

KOL MEVASSER

Rabbi's Message

On the first night of Hanukkah, a friend of mine posted a picture of Bibi Netanyahu in an interfaith forum for Jews, Christians, and Muslims. In the image, the Israeli Prime Minister is lighting the Hanukkah in a charming photo op, his wife Sarah looking on approvingly at his side. It is a touching demonstration of the dream-come-true of the Jewish state: the Hanukkah, a symbol of salvation from a foreign conqueror, being lit by the freely elected leader of a sovereign Jewish country.



Regrettably, the inspiration I felt from this shot was cut short by the discussion that it produced. The very first comment was an attack on Mr. Netanyahu's apparent ignorance of the laws of lighting the Hanukkah. "What is the third candle for?!" the contributor asked, scornfully pronouncing this "incorrect." My friend tried to laugh it off by joking that the Prime Minister had gotten his instructions from Reform Jews. I assume he meant well, but it came out clumsily and invited an icy back-and-forth about the relative merits of Reform and Orthodoxy.

The intensity of these arguments warrants a closer look at both the local issue and the broader points that it brings up. In the photo, the branches of Mr. Netanyahu's Hanukkah are clearly manufactured for a wider candle than he was using. Probably the candles had to be melted in place to stay erect, making both the first night's candle and the Shamash immobile. A third flame would thus be needed to light the other two, and hence the scene depicted in the image.

As it happens, this is a completely permitted way to light the Hanukkah! Contrary to popular belief, the "Shamash" exists to provide an extra source of light, not an extra source of flame. The Talmud says that we must devote the light of the Hanukkah exclusively to proclaiming the miracle of the oil to the world. If we used it for mundane purposes, we would be diluting the message, so we put a non-sacred light next to the Hanukkah lights to remind us of this (Shabbat 21b, and SA OH 671:5). A Google Images search for "Netanyahu Hanukkah" shows many pictures of him lighting a fixed Shamash with an additional candle, including one where an Ultra-Orthodox Rabbi is looking right at him without interfering.

While this completely vindicates Mr. Netanyahu, there is still the greater question of how to respond to Jews doing something that we view as "different" or even "wrong" in the name of Judaism. I accept that it calls for a great deal of maturity to coexist with people whose practice of Judaism opposes our own value system. It is as challenging for Orthodox Jews to tolerate free-thinking approaches to Jewish law as it is for Liberal Jews to accept an Orthodoxy that considers their entire way of life illegitimate. To put aside our understandable feelings of anger and betrayal and think of such people as being "on the same team" is asking a lot.

Still, it is good for us to push ourselves to do this, and to grapple with our own insecurities and limitations. The attacks of the Syrian Greeks in the Hanukkah story were born out of their inability to live in a world with people different from themselves. To truly appreciate the victory of Hanukkah, we must demonstrate with our actions that we can rise to a higher standard.

Parashat Mikets Shabbat Hanukkah (IV)

Torah (§): Gen. 41:1–44:17, Num. 7:30–35
Hertz 155–166, 598; Stone 222–249, 768
Haftara: Zach. 2:14–4:7
Hertz 987–989; Stone 1210–1211
Tefillot: Mashiv Haruah, Al Hanisim, Full Hallel
Hakhrazat Tevet (Mo-Tu), no Tsidkatekha

Reminder

Because Hanukkah is a happy time, we can only read the hashkaba (memorial prayer) for those who have Yahrzeit or Shiva this week.

KJ Schedule

Erev Shabbat

Friday, December 15th

Minha	4:15 pm
Hanukkah Candles.....	4:27 pm
Shabbat Candle lighting ..	right afterwards

Yom Shabbat

Saturday, December 16th

Shaharit	8:30 am
Keri'at HaTorah.....	10:15 am
Musaf	11:40 am
Women's Tehillim.....	right after kiddush
Minha	3:45 pm
Se'uda Shelisheet.....	4:30 pm
Arvit	5:15 pm
Havdala	5:31 pm
Hanukkah candles	after havdala

(Continued on page 2)



This Hanukkah, Give to KJ

The miracle of the oil on Hanukkah is every non-profit's dream: making eight things happen with resources that should only cover one.

With the support of beloved members and friends like you, we can keep Kahal's light shining for everyone to share.

Make a tax-deductible contribution with our secure online form at www.kahaljoseph.org/donate or send a check with "Shine the Light" in the memo to Kahal Joseph at 10505 W. Santa Monica Blvd.

You can also volunteer at events, for the office, or for Rabbi Melhado's organization projects, email rabbimelhado@kahaljoseph.org

Every person's gift makes a difference, great or small.

Happy Birthday Penny Melhado

Besiman Tov to

Little sister, Ellie

Parents

Jessica & Rabbi Raif Melhado

Grandparents

Annette and Bill Cavanagh
Lee and Evan Melhado

Special Hanukkah Weekday Shaharit

Weekdays Dec. 13 -15 & 18 - 20 at 6:15 AM

Sunday, Dec. 17 at 7:30 AM

Join us each morning as we read Shaharit with Hallel, do a unique Torah reading for each day of Hanukkah, and light the menorah to celebrate the miracle of the oil.



(Continued from page 1)

Hanukkah Eve 6

Sunday, December 17th

Shaharit..... 7:30 am
Talmud Torah 9:45 am
Hanukkah Family Party 11:00 am
Hanukkah YP Dinner at Rabbi's home ..6:00 pm
Candle lighting (duress /ideal) *after* 3:46 / 5:28 pm

Rosh Hodesh Tevet & Hanukkah Eves 7 to 8

Monday & Tuesday, December 18-19

Shaharit..... 6:15 am
Candle lighting (duress /ideal) *after* 3:46 / 5:28 pm

Hanukkah, Day 8 / Wednesday, Dec. 20

Shaharit (with Hallel) 6:15 am

Thursday & Friday, December 21-22

Shaharit..... 6:25 am

Next Shabbat / Fri-Sat, Dec.22-23

Shabbat Candle lighting 4:30 pm
Friday Minha 4:15 pm
Shaharit 8:30 am
Saturday Minha 3:45 pm
Havdala 5:31 pm

In Memoriam

We remember these yahrzeits from December 16 to 23, 2017. It is customary to light memorial candles, donate tzedaka & attend Shabbat services in honor of loved ones.

28 Kislev / Shabbat, December 16th

Joseph Jacob Yosef ben Avraham Hayim Yaacov
Habeeba bat Aziza

29 Kislev / Sunday, December 17th

Ralph Isaac Raful ben Yehezkel ben Mulla
Simcha Ezra Isaac Simcha bat Masooda

1 Tevet / Tuesday, December 19th

Saul Mizrahie Shaul ben Eliyahu Mordechai
Jack Sassoon Yaacov Yoseph ben Sassoon
Victoria Saul

2 Tevet / Wednesday, December 20th

David ben Ezra

3 Tevet / Thursday, December 21st

Isaac Jacob Itzhak ben Yaakov
Vicky Messiah Rahma Victoria bat Khatoon

4 Tevet / Friday, December 22nd

Seemah Meyer Simha bat Aziza

5 Tevet / Shabbat, December 23rd

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

Refua Shelema

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

**Kahal Joseph's
LIGHT IT UP FAMILY
HANUKKAH PARTY**

IN ASSOCIATION WITH JIMENA AND NUROOTS

**Sunday, December 17
11:00AM to 1:00PM**

**MOROCCAN LANTERN
MAKING! ACTIVITIES!
MUSIC! FOOD!
HANUKKAH CRAFTS!
AND YOU!**

RSVP at

WWW.KAHALJOSEPH.ORG/HANUKKAH

Food and Hanukkah crafts sponsored by
Hannie, Jonathan & Sigal Kelly



Jews Indigenous to the
Middle East and North Africa



Powered by **NuRoots**

Part of Infinite Light, a
citywide celebration
powered by NuRoots with
generous support of the
Jewish Federation of
Los Angeles

**YOUNG PROFESSIONALS
HANUKKAH DINNER**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17
6PM AT THE RABBI'S HOUSE**

JOIN THE RABBI AND HIS FAMILY FOR AN INTIMATE
DINNER TO CELEBRATE THE SIXTH NIGHT OF HANUKKAH
* HANUKKAH CANDLELIGHTING * LIGHT DAIRY DINNER *
* SPECIAL BELGIAN WAFFLE DESSERT! *

FORGOTTEN YOUR HEBREW? NEVER HAD ANY?

HEBREW FOR BEGINNERS

WITH RABBI MELHADO

FIRST MEETING

WED. JAN. 3 AT 6:30PM

Adult Bat Mitzvah Class

First Meeting

Wed. Jan. 3 at 7:30PM

**Women with all levels of Hebrew &
Jewish knowledge welcome!**

**Contact Yvette Dabby at YvetteDabby@gmail.com
to sign up for either class or both!**

Kahal Joseph's 5778 Speaker Series

Professor Nadia Malinovich
Saturday, January 6, 2018



Professor Malinovich received her bachelors in History from Oberlin College and her PhD in History from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. After a Post-doctoral Fellowship at New York University, she began teaching in France.

Now an Associate Professor of American Studies at the Universite Picardie-Jules Verne, she has a special interest in French Jewish History, about which she has written extensively.

Her current project is an exploration of the lives of graduates of the Alliance Israelite Universelle schools in the Middle East and North Africa, both pre- and post-immigration to France, Canada and the United States.

**Did you or your parents attend
an Alliance Israelite Universelle school
in the Middle East or North Africa?**

In addition to speaking at Kahal, Dr. Nadia Malinovich will be in Los Angeles from January 5 to 13 to conduct in-person interviews with people who graduated from the Alliance Israelite Universelle schools in the Middle East or Africa.

In collaboration with the AIU Library in Paris and the Sephardi Federation in New York, she has already completed 40 interviews in Paris & Montreal. Now, she looks to the Los Angeles community.

To find out more, or to schedule a time to speak,
email her at nmalinovich@gmail.com.

JANUARY *Children's Shabbat*



SATURDAY, JANUARY 6 - PARASHAT SHEMOT

PLAYROOM OPENS AT 10:00 - PROGRAM BEGINS AT 10:30

EXPLORE THE STORY OF MOSES WITH US!

START THE MORNING WITH *PRAYER*

***PARTICIPATE* IN GAMES & ACTIVITIES**

ENJOY A *PARASHA-THEMED* SNACK

TORAH TOTS - 0 to 5

TORAH & ME - 6 to 12

Email Jessica at Jessica@kahaljoseph.org for more information or to volunteer!

Young Professionals Shabbat Dinner

**Join Rabbi Melhado at home for a delicious
meal and an amazing discussion**

Friday, January 12 at 7:30 PM
RSVP to RabbiMelhado@kahaljoseph.org

Save the Date!
Tu Bishvat Community Hike
Sunday, January 28