedaka & attend Shabbat services.

**21 Nisan / Monday, April 17th**

Ester Avrahamy *Ester bat Batia*

*Eliyahu ben Ruth*

Hanini Horesh Suleiman

**22 Nisan / Tuesday, April 18th**

Edward Ezrapour *Eliyahu ben Ezra Avraham Hayim*

**25 Nisan / Friday, April 21st**

Frederick Tizabi *Yehezkiel ben Avraham*

## 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

## Pesah with Talmud Torah

A fabulous morning of Pesah learning and fun was planned by Director Molly Jalali and Mora Mona Tizabi.

The festivities began with a model seder, complete with the full repertoire of songs and blessings, and explanations of all 14 steps. This was followed by a scavenger hunt of the 10 plagues, with special educational clues hidden around the synagogue. The kids learned a lot and got to keep their own plague-themed SWAG, afikomen cases, and more.

Special thanks to Morot Molly and Mona, as well as Penina Meghnagi-Solomon and the entire staff at the Norma & Sam Dabby Talmud Torah.



## 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

## Kahal Joseph Schedule

### Erev Shabbat—Hol Hamoed

Friday, April 14

Shaharit 6:15 am

Candle lighting 7:05 pm

Minha 6:30 pm

Kabbalat Shabbat / Arvit 7:00 pm

4th night of the Omer

### Yom Shabbat—Hol Hamoed

Saturday, April 15

Shaharit 8:30 am

Kids Room 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Keri'at HaTorah 10:15 am

Musaf 11:40 am

Women's Tehillim 5:30 pm

Minha 6:30 pm

Se'uda Shelisheet 7:15 pm

Arvit 7:55 pm

Havdala 8:10 pm

5th night of the Omer

### Hol Hamo'ed

Sunday, April 16

Shaharit 7:30 am

### Last Days of Pesah

Sunday, April 16

#### Erev Yom Tov

Minha and Arvit 6:30 pm

Candle lighting 7:07 pm

6th night of the Omer

Monday, April 17

#### Seventh Day / Yom Tov

Shaharit 8:30 am

Kids Room 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

### Last Days of Pesah (cont)

Monday, April 17

Minha and Arvit (no seuda) 6:30 pm

Candle lighting 8:11 pm

7th night of the Omer

Tuesday, April 18

#### Eighth Day / Yom Tov

Shaharit 8:30 am

Kids Room 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Minha, Seuda, Arvit 6:30 pm

Havdala 8:12 pm

8th night of the Omer

**Earliest time to eat sold hamets  
10:00 pm**

### Weekdays

Wednesday to Friday, April 19 to 21

Shaharit 6:25 am

9th to 11th nights of the Omer

Wednesday, April 19

**Memouna Celebration at KJ w/the  
Sephardic Educational Center  
7:00 pm**

### Next Shabbat

Friday & Saturday, April 21 & 22

Candle lighting 7:11 pm

Friday Minha 6:30 pm

Shaharit 8:30 am

Saturday Minha 6:30 pm

Havdala 8:15 pm



# Save the Date!

## Young Professionals Shabbat Dinner

### Friday, April 28 at 7:30 PM

Join Rabbi Melhado and his family at home for an interesting discussion and a really delicious Shabbat meal. Open to members and friends in their 20s and 30s.

Space is limited, so register now by emailing Rabbi at [rabbimelhado@kahaljoseph.org](mailto:rabbimelhado@kahaljoseph.org).



*Thank you*  
TO THE TORAH CLEANING VOLUNTEERS!

LOUISE NATHAN, ORGANIZER

SHOSHANA GOURY  
BEN ELIAS  
DAVID ELIAS  
LOUISE ELIAS  
FARAH HAROUNI  
BARUCH ISAAC  
FERESETEH MASTOUR

ROYA NAJIBI  
DIANA SOLOMON  
SHULA WYNER  
LEAH ZOLEIHANIAN  
JUDY LURIE  
MARGOT LURIE  
RABBI RAIF MELHADO

## Third Annual Yom HaZikaron Community Night of Remembrance

\* \* \*

Sunday, April 30

Doors open 4:30 PM

Program begins at 5:15 PM

Saban Theater

8440 Wilshire Blvd



## CELEBRATE ISRAEL LOS ANGELES

SUNDAY, MAY 7, 2017  
CHEVIOT HILLS  
RECREATION CENTER

FOOD \* RIDES \* ARTS &  
CRAFTS \* VENDORS \*  
MUSIC & PERFORMANCES

10:00 AM - SALUTE TO  
ISRAEL WALK

11:00 AM - FESTIVAL

PRESALE TICKETS \$10

[WWW.ISRAELIAMERICAN.ORG/](http://WWW.ISRAELIAMERICAN.ORG/)  
[CELEBRATE-ISRAEL-FESTIVAL-LA](http://CELEBRATE-ISRAEL-FESTIVAL-LA)

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

Save the Date

## Yom HaShoah

## Service of Remembrance

### Sunday, April 23 at 5:00 PM

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