

## Rabbi's Message

The Six-Day War that began on the 26th of Iyar 51 years ago was an unexpected moment of triumph for the Jewish people. Our beloved new State of Israel had been living a dangerous existence as a narrow country surrounded by openly hostile enemies. With conflict boiling just below the surface, the Israeli military pushed to stay several steps ahead, and it paid off. Striking first for the element of surprise, they scored a sweeping victory that trounced multiple opponents on the battlefield.

Not only did they beat back their enemies, but they also took possession of strategic territories that had once been used for attacks against us. This included areas such as Judea and Samaria, with major historical importance to our Biblical heritage, as well as the Old City of Jerusalem. People danced in the streets and wept at the sites of holy places that had been inaccessible for the past two decades. *Jerusalem was whole again!* These words have resounded in our ears like magic ever since.

The legacy of victory has had many lasting effects on policy and politics in our own time. Particularly when we are reading Behar-Behukotai, we are reminded that Zionism received a huge *spiritual* boost from the Six Day War. The return of Biblical Israel to the Jewish people in less than a week's time seemed to many like a true miracle from God, launching the "Dati Leumi," or Religious Zionist movement as never before. Unlike many previous forms of Zionism, which were secular in character, the Dati Leumi were concerned with applying the special halakhot of



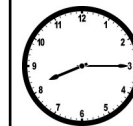
the Land of Israel in the new territories. With ancient Israel now in Jewish hands, they pushed for serious public conversations about whether and how the unique laws of this week's parasha and others like it could be observed in modern times.

These discussions naturally included the city of Jerusalem, whose dramatic reunification was marred by the shock of cultural destruction that had happened in the Jewish quarter. With the reward-and-punishment narrative of Behukotai recently in mind, how were we to interpret the havoc that was wrought upon our institutions? When we saw the exploded ruins of our synagogues, along with even more wretched profanations, should we understand it as a consequence of our own bad faith? Or perhaps this new chance to rebuild Jerusalem for the modern era was a reward for our devotion to God?

As Sephardim, such questions were made all the more complicated by the wholesale ruin of our spiritual infrastructure in Jerusalem. All four of our synagogues and the Porat Yosef yeshiva (founded, inter alia, by an Iraqi Jew from Calcutta) were reduced to rubble. While many of the edifices have since been rebuilt, the special creativity of Sephardic rabbinic culture has never recovered. A "jubilee" of sorts has passed since then without a lasting regeneration. As we usher in the next 50 years of united Jerusalem, let us ask what can unite us as observant Sephardim in the modern world. How can we draw from the inspiration of Yom Yerushalayim and the excitement of the Dati Leumi revival to make something meaningful for our children's benefit? What gift can we give the next generation of Sephardim that will make them look at today's moment as the time that miracles were made?

### Parashat Behar / Behukotai End of Vayikra, Omer 42

Torah: Lev. 25:1–27:34, 135 Pesukim  
Hertz 531–550; Stone 696–723  
Haftara: Jer. 16:19–17:14  
Hertz 551–553; Stone 1179  
Tefillot: Morid Hatal, Hakhrazat Sivan  
(Tuesday)



### Reminder

Shaharit next Shabbat 5/19 and  
on the first day of Shavuot 5/20  
will be at 8:15 am.

## KJ Schedule

### Erev Shabbat

Friday, May 11th

Candle lighting .....	7:26 pm
Minha .....	6:30 pm
Kabbalat Shabbat .....	7:00 pm
YP Shabbat Dinner ....at the Melhados w/rsvp	
42nd night since the Omer	

### Yom Shabbat

Saturday, May 12th

Shaharit .....	8:30 am
Keri'at HaTorah.....	10:00 am
Musaf.....	11:40 am

Women's Tehillim.....	5:45 pm
Minha.....	6:45 pm
Se'uda Shelisheet.....	7:30 pm
Arvit .....	8:15 pm
Havdala .....	8:30 pm

43rd night since the Omer

(Continued on page 2)

## Shabbat Kiddush

is sponsored  
to celebrate  
the upcoming marriage of

## Melissa and Daniel

by  
Sylvia and Leon Zekaria

## Best Wishes to Melissa Yaghoubian and Daniel Loewy

### Besiman Tov to Parents

Sylvia and Leon Zekaria  
Steve Loewy (Mary Loewy, z"l)

### Siblings

Maurice and Adam Zekaria

### Grandparents

Shirin Elghanian & Alice Zekaria  
Jeannine Gray

and all the extended family

## In Memoriam

We remember these yahrzeits from May 12th to 19th, 2018. It is customary to light memorial candles, donate tzedaka & attend Shabbat services to honor loved ones.

### 27 Iyar / Shabbat, May 12th

Sassoon Elisha Sassoon Yoseph ben Elisha

### 28 Iyar / Sunday, May 13th

Hannah Sassoon Hannah Khatoon bat Mozelle  
Tov

Joseph Hai Ezra Shimon

### 1 Sivan / Tuesday, May 15th

Ezra Shalom Avraham

### 3 Sivan / Thursday, May 17th

Abraham Blank Avraham ben Yaacov Dov  
George Sher Gedaliah ben Moshe Litman  
HaCohen

### 4 Sivan / Friday, May 18th

Victoria Cohen Victoria bat Hanina

### 5 Sivan / Shabbat, May 19th

Ezra Kelly Elias Levi Ezra Kadoori Eliyahu Levi  
Sara Moses Sara bat Sarah  
Turan Pourati Turan bat Aghajan  
Khodadad Zakaryaie Moshe Haim

(Continued from page 1)

### Yom Yerushalayim

Sunday, May 13th

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

Monday, May 14th

Shaharit ..... 6:25 am

### Rosh Hodesh Sivan

Tuesday, May 15th

Shaharit ..... 6:05 am

Wednesday to Friday, May 16th to 18th

Shaharit ..... 6:25 am

### Next Shabbat

Friday-Saturday, May 18-19

Shabbat Candle lighting ..... 7:31 pm  
Friday Minha ..... 6:30 pm  
**Shaharit** ..... **8:15 am**  
Saturday Minha (after Kiddush).... 12:45 pm  
Arvit ..... 8:30 pm  
Havdala ..... 8:36 pm  
Shavuot Candles..... 8:36 pm

See Shavuot ad for full schedule

## Condolences

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

### Munir Kalili, z"l

Meyer ben Farrah (nee Kohain) and Abraham  
Eliyahu, z"l. He passed away in Los Angeles  
on the 17th of Iyar 5778, May 2nd 2018.

The youngest of ten siblings, Munir was born  
in Basra, Iraq on March 11, 1929. He moved  
to Israel at a young age and enlisted in the  
army where he was trained as a civil engi-  
neer. It was also in Israel that he met his be-  
loved wife Gloria. In 1980, they moved to Los  
Angeles with their family, and spent over 46  
happy years together.

Munir is survived by his wife Gloria Kalili, his  
children Orly and Abraham Kalili; his brother  
Jacob Khalili; extended family and friends

Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family  
and loved ones. May they be comforted to-  
gether with all the mourners of Tsion. *Min  
hashamayim tenuhamu.*

## Refua Shelema

Sassoon Ezra • Moselle Amron • Sally Amron  
Sylvia Cohen • Esther Duke • Mehry bat Miriam  
Hakimpour • 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  
MazalTov • Simcha bat Rooha • Moshe Hooman  
ben Sara • Habiba bat Farha • Moshe Haim ben  
Sara • Meir Ezra ben Rahel



# Prints of Babylon

**Recommended Reading on the Iraqi Jewish Diaspora**

"Religious Music Traditions of the Jewish-Babylonian Diaspora in Bombay"  
by Sara Manasseh

*Ethnomusicology Forum* devoted their June 2004 edition to the musical outcomes of Jewish migration across Asia. The second article explores how songs from the Baghdadi Jewish community were transmitted over several generations in Bombay and its subdiaspora communities.

The article tracks six melodies that were brought to India by the immigrant generation. While they and later arrivals used classically Arab expressions of the baseline tunes, their Indian-born offspring brought subcontinental musical elements and pronunciations. These were observed over several decades by musicologists who transcribed or recorded performances by Jewish singers of Bombay. Using an analysis of the elements that were preserved, the author reflects on the values of the Bombay community. As a bonus, the introduction has a nice summary of the Iraqi Jewish presence in Maharashtra, with sources for further reading.

Citation: *Ethnomusicology Forum*, Vol. 13, No. 1, Silk, Spice and Shirah: Musical Outcomes of Jewish Migration into Asia c. 1780 - c. 1950 (Jun., 2004), pp. 47-73

## Save the Date

KAHAL JOSEPH YOUNG PROFESSIONALS  
& YOUNG AT HEART

### ISRAELI WINE TASTING

JOIN US FOR A L'CHAIM  
FEATURING WINES FROM  
VINEYARDS ALL OVER ISRAEL

THURSDAY, JULY 12  
7:30 PM

\$26 WITH RSVP OR \$30 AT THE DOOR



## Young Professionals Shabbat Dinner

**Friday, May 11 at 7:30PM**

**"Everything I Needed to Know about Judaism.  
I learned after my Bat Mitzvah"**

**Join Rabbi & Jessica Melhado at their home for  
an interesting discussion and amazing meal  
for members and friends in their 20s and 30s.**

**Bring your questions, your appetite and your friends!**

**RSVP to Rabbi Melhado at [rabbimelhado@kahaljoseph.org](mailto:rabbimelhado@kahaljoseph.org)**



# Shavuot

## May 19, 20 & 21

### Tikkun Le Shavuot - May 19

12:45 Minha after Kiddush, no Seuda Shelisheet

8:30 PM - Arvit

8:45 PM - Dinner

RSVP at [www.kahaljoseph.org/shavuot.html](http://www.kahaljoseph.org/shavuot.html)

9:30 PM - Midrash Mania

10:30 PM - The Book That Keeps Us Up All Night

### Shavuot I - Sunday, May 20

8:15 AM - Shaharit

6:40 PM - Azharot

10 - 12 - Kids Room

7:00 PM - Minha

11:30 - Book of Ruth

7:30 PM - Arvit

### Shavuot II - Monday, May 21

8:30 AM - Shaharit

7:00 PM - Minha

10 - 12 - Kids Room

7:30 PM - Seuda

6:40 PM - Azharot

8:20 PM - Arvit

8:37 PM - Havdala

## Shavuot Kids Program

Sunday, May 20

10:00<sup>AM</sup> to 12:00<sup>PM</sup>

Games, activities & snacks!



### The Norma and Sam Dabby Talmud Torah Marches for Israel

On Sunday, May 6, children, teachers and parents from our Talmud Torah marched at the Salute to Israel Parade along Pico Blvd from Motor Ave to Roxbury Drive.

It was great to participate with all the other groups marching and express Kahal Joseph's love for Israel!