

Rabbi's Message

In a memorable exchange from *The Lord of the Rings* (2001), one of the main characters announces that their questing force will march until nightfall. It sounds appropriately heroic until a member of his band starts complaining about breakfast. Upon being told that they have already eaten, the upstart whines "well what about *second* breakfast?!" As a laugh bubbles from the audience and the leader stomps ahead, a sympathetic trooper commiserates: "I don't think he's heard of that, Pip!"

I often think about this back-and-forth when it comes to the festival of Purim Sheni. I can just see the Jewish parallel scene to the one above, where a well-meaning layperson is trying to organize the appropriate observance, and keeps being told that the holiday is already over. "Well what about *second* Purim?!" – "I don't think he's heard of that, Pip!"

The Jewish public may be less familiar with Second Purim because it is a catch-all name for any regional or personal Purims that occur throughout the year. If a given locality feels that a miracle was wrought on their behalf, they can institute a "Second Purim" for themselves and make it binding on future inhabitants of that place. The same goes for an individual, whose personal Purim miracle would then be commemorated by their descendants. Such days are naturally celebrated by a limited group of people, whose coreligionists might well scratch their heads when hearing about a Purim happening during the "off season."

Second Purims are recorded in many places in North Africa, the Middle East, and Europe. At



Kahal, we have two such Purims that go by the name "Miracle of Tahmasp." Both commemorate victories in which Baghdad was either liberated from, or spared takeover by, its Persian neighbors. When the Jews beheld their salvation, they instituted days of rejoicing on which the penitential prayers would be skipped. This fell on the 11th of Ab, 1638 and the 16th of Tebet, 1733. While we still skip the penitential prayers at Kahal on these days, Indo-Iraqis do not observe a third Baghdadi Purim from the 17th of Adar, 1917 that commemorates the British Army's entry into the city during WWI (Musleah, *On the Banks of the Ganga* pp. 225-226).

Other communities go as far as to create special liturgies for the day of Second Purim. Coming up this Thursday, on the 28th of Adar, the Jews of Egypt will observe the "Purim of Cairo" by reading a special Megilla in Arabic. Known as the "Majallat Purim Misrayim," it records the persecutions of the Vizier Ahmad Shaytan, who attempted to wipe out Cairo's Jewish community during his pretention to the throne in 1524. After stripping the Jews of their wealth, he was poised to complete his genocidal scheme when the Ottoman Sultan arrived to quash his rebellion. The Jews were spared, and they instituted a day of thanksgiving that was still known in Egypt on the eve of their modern Exodus in the 1960s, over four centuries later.

It is unfortunate that 20th century persecution has obscured the memory of some of these special Purims. The Majallat Purim Misrayim is a great example of how preserving our experiences in writing helps reinforce our sense of identity and gratitude. If you'd like to tap into that energy, download the Megilla (English or Arabic) and read it to yourself this Thursday!

www.hsje.org/Holidays/Purim/purim_misrayim.htm

Parashat Shemini Shabbat Para

Torah: Lev. 9:1–11:47, Num. 19:1–22
Hertz 443, 652; Stone 588, 838
Haftara (§): Ezek. 36:16–36
Hertz 999–1001; Stone 1216–1217
Tefillot: Mashiv Haruah, Hakhrazat
Nisan (Sat)

"Happy Minyan" Fridays at 5:30 pm

Every year from March to September, we read Mincha at a fixed time on Fridays. New to this year, we will meet at 5:30 pm for "Happy Minyan," a cheerful gathering of cold cuts and a small lehayim. Join us for the bonding experience, and stay for the services at 6:00 pm sharp!

KJ Schedule

Erev Shabbat

Friday, March 29th

Shabbat Candle lighting	6:53 pm
Happy Minyan	5:30 pm
Mincha	6:00 pm
Kabbalat Shabbat & Arvit	6:30 pm

Yom Shabbat

Saturday, March 30th

Shaharit	8:30 am
Keriat HaTorah	10:15 am
Sermon	11:20 am
Musaf	11:30 am
Women's Tehillim	5:15 pm
Mincha	6:15 pm
Seuda Shelisheet	7:00 pm
Arvit	7:45 pm
Havdala	7:57 pm

Sunday, March 31st

Shaharit	7:30 am
Talmud Torah	9:45 am

(Continued on page 2)

Seuda Shelisheet

is sponsored
in loving memory of

Yaacov ben Avraham, z"l

and

Avraham ben Aghababa, z"l

by The Partiyeli Family

Condolences

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

Bertha Rahamim, z"l

Bertha bat Sabiha and Avraham
(1936-2019). She passed away in Israel on
Tuesday, March 26th, 19th of Adar II.

She is survived by her siblings

our dear Board member, Dr. Eva Dloomy

Kelly Iny

Jack Iny

Joseph Iny

Joyce Dayan

Mayer Iny

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

(Continued from page 1)

Monday-Friday, April 1st to 5th

Shaharit 6:25 am

Next Shabbat / Friday-Saturday, April 5-6

Meet Rabbi Salomon Cohen Scali

Shabbat Candle lighting 6:58 pm

Friday Minha 6:00 pm

Shaharit 8:30 am

Saturday Minha 6:15 pm

Havdala 8:02 pm

Four Special Shabbatot

The weeks leading up to Pesah contain several distinctive Shabbatot called the "Arba Parashiyot." Their goal is to emphasize themes from the Israelites' experience during the Exodus as we get closer to the Pesah holiday that celebrates our freedom.

We observe the Arba Prashiyot by bringing out a second Torah scroll for an extra reading on the week's theme, followed by a unique Haftara that replaces the regular Prophetic selection for that week. In the Iraqi tradition, it is customary to commemorate these Shabbatot with special songs, which we print in the Kol Mevasser so everyone can participate.

Shabbat Shekalim is the Shabbat before Rosh Hodesh Adar, or Adar II in leap years. Its reading discusses the half-shekel tax that funded the sacrifices in the Holy Tabernacle. This reminds us of our responsibility to maintain places of spiritual worship as a free people.

Shabbat Zakhor is the Shabbat before Purim. Its reading recounts that the nation of Amalek attacked the us from the back as we left Egypt, preying on the weak. Even as a free people, we must remember what it felt like to be victimized, and blot out any remnant of the aggressors.

Shabbat Para is two Shabbatot before Rosh Hodesh Nisan. Its reading discusses the rituals that cleanse and purify us spiritually, a state we had to achieve to offer the Paschal lamb. Alas, it is unavailable in modern times because of the destruction of the Holy Temple.

Shabbat Hahodesh is one Shabbat before Rosh Hodesh Nisan. Its reading announces that the month of Nisan is the foremost month, with Pesah as the preeminent holiday. Tishre may be when we count the years, but the months roll over in time for Pesah.

A fifth day called "Shabbat Hagadol" is observed the Shabbat before Pesah. It has no unique Torah reading, but does include a special Haftara and Iraqi songs. Historically, communal Rabbis would save their most impactful sermons for Shabbat Hagadol.

Kahal Joseph donated \$468 to the Od Yosef Chai matanot le'evyonim initiative on Purim Day

In Memoriam

We remember these yahrzeit anniversaries from March 30 to April 6, 2019. We light memorial candles donate tsedaka & attend Shabbat services to honor the memory of our loved ones.

23 Adar II / Shabbat, March 30th

Rachel Jonah

Moshe Ezra Moses *Moshe Ezra ben Raphael Moshe*

25 Adar II / Monday, April 1st

Gamra Dallal

Sarah bat Gurjiyee

26 Adar II / Tuesday, April 2nd

Salomon Emquies *Shlomo ben Messod*

27 Adar II / Wednesday, April 3rd

Achajal Aghalar *Nisim ben Yaacov*

Saul K. Masliah *Shaul ben Hacham Moshe Yakob*

28 Adar II / Thursday, April 4th

Moshe Haim Navid

Tefaha Perry *Tefaha bat Salima*

Rahmatollah Rahamim

29 Adar II / Friday, April 5th

Lulu Raymond *Lulu bat Matooka*

Mordechai Sarraf *Mordechai ben Yehudah*

1 Nisan / Shabbat, April 6th

Lotfollah Nassi

Clara Saltoon *Gazala bat Ester*

John Melhado *Yona ben Yona*

Sydique Charlie Zakoo *Sadik Salah ben Ezra Halevi*

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

Arie Yaacov ben Shlomo




Sell your Hamets

Guaranteed if received by Thurs., April 18 at noon!

Sell your excess hamets through Rabbi Melhado!

Forms available in the lobby or click this image to download & print the form

Return the form via email (rabbimelhado@kahaljoseph.org), fax (310.410.4059), mail them to Kahal Joseph, drop it off at the office, or hand it to Rabbi Melhado



THE NEW IRAQI HAGGADA

edited by Rabbi Melhado, is now available!

\$15 a copy, or 4 for \$52

Featuring:

- A summary of Iraqi customs
- All traditional texts & instructions not found in other books
- A new, easy-to-read English translation by Rabbi Melhado

Order by Wednesday, April 10 by contacting Rabbi Melhado at rabbimelhado@kahaljoseph.org



Seder Matching

Passover is coming!
First night seder is Friday, April 19

On your own for the seders?
We can help!

Do you have an extra seat at your seder table?
We can fill it!

Simply email Jessica at jessica@kahaljoseph.org by Fri. April 12 to be matched!



BIRKAT HAILANOT

Join us to bless God for the flowering fruit trees in this celebration of spring!

Sunday, May 5 - 30 Nissan 5779
11:00 AM

Mildred E. Mathis Botanical Garden, UCLA
at the Hilgard Entrance

RSVP to Jessica at jessica@kahaljoseph.org



Memouna!

Sunday, April 28 at 7pm
RSVP deadline Wed. April 24!

Kahal Joseph Congregation &
The Sephardic Educational Center
invite all our members and friends!

Savor traditional delicacies! Enjoy festive music!
Relish the warmth of community!



Featuring
the music of
Asher Shasho-Levy
and Jamie Papish
of the Aram Soba
Ensemble

\$36 per person
advanced registration requested

RSVP at www.kahaljoseph.org/memouna.html
or call Sarah at 310.474.0559



Thank you to the Purim Bakers & Donors!

Karen & Ella Ashkenazi	Shohreh Elghanian	Aviva Sagi
Dolly Assor	Louise & David Elias	Georgia Sagi Lebowitz
Annette Cohen	Sharon Gomperts	Danielle Sarraf
Hadar, Shylee & Talia Cohen	Rita Hanin	Esperance Shashoua
Yvette Dabby	Tikva Iny	Yvonne Sheeri
Lisa Dabby Joyce & Madeline Joyce	Melissa Ironi	Rachel Sheff
Joyce Dallal	Michelle Kahtan	Widad Shiri
Arlette Darwish	Orly Kattan	Hannah Soffa
Michelle Darwish	Judy Lurie	Nasrin Soroudi
Keyvan, Talia & Eliana Davoudian	Doris Moshi	Gilda Tawfik
Eva Dloomy	Jasmin Nazarian	Naima White
	Rosy Nissan	

Thank you to Leticia Einy, who provided the mishloah manot bags and cards

Thank you to Ethan, Zachary and Madeline Joyce for packing the candy
for the Megilla reading

Purim at KJ!



Rabbi Salomon Cohen-Scali

Meet a Candidate for Kahal Joseph's Rabbinical Position

Rabbi Cohen was born in Melilla Spain, and he comes from a long line of Sephardic Rabbis and Sofrim (Scribes). He earned his rabbinic ordination from Rabbi E. Abergel, head of the Supreme Rabbinical Court in Jerusalem, and by the Rabbis of the Shehebar Sephardic Center. He himself is a Sofer (scribe), a Mohel, and a Shochet.

Rabbi Cohen received a B.A. with honors in Jewish studies at Jews' College of London and was awarded his degree by the National Council for Academic Awards of England. Rabbi Cohen's wife, Raquel has a Masters degree in Industrial Chemistry. In addition, Rabbi Cohen speaks fluent English, Hebrew, Spanish, and has a good knowledge of French.

Currently, Rabbi Cohen is the rabbi of Union Israelita del Peru. In the past he has served as spiritual leader of Sephardic Congregation "Ezra Bessaroth", Seattle, Washington; the head rabbi of the Jewish Orthodox Community of Barcelona, Spain; and the rabbi and co-founder of the Jewish community of Torremolinos, Spain.



Friday April 5, 2019

Minha & Arbit 5:45 pm

Saturday April 6, 2019

Shaharit 8:30 am

Torah Reading 10:15 am

Sermon 11:15 am

"Small Mitzvot and the Jewish Future"

Musaf following Sermon

Lunch and Learn (members only) 12:00 pm

"Jews and Gentiles: A Complex Relationship"

Class for Women 5:45 pm

Minha 6:15 pm

Seudah & Dvar Torah 7:00 pm

Arbit 7:45 pm