

## Rabbi's Message



Tetsave is the second parasha in a five-week story arc that describes the construction of the Holy Tabernacle. After the Israelites were freed from slavery and got a baseline of social and national laws, the time had come for them to learn how to serve our Creator. From the era of our Prophet Moshe until the destruction of the Second Temple, we worshiped God in a public Sanctuary using the very rituals that the Torah describes over the next few weeks.

As we transitioned from sacrifices to prayers in the Common Era, we modeled our synagogue spaces on the themes that were laid out in the Sanctuary idea. This concept is called *mikdash me'at* – “the Sanctuary in miniature.” In the many wanderings of the Jewish people, we have built, used, and been dispersed from several beautiful synagogues around the world, leaving behind a constellation of sacred worship sites whose communal life is either winding down or has ceased altogether.

Happily there are sometimes stories like the article that follows, when a beloved Jewish site gets new life and is restored instead of becoming desolate. I am delighted to report that Kneset Eliyahoo, the Iraqi synagogue in Bombay, has just undergone a major renovation and reopened last week, on February 7th. How fitting it was that the Parasha that was read that same week launched the story of the original Tabernacle! As the narrative continues this week, I hope it will be a sign of further cultural preservation for the Indo-Iraqi community.

## Restoration of Indian Synagogue

by Rabbi Jonathan Cohen

*Condensed from his blog, 'A Final Word'*

The magnificent synagogues of the Baghdadi community of India (in Kolkata, Mumbai, Pune and elsewhere) are little known beyond their descendants, so this week's re-opening of the beautifully refurbished Kneset Eliyahoo Synagogue in Mumbai went largely unnoticed in the Jewish world.

The building is a superb historic, architectural, and Jewish treasure. In 1832, David Sassoon – father of the famous Sassoon dynasty – immigrated from Baghdad to Bombay and established his successful cotton business there. He built the beautiful Maghen David Synagogue in Calcutta in 1861. Kneset Eliyahoo synagogue was financed in 1884 by his grandson Jacob, in memory of David's son, Eliyahoo. It stands in the heart of Mumbai's commercial area, near the iconic David Sassoon Library, and the popular Taj Mahal Palace Hotel.

The synagogue building includes schoolrooms, a committee room, and a mikve (Jewish ritual bath). Designed by British architectural firm Gostling & Morris of Bombay, with a colonial exterior and much fine Victorian and Italianate detail within, it is clear that the masonry, ironwork, and Minton floor tiles, were imported from England.

The Jerusalem-facing West wall of the synagogue (remember India is *East* of Israel!) boasts spectacular stained glass, now wonderfully restored. Also, a “Shiviti” board [is] screwed in over the Ark. Layers of paint were stripped away to reveal the original colors and the synagogue has been restored to its original glory, and possibly even surpasses it.

The far older Benei Israel Community with an Indian history going back possibly to the time of the Second Temple remain in India in large numbers, and they continue to use the synagogue.

## Parashat Tetsave

Torah: Ex. 27:20–30:10, 101 Pesukim  
Hertz 339–349; Stone 464–483  
Haftara: Ezek. 43:10–27  
Hertz 350–351; Stone 1159–1160  
Tefillot: Mashiv Haruah, Birkat Halevana

### Reminder

*Rabbi Melhado is away on a trip this Shabbat and next, 2/16 and 2/23. He will return on February 25th and looks forward to seeing you soon!*

## KJ Schedule

### Erev Shabbat

*Friday, February 15th*

Shabbat Candle lighting ..... 5:18 pm  
Minha ..... *promptly at* 5:15 pm  
Kabbalat Shabbat & Arvit ..... 5:45 pm

### Yom Shabbat

*Saturday, February 16th*

Shaharit ..... 8:30 am  
Keriat HaTorah ..... 10:15 am  
Sermon ..... 11:20 am  
Musaf ..... 11:30 am  
Women's Tehillim ..... *right after kiddush*

Minha ..... 4:45 pm  
Seuda Shelisheet ..... 5:30 pm  
Arvit ..... 6:10 pm  
Havdala ..... 6:23 pm

*(Continued on page 2)*



## Mazal Tov

Keren and Jeremy Avitan  
on the berit of their son  
Oren Yosef

**Besiman Tov to Grandparents**  
Rachel and Jeannot Acoca  
Barbara and Yaacov Avitan



## Mazal Tov

Sharlin and Jacob Partiyeli  
on the berit of their son Ilan

**Besiman Tov to Grandparents**  
Jaleh Partiyeli and Abner Partiyeli  
Soheila and Sion Neman

*Ilan's twin sister will be named this Shabbat*

## Shabbat Guest Speaker

*Dr. Lev Hakak*



*Near Eastern & Cultures Department  
University of California, Los Angeles*

Dr. Hakak will speak  
this Shabbat, February 16th  
during morning services  
about the weekly Torah portion  
Parashat Tetsave

*(Continued from page 1)*

### Sunday, February 17th

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

### Weekdays

*Monday-Friday, February 18th-22nd*  
Shaharit ..... 6:25 am

### Next Shabbat

*Friday-Saturday, February 22nd-23rd*  
Shabbat Candle lighting ..... 5:25 pm  
Friday Minha ..... 5:15 pm  
Shaharit ..... 8:30 am  
Saturday Minha ..... 4:45 pm  
Havdala ..... 6:29 pm

## In Memoriam

We remember these yahrzeit anniversaries  
from February 16 to 23, 2019. We light memorial  
candles donate tsedaka & attend Shabbat  
services to honor the memory of our loved ones.

**12 Adar I / Sunday, February 17th**  
Rooholah Haykani

**13 Adar I / Monday, February 18th**  
Esther Jacob D'Cruz *Esther HaMulka bat Rahel*  
Elliot Zvi Wyner *Yechiel Zvi ben Yitzhak*

**14 Adar I / Tuesday, February 19th**  
Joseph Mingail *Yosef ben Haim Baruch*

**15 Adar I / Wednesday, February 20th**  
Nuriel Daizadeh *Nuriel ben Yochanan*  
Jack Jacob *Meir ben Yaacov*  
Vera Rosenfeld *Vera ben Hannah Hatoun*

**18 Adar I / Shabbat, February 23rd**  
*Efraim ben Simcha*  
Naim Moshi *Naim ben Yehoshua*

## Refua Shelema

Sassoon Ezra • Moselle Amron • Sally Amron • 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 MazalTov • Simcha bat Rooha  
Habiba bat Farha • Meir Ezra ben Rahel • Dina bat Rahel  
Chaya Rachel bat Simcha • Rahel bat Ramah Regina  
Eti Esther bat Fortuna • Karen bat Chana  
Rabbi Eliahu Shalom ben Avigayil Ezran



**H a p p y P u r i m**

**Wednesday, March 20**

6:15 PM - Minha w/Birkat Cohanim

7:00 PM - Raffle with prizes

7:45 PM - Reading of Megilat Esther

*Followed by*

A light dinner with Hamantashen

*Sponsors needed! Contact [RabbiMelhado@kahaljoseph.org](mailto:RabbiMelhado@kahaljoseph.org)*

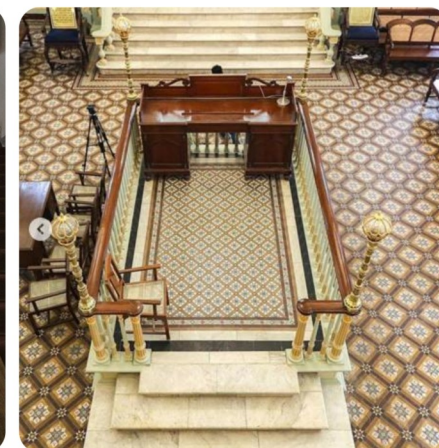
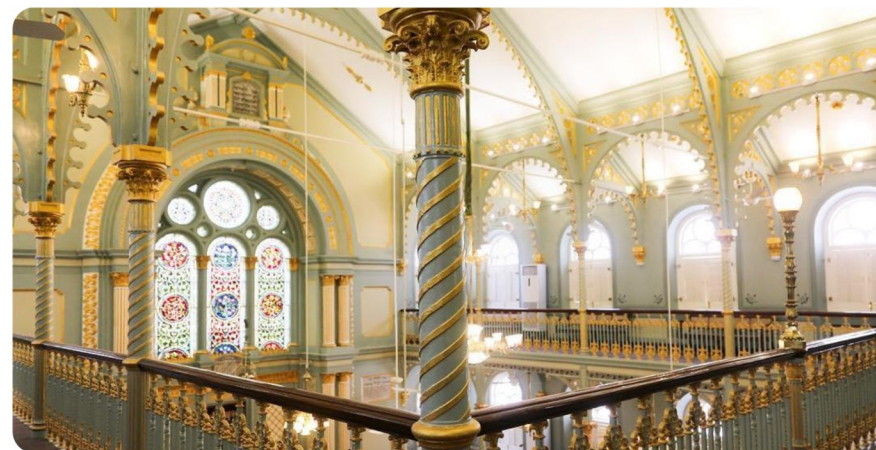
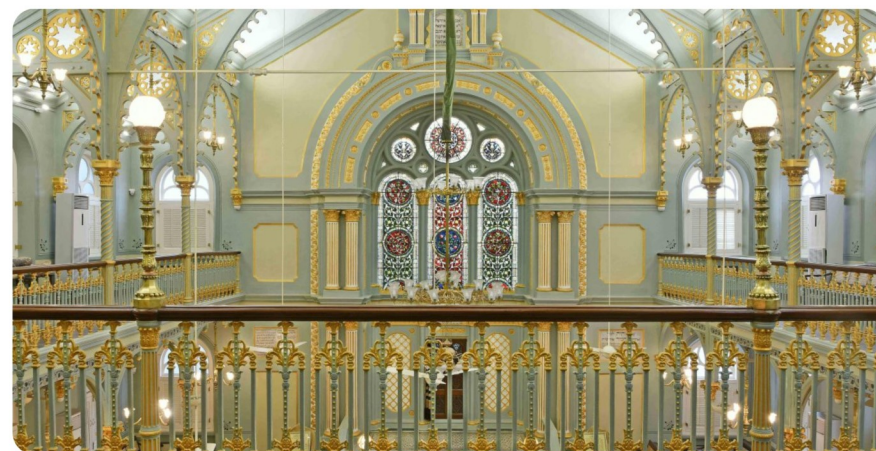


**Thurs., March 21**

5:45 AM - Shaharit & Megila



## Restoration of Knesset Eliyahoo in Mumbai



## Purim Baking!

**Sunday, March 17**  
**10AM until the dough is done**

Bake traditional Iraqi treats for the KJ Purim baskets, which are distributed to members of our congregation.

RSVP to Yvette at [yvettedabby@gmail.com](mailto:yvettedabby@gmail.com)



Can't make it?

Make a dough-nation!

Send a check to the Kahal Joseph office, call 310-474-0559 or [www.kahaljoseph.org/donate](http://www.kahaljoseph.org/donate)





KAHAL JOSEPH INVITES YOU TO

# PURIM CARNIVAL

**Games! Food! Fun! Prizes!**

**Sunday, Mar. 10**

**11 AM - 3 PM**

**\$20 WRISTBAND**

**UNLIMITED RIDES & GAMES**

**Delicious food, Iraqi treats,  
great prizes and more!**

**All proceeds benefit Kahal!**

**Event Chairs: Molly Jalali & Nicole Mathalon**



## Sponsor the Carnival!

**RINGMASTER - \$1000**

**TROUPER - \$500**

**JUGGLER - \$250**

**Contact Molly at  
molly@emetek.com or  
310-880-3418 to set up your  
sponsorship today!**

**ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT KAHAL!**

Volunteer  
with the  
carnival!

Several  
time slots  
available!

**Sunday, March 10**

Contact Molly at molly@emetek.com or  
310-880-3418 to sign up!

