

# KOL MEVASSER

## Rabbi's Message

One of my funniest Plague stories is from about ten years ago when I was living in Chicago. I got a call from Jessica and a friend from work, who had been discussing the Ten Plagues on the train ride home. In the hurly-burly of the commute, they were drawing a blank and could only think of nine. What was the tenth?



I actually used Ribbi Yehuda's simanim of *Detsa"kh Ada"sh Beaha"v* to list them in the correct order, and supplied the missing plague of "Arov." Just as I was feeling satisfied that this memory aid worked in real life, they asked: "but what does Arov mean again?" Accidentally transposing two letters in my mind (Orev vs. Arov), I blurted out "crows?" and instantly lost all credibility. Hilarity ensued on the train as Jessica and her friend imagined scenes from the Great Crow Plague of Egypt. No matter that I had the right answer of "wild beasts" three seconds later, or that it was January and the question had come out of the blue. This marked me for good-natured teasing about crow plagues for the next decade and counting.

After we had a good laugh, we became interested in the plague of Arov. As a concept, it isn't so clear-cut, and "wild beasts" is actually just the most common explanation among several. Technically the word Arov means "mixture," and it gets translated this way because the plague was "a mixture of different types of animals."

In the Midrash Tanhuma (Va'era 14) Ribbi Yehuda argues that each of the plagues was a form of fair retribution. He claims that part of the Israelites' work was to trap bears and lions for the Egyptians to further their abuse, and so it made sense for God to bring a plague of ferocious animals in return. Ribbi Nehemia disagrees with him, and suggests that the Arov was a mixture of hornets and mosquitoes. Although he doesn't say why, this works with tight linguistics. The lexicographer Marcus Jastrow gives "gadfly" as a possible definition of Arov, and the imaginative leap between this and stinging insects is easy to understand.

Even my crows were possible according to one ancient Sage. In Shemot Rabba (Va'era 11:2), the Midrash asks what types of animals were in the Arov, and Resh Lakish gives the following answer: "God said to the Egyptians: 'you persecuted My people in great crowds, and now I will repay you with great crowds of animals from the land and sky,' as it is written 'behold I will send the Arov upon you' – i.e., a *mixture* of birds and beasts." Birds, you say? Check!

The whole experience of teasing each other about the plagues and then seriously inquiring about it is exactly what Pesah hopes to achieve as a holiday. We are meant to question the parts of our tradition that we don't get, and to delve into them out of our own innate curiosity. Let us think "what have I always wanted to understand in Judaism?" and make this the year we actually look it up.

## Pesah Days 1 and 2 Shabbat and Sunday

Torah P1: Ex. 12:14–51, Num. 28:16–25  
Orot Seph Pesah: 303–306 (7 aliyot)  
Haftara P1: Josh. 5:2–6:1, 6:27  
Orot Seph Pesah: 308–309  
Torah P2: Lev. 22:26–23:44, Num. 28:16–25  
Orot Seph Pesah: 311–314 (5 aliyot)  
Haftara P2: II Kings 23:1–9, 21-25  
Orot Seph Pesah: 314–315  
Tefillot: Ps. 107, Full Hallel, Tikun Hatal (on P1 only, Morid Hatal begins at Musaf that day, and Barekheni begins from Arvit on 1st night of Hol Hamoed).  
Omer: remember to count it every night from the 2nd seder onward (in Haggada)

## Pesah Schedule 5778

### Fourteenth of Nisan

Friday, March 30th

Shaharit /Siyum ..... 6:25 / 7:30 am  
**Stop Eating Hamets ..... before 10:28 am**  
Burn Hamets ..... before 11:43 am

### Erev Shabbat & First Seder Night

Friday, March 30th

Early Minha, Arvit, & Hallel ..... 5:30 pm  
Candle lighting ..... 6:54 pm  
**First Seder Begins.....after 7:58 pm**

### Yom Shabbat / Pesah I

Saturday, March 31st

Shaharit..... 8:30 am  
Keri'at HaTorah ..... 10:00 am  
Musaf ..... 11:40 am  
Minha, Arvit & Hallel (no seuda) ..... 6:30 pm  
Havdala ..... *part of Second Night Seder*

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## Second Seder Night

*Saturday, March 31st*

Candle Lighting ..... after 7:58 pm  
Prep for Second Seder ..... after 7:58 pm  
Second Seder Begins ..... after 7:58 pm  
**2nd Seder w/Rabbi Melhado ..... 8:30 pm**  
*Prepaid advance RSVP Required*  
1st Night of Counting Omer ..... at seder

## Yom Pesah II

*Sunday, April 1st*

Shaharit ..... 8:30 am  
Minha, Seuda, and Arvit ..... 6:30 pm  
Havdala Yom Tov to Hol Hamoed... 7:59 pm  
2nd night since the Omer

## Hol Hamoed

*Monday, April 2nd—HHM I*

Shaharit ..... 6:05 am  
3rd night since the Omer

*Tuesday, April 3rd—HHM II*

Shaharit ..... 6:05 am  
4th night since the Omer

*Wednesday, April 4th—HHM III*

Shaharit ..... 6:05 am  
5th night since the Omer

*Thursday, April 5th—HHM IV*

Shaharit ..... 6:05 am

## Lel Pesah VII

*Thursday, April 5th*

Minha and Arvit ..... 6:30 pm  
Candle lighting ..... 6:58 pm  
6th night since the Omer

## Yom Pesah VII

*Friday, April 6th*

Shaharit ..... 8:30 am



## Kiddush on the First Day & Seudah on the Second Day

are sponsored for the  
Refua Shelema  
of a special person

whoever partakes of the meals  
on these days, please take a moment  
to pray for the health of

**Iraj Avraham Hayim  
ben Mokhtaram**

## Lel Pesah VIII

*Friday, April 6th*

Minha and Arvit ..... 6:30 pm  
Candle lighting ..... 6:59 pm  
7th night since the Omer

## Pesah VIII

*Shabbat, April 7th*

Shaharit ..... 8:30 am  
Minha and Arvit ..... 6:30 pm  
Havdala ..... 8:03 pm  
8th night since the Omer  
Earliest time to Eat sold Hamets.... 10:00 pm

## Condolences

With sorrow we send our deepest  
condolences to the family and friends of

**Bertine Simon, z"l**

*Bertine bat Muzli & Tzion*

She passed away on Thursday, the 13th of Nisan 5778,  
March 29th 2018.

Bertine is survived by her children Maurice Simone,  
Sima Doron, and Hazel Gordon; her grandchildren  
Netanel, Michael, Gavriel, Ariel, and Refael Doron;  
Anna, Albert, and Gideon Gordon; Avital and Tamar  
Simone; extended family and friends. She was prede-  
ceased by her husband, Yehezkel Simon, z"l.

Our thoughts & prayers go out to her family & loved  
ones. May they be comforted together with all the  
mourners of Tsion.

## In Memoriam

We remember these yahrzeits from March 31 to April 7,  
2018. It is customary to light memorial candles, donate  
tzedaka & attend Shabbat services to honor loved ones.

**15 Nisan / Shabbat, March 31st**

Tillie Shansky *Tillie bat Evelyn*  
Naima Shashoua *Naima bat Zvida*  
Eyob Yehudah *Eyob ben Yehudah*

**16 Nisan / Sunday, April 1st**

Errol Levi Ezra *ben Shaul Halevi*  
Sanford Norman Levine *Shlomo Nachmun ben Yaacov*  
John Nahai *Homayoun John Nahai*

**21 Nisan / Friday, April 6th**

Ester Avrahamy *Ester bat Batia*  
*Eliyahu ben Ruth*  
Hanini Horesh Suleiman

**22 Nisan / Shabbat, April 7th**

Edward Ezrapour *Eliyahu ben Ezra Avraham Hayim*

## Refua Shelema

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





# Memouna!

Sunday, April 8 at 7:30PM

Kahal Joseph Congregation &  
The Sephardic Educational Center  
invite all our members and friends!  
Savor traditional delicacies! Enjoy festive music!  
Relish the warmth of community!

\$18 per person - advanced registration requested

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



## Kahal Joseph's 5778 Speaker Series



### Rabbi Devin Villarreal

Shabbat Parashat Shemini - April 13-14

#### **"Judaism: Powered by the People?"**

##### **Young Professionals Dinner**

Friday, April 13 at 7:30PM

Members and friends in your 20s and 30s! Join Rabbi Villarreal at Rabbi Melhado's home for a delicious dinner and a fascinating discussion.

Who decides where Judaism is going? Rabbis? Scholars? The people? Get the surprising answer of the first rabbi in the Americas as we explore the future of Judaism.

Bring your questions! Bring your friends!  
Bring your appetite! RSVP to Rabbi Melhado at  
[RabbiMelhado@kahaljoseph.org](mailto:RabbiMelhado@kahaljoseph.org)

#### **"Making Life a Symphony"**

Saturday, April 14 during services

What Sephardic rabbis and philosophers teach us about  
every day Jewish practices to make life sing



Currently the Jewish Studies Department Chair at de Toledo High School in the valley, Rabbi Villarreal earned his semikha from Yeshivat Chovevei Torah, where he received the prestigious Wexner Graduate Fellowship. He has a Bachelors in the Study of Religion from UCLA and a Master's Degree in Teaching from American Jewish University. He recently received the Pomegranate Prize from the Covenant Foundation for emerging leaders in Jewish education. An engaging teacher and speaker, Rabbi Villarreal is looking forward to visiting Kahal!



BEVERLY HILLS  
TEMPLE OF THE ARTS  
AT THE SABAN THEATRE



TUESDAY

**APRIL 17, 2018**

Doors open at 6:45pm | Program begins promptly at 7:30pm

*Free admission. No RSVP necessary.  
Free parking at the La Cienega Tennis Courts.*

Beverly Hills TEMPLE OF THE ARTS | STEVE TISCH CINEMA CENTER  
at the SABAN THEATRE

8440 Wilshire Boulevard, Beverly Hills, CA 90211



*Thank you!*  
to our Torah cleaners

Ben F. Elias  
David Elias  
Louise Elias  
Farah Harouni  
Barukh Isaac  
Sigal Kelly  
Judy Lurie  
Margot Lurie

Sam Lurie  
Roya S. Najibi  
Gracie Nathan  
Louise Nathan  
Angelina Pouldar  
Diana Solomon  
Shula Wyner  
Mahnaz Zoleikhaeian



Thank you also to those who helped the Rabbi catalog  
our beautiful collection of parochets

David Elias	Barukh Isaac	Angelina Pouldar
Louise Elias	Margo Lurie	Shula Wyner
Farah Harouni	Roya S. Najibi	Mahnaz Zoleikhaeian



## Talmud Torah Model Seder

On Sunday, March 25  
the Talmud Torah  
students participated  
in a fun rehearsal for  
the Seder night.

Exciting games and  
activities explained the  
rituals, blessings and  
special foods.

## JIMENA and Kahal Joseph invite you to an All-Ages Backgammon Tournament

Sunday, April 22nd - 10AM-4PM

10AM - Tournament Check-in and Warm Up

11AM - Tournament Begins (don't be late!)

Preregistration (ends 4/20) - \$20 Tournament entry, \$10 adults, kids free

At the Door - \$30 Tournament entry, \$10 adults, \$5 kids

Enjoy Middle Eastern food and music!

Prizes for top players and a raffle giveaway  
(Bring your own board for a free raffle ticket!)

Tickets - [bit.ly/KJSheshbesh2018](http://bit.ly/KJSheshbesh2018)

Share on Facebook - [bit.ly/KJSheshbesh2018FB](http://bit.ly/KJSheshbesh2018FB)



Jews Indigenous to the  
Middle East and North Africa

For questions or to register over the  
phone, call 310-474-0559