

Rabbi's Message

Pesah is a great example of what scholars call the “mimetic tradition.” Rather than simply handing a child a haggada to read about our origins alone, we bring them along with us to take part in the rich human interactions that occur over the seder. We do this not as a single instance in time, but over the totality of sedarim that make up their childhood and maturation into Jewish adults. Drawing from the breadth of these many experiences, they will eventually be equipped to perpetuate our tradition on their own merits.

As a young father, I am especially well-positioned to see the myriad of ways that children act out adult behavior. I naturally expected them to respond to the overt messaging that we give them, but I am amazed by how much indirect mimesis happens along the way. I have noticed many of my own idiosyncrasies of language and mannerisms for the first time when I see them reflected back to me by my children. Alas this is also true of my shortcomings, which I now have a renewed impetus to resolve. Clearly, they are listening to what we do and don't mean to communicate, thirsty for any information that they can apply to themselves.

I thought of this with a chuckle when reading a recent blog post by the National Library of Israel on an interesting document in the Cairo Geniza. In I Kings 10:22, a tribute of gifts to King Solomon was reported to contain an animal called a “tuki.” Apparently this word has troubled our commentators, who could not agree on the plain



meaning of the verse. Enter Yits'hak ben Shemuel Hasefaradi, a figure who was familiar with Indian culture and some Sanskrit. Writing in Judeo-Arabic, he says “it is not a peacock, but rather the ‘Sakagh,’ which is a type of bird from India that is green and knows how to talk.” In other words, a “tuki” is a parrot, just as we understand it in Modern Hebrew today.

Ben Shemuel doesn't stop there, but goes on to describe how, during his time in Egypt, he saw a parrot from India that was once owned by a Jew. Much to the delight of his friends, the old master had taught the bird how to say Shema Yisrael, along with several other verses and passages. It even drew out the word “ehad” in just the manner that traditional Jews did, copying their every quirk! Reading the account some 900 years later, we are still impressed at the accomplishment of this most Jewish of birds.

The major difference between the parrot and our children is the human capacity for abstract comprehension. Unlike talking birds, our children will be able to take the information that they learn from adults and creatively work it into the tapestry of knowledge, culture, spirituality, and self-expression that will define who they become. At the seder, we have a special opportunity to offer them something authentically us, something that goes to the core of who we are as a people and why we do the things that make us unique. May we all put our full selves into that interaction, and set them on their very best foot as members of our people!

אני אבהא לעצמא. ואליב עב' אנה אנמא קצר אפילי נפסא מן ארנהא לקופים ונכבים
והאלי פאשאץ חיואן בלא שך. וקא אחר פי ונכבים ונכבים. אנה אקול אנה לים הפסח
ונכבים ענאויס בל הפסח אעבג אלי פונה אכזר וכו' גנש מן אטניור יג' מן דיאר אנה אדי
עלם אכלאם תבלם. ונכבים משהק מן חקר אי מוהקט במעני אנה מוהקט בין לחיואן א'.

Shabbat Pesah I

Torah: Ex. 12:14–51, Num. 28:16–25
Orot Sephardic Pesah: 303–306 (7 aliyot)
Haftara: Josh. 5:2–61, 6:27
Orot Sephardic Pesah: 308–309
Tefillot: Ps. 107, Full Hallel, Tikkun Hatal
(Morid Hatal begins at Musaf, and Barekhe-
nu begins from Arvit on the first night of
Hol Hamo'ed), Musaf of Pesah

Yom Tov Pesah II

Torah: Lev. 22:26–23:44, Num. 28:16–25
Orot Sephardic Pesah: 311–314 (5 aliyot)
Haftara: II Kings 23:1–9, 21–25
Orot Sephardic Pesah: 314–315
Tefillot: Ps. 107, Full Hallel, Musaf of Pesah

Sefirat Ha'omer

Remember to count the Omer every night from the
2nd seder onward (in Haggada). You can pick up your
special Omer counting cards from Rabbi Melhado.

KJ Pesah Schedule 5779 / 2019

Erev Pesah & Erev Shabbat Friday, April 19th

Shaharit 6:25 am
Siyum with R. Melhado 7:30 am
Stop eating hamets..... before 10:15 am
Burn hamets before 11:34 am
Early Mincha, Arvit, & Hallel 5:30 pm
Candle lighting 7:09 pm
First Seder begins after 8:13 pm

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Yom Shabbat & Pesah I

Saturday, April 20th

Shaharit..... 8:30 am
Candle lighting after 8:13 pm
Prep for Second Seder..... after 8:13 pm
Havdala..... part of 2nd seder

Second Seder Night

Saturday, April 20th

Minha, Arvit, Hallel (no seuda)..... 6:30 pm
Second Seder begins after 8:13 pm
1st Night for counting the Omer at seder

Yom Pesah II

Sunday, April 21st

Shaharit..... 8:30 am
Minha, Seuda, Arvit..... 6:30 pm
Havdala, Yom Tov to Hol Hamo'ed 8:14 pm
2nd night since the Omer

Hol Hamo'ed I to III

Monday-Wednesday, April 22nd to 24th

Shaharit..... 6:05 am
3rd to 5th nights since the Omer

Hol Hamo'ed IV & Lel Pesah VII

Thursday, April 25th

Shaharit..... 6:05 am
Candle lighting 7:13 pm
Minha 6:00 pm
6th night since the Omer

Yom Pesah VII & Lel Shabbat Pesah VIII

Friday, April 26th

Shaharit..... 8:30 am
Candle lighting 7:14 pm
Minha & Arvit..... 6:00 pm
7th night since the Omer

Shabbat & Yom Pesah VIII

Saturday, April 27th

Shaharit..... 8:30 am
Minha, Seuda, Arvit..... 6:30 pm
Havdala..... 8:18 pm
8th night since the Omer
Earliest time to eat sold hamets 10:00 pm



On behalf of
the Board of Directors
of Kahal Joseph

I would like to wish
all our members and friends
a very Happy Passover,
meaningful Seders, and
an abundance of joys and
blessings from your families

Hag Sameah

Yvette Dabby
President of the Board

Happy Minyan on Pesah Break

The Happy Minyan will not meet Friday
4/19 or Friday 4/26 during Pesah.
We will resume meeting at 5:30 pm
on Friday 5/3.

Moving on Up!

On Shabbat, during Friday & Saturday
evening minyan, prayer services will
move upstairs to allow us to have a
warmer, more intimate environment. For
the same reason, unsponsored kid-
dushim will be in the lobby from now on.

In Memoriam

We remember these yahrzeit anniversaries from
April 20 to April 27, 2019. We light memorial
candles, donate tsedaka & attend Shabbat
services to honor the memory of our loved ones.

15 Nisan / Shabbat, April 20th

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

16 Nisan / Sunday, April 21st

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

18 Nisan / Tuesday, April 23rd

Haskell Avrahamy *Yehezkel ben Yosef*

21 Nisan / Friday, April 26th

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

22 Nisan / Shabbat, April 27th

Edward Ezrapour *Eliyahu ben Ezra Avraham Hayim*

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



Join Kahal Joseph at the Celebrate
Israel Festival on May 19, 2019!
Cheviot Hills Recreation Center,
Rancho Park

Vendors! Kosher Food!
Lots of great entertainers!

Buy tickets through this link to benefit
Kahal Joseph:

<https://www.Purplepass.com/celebrateisrael?SID=KehillatJoseph>

An event not to be missed!

Fifth Annual Yom HaZikaron Community Night of Remembrance

Tuesday, May 7, 2019

7:30 pm

Saban Theater
8440 Wilshire Blvd



Consulate General of Israel
in Los Angeles

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

Jew of Iraqi Descent Poised to Help Jews Worldwide

Last Thursday, April 11th, attorney Elan Carr was sworn in as the Special Envoy for Monitoring and Combatting Antisemitism. Known popularly as the “Antisemitism Czar,” this office was created by the Bush administration in 2004 after a strong bipartisan request from Congress.

Elan’s mother is from an Iraqi Jewish family that escaped to Israel in 1950. They later moved to America, where Elan served with distinction in the military. In an incredible twist of fate, he was deployed to Baghdad in 2003 and was able to lead a public menorah lighting in the very building where his grandfather was once imprisoned.

Kahal is thankful to count Elan among our friends, and we trust that his special story will bring the voice of Mizrahi Jews squarely into his work.

We wish him every success!

