11 November 2017

# KOL MEVASSER

## Rabbi's Message

Sarah's burial among the Hittites is the oldest example of what would become a common pattern throughout our history: when Jews show up in a new territory, the first institution to be formally constituted is the cemetery.



While we look with pride on our synagogues, schools, and charitable organizations, these all take time to get going, and in the meantime the cycle of life does not wait. All too often, new communities must bid farewell to a member before they have the chance to develop much social infrastructure. From the Cave of Makhpela to the Hebrew Benevolent Society of Los Angeles (est. 1854), our responsibility to the dead is often the force that galvanizes us to create institutions for the living.

The need for our cemeteries to be officially registered with local authorities was first anticipated by Abraham. He recognized that holding title to the land would be useful in case of future disputes by local residents or governments, and when his descendants returned for future burials, they established the additional claim of customary precedent. Even this is not ironclad, as we can see by the ongoing dispute over access to the Tomb of the Patriarchs today, but it is certainly stronger than a verbal contract. If making these arrangements had the incidental effect of strengthening ourselves as a community, then so much the better!

The oldest surviving Jewish cemetery in this country is a case in point. Located in Chatham

Square in the heart of New York's financial district, it began its life as a Jewish burial ground in 1683 on what was then the outskirts of town. The Sephardim could contract for this plot because they had organized for the same purpose 27 years before, founding the nucleus of what would become the only Jewish community in New York until well into the 19th century. Hence, while they first banded together over tragedy, these pioneers left a legacy that outlasted their lifespans many times over. Not only did the cemetery they established serve continuously for 140 years, but their synagogue still flourishes today as an active participant in local and national Jewish discourse.

Much like the Tomb of the Patriarchs, the Chatham Square Cemetery is now a site of national Jewish pilgrimage. Every year on the Sunday before Memorial day, faithful congregants visit to tend the grounds, read hashkabot, and place flags of recognition for Jews who served in the Revolutionary War. While most of the graves had to be reinterred elsewhere as New York seized the land to expand the city, a small triangle remains to bear witness to the world that gave birth to American Judaism.

It is this solemn loyalty to memory that makes the foundations of our community so strong. We thrive on our connectedness with tradition and those who came before us, and organizing to create graveyards is a conscious choice to enshrine these values in our institutional culture. It builds respect for custom deeply into the fabric of our communities, urging participants to become emotionally invested in their heritage. What better a way to self-understanding than through showering our love on those who made our lives possible!

#### Parashat Haye Sarah Veterans Day Weekend

Torah: Gen. 23:1-25:18, 105 Pesukim

Hertz 80–89; Stone 106–123

Haftara: I Kings 1:1–31

Hertz 90-92; Stone 1136-1137

Tefillot: Mashiv Haruah

#### **Reminder: Winter Shabbat Times**

The time change makes Shabbat come in very early in November and December. For the next seven weeks...

- Minha on Friday will be at 4:15 pm
- Minha on Saturday will be at 3:45 pm

#### **KJ Schedule**

#### **Erev Shabbat**

Friday, November 10th

Minha	4:15 pm
Candle lighting	4:34 pm

#### Yom Shabbat

Saturday, November 11th

Shaharit	8:30 am
Keri'at HaTorah	10:15 am
Musaf	11:40 am
Women's Tehillim	. right after kiddush
Minha	
Se'uda Shelisheet	4:30 pm
Arvit	5:20 pm
Havdala	•

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## Se'uda Shelisheet

in loving memory of

Heshmatolah Mizrahi ben Shlomo & Devora, z"l and Shlomo Elghanian Ben Yehuda & Heshmat, z"l by The Mizrahi Family

#### In Memoriam

We remember these yahrzeit anniversaries from November 11 to 18, 2017. It is customary to light memorial candles, donate tzedaka & attend Shabbat services in honor of loved ones.

22 Heshvan / Shabbat, November 11th Shlomo Elghanian Shlomo ben Yehuda Heshmatolah Mizrahi Heshmatolah ben Shlomo Khuzna Levi Khuzna bat Esther HaLevi

**24 Heshvan / Monday, November 13th**Joseph Ezrapour *Joseph ben Ezra Yaacov Moshe ben Eliyahu* 

**25 Heshvan / Tuesday, November 14th** Charles A. Lelah *Salah ben Aharon* 

**27 Heshvan / Thursday, November 16th**Sumner Blank

Yehoshua Moshi Yehoshua ben Moshe Nissim Rahamim Yaacov

28 Heshvan / Friday, November 17th
Moshe Bebe Moshe ben Khadoori
Ezekiel Howard Yehezkel Howard
Lulu Masliah Lulu bat Salha
Samuel Joseph Zachariah Shmoel ben Yoseph

29 Heshvan / Shabbat, November 18th Shaul Haim Nuriel Shaul ben Haim Mary Saleh

#### Refua Shelema

Moselle Amron • Sally Amron • Haskell Avraham •
Sylvia Cohen • Mordechai Cohen • Esther Duke
Sassoon Ezra • Tilda Levy • Florice Newberry
Aliza bat Rahel • Aliza bat Victoria • Arlette bat Rashel
Chaya Chana bat Batya • Yvonne Moalim
Katie bat Farha • Malka bat Rahel
Mehry bat Miriam Hakimipour • Miriam bat Yetta
Miryam bat Malka • Moshe Ezra ben Mazal Tov
Moshe Hooman ben Sara • Simcha bat Rooha •
Moshe Haim ben Sara
Matisyahu Yoel Baruch ben Gitel

# Kahal Joseph Shabbat Children's Program! THIS Saturday, November 11! Shabbat Haye Sarah Playroom opens at 10, Program at 10:30 \* Singing \* Stories \* Games \*

\* Singing \* Stories \* Games \* \* Snack \* Discussion \* & more!



Email Jessica for more info at Jessica@kahaljoseph.org!



## Honoring our Veterans Veterans Day 2017

Hundreds of thousands of Jewish Americans have served in the armed forces since the American Revolution. Here is just one story:

Isaac & Jack Canetti were members of the Sephardic Association of Sheepshead Bay, Brooklyn. Isaac enlisted in the Air Force during WWII. Shot down over Germany, he remained at the controls until his 9 man crew had bailed out. Taken prisoner, he was liberated on April 28, 1945. Isaac was awarded the Air Medal twice as well as the Presidential Unit Citation. His brother Jack served four years as a Staff Sergeant with the Coast Artillery. During an intense battle protecting the Bermuda coast, his battery knocked out four enemy submarines.



# ISRAEL ON MY MIND SHABBAT VAYISHLAH DECEMBER 1 & 2, 2017

Friday, December 1

"Israel's Economy Booming? Maybe Not..."
The Challenges Facing Israel's Economic Future

6:30 PM - Delicious Shabbat Dinner 7:00 PM - Presentation by Dr. Dan Ben-David w/Q&A 8:30 PM - Dessert & mingling

RSVP: \$18 per person at www.kahaljoseph.org/events or call 310-474-0559 by Wednesday, November 29

## Saturday, December 2

Special Sermon by Rabbi Raif Melhado
"Reaching In and Reaching Out:
How Two Famous Sephardim Helped Build Israel"
3:45PM - Minha & Festive Seuda Shelisheet



PROFESSOR DAN BEN-DAVID is the President and Founder of the Shoresh Institution for Socioeconomic Research, an independent, non-partisan policy research center working to improve Israel's economy and conditions of civil society. He is also a senior faculty member of the Department of Public Policy at Tel-Aviv University and the former Executive Director of the Taub Center for Social Policy Studies.

Professor Ben-David earned his Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Chicago and specializes in macroeconomics, economic growth, and international trade. A dynamic educator, he has received teaching awards from Tel-Aviv University, and ranked among the most cited academic economists from 1990-2000.





# Announcing Kahal Joseph's 5778 Speaker Series



"THE TOP TEN CHALLENGES FACING TRADITIONAL JUDAISM"



### Rabbi Asher Lopatin

Monday, November 13 at 7PM
Currently the President of YCT Rabbinical School
in New York City, Rabbi Lopatin served as the
spiritual leader of Anshe Sholom B'nai Israel in
Chicago for 18 years.

He was ordained by Rabbi Aharon Soloveichik and Yeshivas Brisk. A Rhodes Scholar, he has an M.Phil in Medieval Arabic Thought from Oxford and has authored many articles.