

Rabbi's Message

Just at the mention of the word "Hatikva," I imagine that my readers can hear the melody in their minds. Its moving lyrics give voice to the miraculous potential of Medinat Yisrael. Kahal's older members may remember learning it when Israel was still a dream, with its chorus of hope still yearning for a fanciful and unrealized future. Others, like me, know it only after the Jewish state was an established fact – a wild hope that had already been fulfilled for us to safeguard and cherish.

We have all heard and sung Hatikva at schools and public events, and the words are imprinted on our memories. Imagine, then, my surprise at ordering a copy of *Shivhe Tsadikim* (Djerba: Boaz Haddad, 1948) and seeing the chorus in a form that was almost unrecognizable:

*Od lo aveda tikvatenu
Hatikva hanoshana
Lashuv el erets avotenu
La'ir bah David hana*

As "H. S." cleverly translated it in The Jewish Chronicle (Dec 18, 1903), this means:

*O then our Hope – it is not dead,
Our ancient Hope and true,
Again the sacred soil to tread
Where David's banners flew!*

At first I believed the bookseller's claim that the Tunisian rabbinate censored the anthem with words from Isaiah 29 in an attempt to introduce more religious language. However, this cannot



be supported by the evidence, which demonstrates that these are actually the original lyrics.

The author of "Tikvatenu," as it was first called, was an unconventional character named Naphtali Herz Imber (1856-1909). Once an up-and-coming yeshiva student in his hometown of Złoczów, Galicia, he left Orthodoxy and became an accomplished Haskala poet. Though he enjoyed renown for Tikvatenu, he briefly married a gentile, and he died an impoverished alcoholic in the US – an unlikely poster child for the hope of which he wrote.

Imber composed the poem's first version in Romania after reading about the founding of Petah Tikva in 1878. Correctly sensing that this Moshava represented a turning point in the Jewish settlement of what would become Israel, he composed a ballad of hope that was an instant hit. He published it in Israel in 1886, but was not until 1905 that a Zionistic educator, Yehuda Leib Metmann-Cohen (1869-1939), rewrote the refrain to create the "Hatikva" that we all recognize.

The change may not have sat well with Imber, who prided himself on being the "author of the Jewish anthem," but it is a beautiful example of Zionism in action. The poem was composed in Romania when it was freshly independent from the very same Ottoman Empire that controlled the longed-for Jewish homeland. While Romania abused its new power to persecute its Jews, Ottoman Palestine became a rallying ground for political Zionism and Aliya. That a fresh new voice, called thither by the passions that the original composer aroused, could rework the song into a new, Israeli-informed success story is exactly what Hatikva is all about.

Parashat Kedoshim 21st Day since the Omer

Torah: Lev. 19:1–20:27, 64 Pesukim
Hertz 497–508; Stone 656–671
Haftara (Sephardim): Ezek. 20:2–20
Hertz 511–512; Stone 1175–1176
Tefillot: Morid Hatal, Birkat Halevana

KJ Schedule

Erev Shabbat

Friday, May 10th

Candle lighting	7:25 pm
Happy Minyan	5:30 pm
Minha	6:00 pm
Kabbalat Shabbat & Arvit	6:30 pm

Yom Shabbat

Saturday, May 11th

Shaharit.....	8:30 am
Keriat HaTorah.....	10:15 am
Sermon	11:20 am
Musaf	11:30 am
Women's Tehillim	5:45 pm
Minha	6:45 pm
Se'uda Shelisheet	7:30 pm
Arvit.....	8:15 pm
Havdala	8:29 pm

Sunday, May 12th

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

Monday-Friday, May 13th to 17th

Shaharit	6:25 am
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Mazal Tov

**Lindsey Baruch &
Danny Nikravesh**
on your engagement

Besiman Tov
to

Parents
Marlene & Oren Baruch
Yasmin & Iraj Nikravesh

Grandparents
Including our beloved
Senior Hazan Sassoon Ezra

and
all the extended family

Shabbat Kiddush

is sponsored
in loving memory of

Shimon Iny, z"l

by
Tikva & Yoel Iny
and Family

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Next Shabbat

Friday-Saturday, May 17-18

Shabbat Candle lighting..... 7:30 pm
Happy Minyan / Minha ... 5:30 pm / 6:00 pm
Shaharit 8:30 am
Saturday Minha..... 6:45 pm
Havdala 8:35 pm

CONGRATULATE Your Graduate!

Don't let your graduate go unnoticed!

Let's celebrate the success and
accomplishments of all our graduates
from preschool to PhD.

Email the name, school and field of study
of your graduate to jessica@kahaljoseph.org
and they will be mentioned in the
June 15 Kol Mevasser!

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
Chaya Chana bat Batya
Katie bat Farha • Miriam bat Yetta
Miryam bat Malka • Moshe Ezra ben
MazalTov • Simcha bat Rooha Habiba bat
Farha • Chaya Rachel bat Simcha
Dina bat Rahel • Rahel bat Ramah Regina
Karen bat Chana • Meir Ezra ben Rahel
Eti Esther bat Fortuna
Eliahu Shalom ben Avigayil

In Memoriam

We remember these yahrzeit anniversaries from
May 11 to 18, 2019. We light memorial candles,
donate tsedaka, and attend Shabbat services to
honor the memory of our loved ones.

6 Iyar / Shabbat, May 11th

Jane Ester Feldman
Cecile Masliah *Aziza bat Habiba*
Sophie Moses *Tifaha bat Mazal*

7 Iyar / Sunday, May 12th

Ezra Baruch *Ezra ben Yaacov*
Aaron A. David *Aharon Sasson ben Avraham Haim*
Ezra Jacob Barukh *Ezra Yaacov Barukh*
Ellis Levi *Eliyahu ben Ezra Kadoori Halevi*
Rachel Moses *Rachel bat Mazal Tov*

8 Iyar / Monday, May 13th

Azie Judah
Toba Mussry *Toba bat Aziza*
Salim Ezra A. Hayim
Sasson Sawdayi *Sasson ben Meir*

9 Iyar / Tuesday, May 14th

Menashi Jiji
Haim Moche *Moshi Haim ben Yehoshua*
Sima Sassoon *Simcha bat Hannah*

10 Iyar / Wednesday, May 15th

Ramah Ezra *Rahmah bat Lulu Khatoon*
Abraham Shaye *Abraham Amir Saed Zoghee ben*
Asher Michael

11 Iyar / Thursday, May 16th

Irving Rosen
Elias Raymond Solomon *Eliyahu Rahamim*

12 Iyar / Friday, May 17th

Sara Ephraim *Sarah bat Sarah*
Molly Moses *Mesuda bat Aziza*
Aaron Sassoon *Aharon ben Elisha*
Rabbee Shadi *Rabbee Meir ben Rahman*

13 Iyar / Shabbat, May 18th

Devorah Lubovsky *Devorah bat Aharon*
Joseph Robert Saul *Yosef Rahamim ben Shaul*
Violet Aziza Sheeri



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!



Blessings for Counting the Omer

Counted each evening after dark between the second night of Passover and Shavuot

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם. אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו וְצִוָּנוּ עַל

סְפִירַת הָעֹמֶר: הַיּוֹם _____ לְעֹמֶר שָׁהֵם _____ :

הַרְחֵמֵנוּ הוּא יִחְזִיר עֲבוֹדַת בֵּית הַמִּקְדָּשׁ לְמִקְוָמָה בְּמַהֲרָה בְּיָמֵינוּ. אָמֵן:

Ba-rukh a-ta a-do-nai, e-lo-he-nu me-lekh ha-o-lam, a-sheer kee-de-sha-nu
be-meets-vo-tav, ve-tsee-va-nu al se-fi-rat ha-o-mer.

Ha-yom _____ la-o-mer, she-hem _____.

Ha-ra-ha-man hu ya-ha-zeer a-vo-dat bet ha-meek-dash
leem-ko-ma beem-he-ra ve-ya-me-nu a-men.

You are blessed, O Lord, our God and King of the Universe, Who made us holy with Your commandments and required us to count the Omer.

Today is the _____ day since the Omer, which is [insert weeks and days].

May the Merciful One restore the Temple service, promptly and in our lifetimes, Amen!

This Shabbat!
Saturday May 11, 2019

Meet Rabbinical Candidate

Rabbi Natan Halevy



Rabbi Natan Halevy, born in Australia, is of Iraqi descent. He grew up attending Kahal Joseph where he had his Bar Mitzvah in 1994.

Rabbi Halevy continued his education in Israel where in 2005, he received rabbinical ordination from Rabbi Yitzchak Yaroslavsky at Yeshivat Tomchei Tmimim, the premiere Chabad yeshiva in Israel. He then served as Assistant Rabbi and Coordinator of Learning Programs for adults and youth at Chabad of Great Neck, New York from 2006 to 2008.

Upon his return to Los Angeles, Rabbi Halevy worked in his family's business while continuing his rabbinical work. He co-founded the Young Sephardic Community Center on Pico in 2011, and served as their rabbi until 2014, giving sermons and reading the Torah. Since 2015, he has been teaching at Ohr HaTorah on the Westside.

Rabbi Halevy is knowledgeable in many areas of Jewish learning, including halacha, gemara, kabbalah, and chasidut. Teaching Torah to people of all ages has been his greatest passion.

Rabbi Halevy currently resides in Los Angeles with his wife and four children.

Rabbi Halevy will participate in Morning & Evening Services on Shabbat Day