

KOL MEVASSER

Rabbi's Message



Shavuot calls on us to appreciate the richness of our Jewish tradition. Indeed, we refer to our nighttime learning as “tikkun” because we imagine ourselves “correcting” the wrong of the ancient Israelites, who disregarded the Torah by oversleeping on the morning it was to be given (Songs Rabba 1:12:2). Every year at Shavuot, we delve into the Torah with renewed reverence, taking up its guidance as though we are seeing it for the first time. If we do it the way our ancestors might have done, it will fuel an ongoing engagement in our Jewishness that will hopefully last a lifetime.

I had the pleasure of appreciating this heritage in a totally new way last year, through a happy coincidence that I would never have anticipated. Every six to twelve months, an anonymous Sofer brings in geniza materials for deposit at the cemetery. Most of it consists of parchments from mezuzot and Tefillin, but occasionally he leaves old books and ephemera that I find interesting.

One time, he left a box that appeared to be full of a siddur that had fallen in the shredder. As I root-ed around to see if there was anything else, a congregant who had stopped by the office teased that I was a hopeless dumpster diver. Just as I was about to give up, I pulled out a 154-year-old copy of *Sefer Keri'e Moed*, broken at the spine but otherwise intact. While not exceptionally rare, it is a lovely historical example of the liturgy for Shavuot and the Seventh night of Pesah, and I have consulted it several times since finding it.

Thumbing through it in preparation for Shavuot, I came across a gem of a piyut that I had never seen before, a harmonious intersection of Jewish mysticism and Italian Renaissance poetry. The author, Rabbi Moshe Zacuto (ca. 1625-1697), is known best for his long careers as a Kabbalist and rabbinic leader in Venice and Mantua. His piyut, called simply “A Pleasant Poem for Shavuot,” explores the spiritual significance of the holiday in an extensive *ottava rima*. This stylized form of epic poem was beloved by contemporary Italians, but is written here in 17 full stanzas of Zoharic Aramaic!

An Italian *ottava rima* has eight lines in the form ABABABCC, but Zacuto inverts the second pair to arresting affect: ABBAABCC. From its lasting reproduction in Eastern Sephardic liturgies, I infer that it enjoyed a long period of intense popularity, but this may have been driven in part by a Hebrew translation that appeared alongside it. By sacrificing the rhyme scheme, which was likely of great mystical and aesthetic significance to Zacuto, it became accessible to the common person, another rupture in the dialectic of secrets that characterizes Jewish mysticism.

As of this writing, I regret that I have been unable to locate the melody that was used for it. But on the other hand, it has clearly achieved Shavuot's goal of sparking my renewed interest in our tradition. As the holiday approaches, I will add it the list of my study materials, drawing near to God over a new text. And who knows? Perhaps by next year I'll be able to celebrate with the tune as well!

—Moadim Lesimha

Parashat Bemidbar Shabbat Kalla / Omer 49

Torah: Num. 1:1–4:20, 159 Pesukim
Hertz 568–580; Stone 726–747
Haftara: Hos. 2:1–22
Hertz 582–585; Stone 1180–1181
Tefillot: Morid Hatal, no Tsidkatekha



Shaharit on the first day of Shavuot
6/9 will be at 8:15 am

Shavuot I

Torah: Ex. 19:1–20:23, Num. 28:26–31
Orot Seph Shavuot 254–257 (5 aliyot)
Haftara: Ezek. 1:1–28, 3:12
Orot Seph Shavuot 259–260
Tefillot: Ps. 68, Full Hallel
Book of Ruth (handout)
Azharot (short version pp. 270–272)

Shavuot II

Torah: Deut. 15:19–16:17, Num. 28:26–31
Orot Seph Shavuot 264–266 (5 aliyot)
Haftara: Hab. 2:20–3:19
Orot Seph Shavuot 266–267
Tefillot: Ps. 68, Full Hallel, Short Azharot

KJ Schedule

Erev Shabbat Friday, June 7th

Candle lighting	7:44 pm
Happy Minyan	5:30 pm
Minha	6:00 pm
Kabbalat Shabbat & Arvit	6:30 pm

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

Yom Shabbat / Saturday, June 8th

Shaharit.....	8:30 am
Keriat HaTorah	10:15 am
Sermon.....	11:20 am
Musaf	11:30 am
Early Minha	1:00 pm
Women's Tehillim	off this week only
Se'uda Shelisheet.....	off this week only
Havdala (Kodesh Lekodesh).....	8:48 pm

Lel Shavuot / Saturday, June 8th

Arvit of Shavuot	8:45 pm
Kiddush & Refreshments	9:00 pm
Midrash Mania	9:45 pm
Five Centuries of Printed Talmud ..	10:45 pm
More at Westwood Kehilla	11:45 pm

Yom Shavuot I / Sunday, June 9th

Shaharit.....	8:15 am
Kids' Program	10:00 am to 12:00 pm
Keri'at HaTorah	10:30 am
Megillat Ruth	11:20 am
Musaf	11:40 am
Azharot	6:00 pm
Minha (no Se'uda)	6:20 pm

Lel Shavuot II / Sunday, June 9th

Arvit	6:50 pm
Tset Hakokhavim.....	8:48 pm

Yom Shavuot II / Monday, June 10th

Shaharit.....	8:15 am
Kids' Program	10:00 am to 12:00 pm
Keri'at HaTorah	10:30 am
Musaf	11:30 am
Azharot	6:50 pm
Minha / Se'uda	7:15 pm / 7:45 pm

Motsa'e Shavuot / Monday, June 10th

Arvit	8:35 pm
Havdala	8:49 pm

Tuesday-Friday, June 11th-14th

Shaharit	6:25 am
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Shabbat Kiddush

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Ruth & Edmond Hagooli

in loving memory of
Moshe Hagooli, z"l &
Jacob Khalili, z"l

Pizmon for Shavuot

יום יום אודה לך אשר בחר בנו.

מן העמים לסגלה לו לקחנו.

על הר סיני את תורתו הנחילנו.

עשרת דברות קדשו השמיענו:

לפני מרום רבותים ירדו עמו.

בעת אשר נגלה לישראל עמו.

מסיני בא וזרח משעיר למו.

בקול שופר חזק מאד יענינו:

חרד ורגז הר סיני עת ביאתו.

להנחיל דת לישראל סגלתו.

על יד משה עבדך נאמן ביתו.

ושם עין בעין ראתה עינינו:

קדוש באז תגלה מלכותך עלי.

למקדשי שובה ושכון תודך אהלי.

ולי הטה שלום במי נהר אולי.

ועינינו יראו וישמח לבנו:

In Memoriam

We remember these yahrzeit anniversaries from June 8 to 15, 2019. We light memorial candles, donate tsedaka, and attend Shabbat services to honor the memory of our loved ones.

5 Sivan / Shabbat, June 8th

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

6 Sivan / Sunday, June 9th

Tahereh Hakimipour *Tahereh bat Kokab*

8 Sivan / Tuesday, June 11th

Rivkah Kohanzadeh *Rivkah bat Shimon*
Maurice David Sassoon *Menashe ben David*

9 Sivan / Wednesday, June 12th

Ester Bekhore
Ester Ezekiel *Ester bat Amam*
Aziza Judah *Aziza bat Rahel*

10 Sivan / Thursday, June 13th

Mazli Hagooli *Mazal bat Rahel*
Massouda Kay *Massouda bat Khatoun*
Mozelle Lelah *Mazal Tov bat Ester*

12 Sivan / Shabbat, June 15th

Abraham Lurie *Avraham Lurie*
Abdullah Zekaria *Sion Abdulla Zekaria*

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



Join us - email Rabbi Melhado today at rabbimelhado@kahaljoseph.org for tickets!

Dodger's Jewish Community Day Sunday, July 7 at 1:10pm LA Dodgers v. San Diego Padres

Get a Dodger's kippah!



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!

Blessings for Counting the Omer

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

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי. אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם. אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו וְצִוָּנוּ עַל
סְפִירַת הָעֹמֶר: הַיּוֹם _____ לְעֹמֶר שָׁהֵם _____:

הֶרְחַמָּן הוּא יַחְזִיר עֲבוֹדַת בֵּית הַמִּקְדָּשׁ לְמָקוֹמָהּ בְּמַהֲרָה בְּיָמֵינוּ. אָמֵן:

Ba-ruk h 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!

Shavuot

June 8, 9 & 10

Tikkun Le Shavuot - June 8

1:00 PM Minha after Kiddush, no Seuda Shelisheet

8:45 PM - Arvit

9:00 PM - Dinner

RSVP at www.kahaljoseph.org/shavuot.html

9:45 PM - Midrash Mania

10:45 PM - Five Centuries of the Printed Talmud

Shavuot I - Sunday, June 9

8:15 AM - Shaharit

6:00 PM - Azharot

10 - 12 - Kids Room

6:20 PM - Minha

11:20 - Book of Ruth

6:50 PM - Arvit

Shavuot II - Monday, June 10

8:30 AM - Shaharit

7:15 PM - Minha

10 - 12 - Kids Room

7:45 PM - Seuda

6:50 PM - Azharot

8:35 PM - Arvit

8:49 PM - Havdala

Jews Among Arabs

Contacts and Boundaries



Mark R. Cohen and Abraham L. Udovitch,
Editors

The Farhud's Wider Context

After a coup d'état in the spring of 1941, Iraqi Jewry endured two deadly pogroms. First in Basra on May 16th, and then again in Baghdad on June 1st and 2nd, they were attacked in a violent outbreak of looting, rape, and murder. Known as the "Farhud," the latter event took place on Shavuot, permanently altering the emotional register of the holiday.

The Farhud is often portrayed as "the beginning of the end of Iraqi Jewry," yet a full decade passed between it and the exodus of around 90% of the community in 1950-51. In the book whose cover image appears above (pp. 21-63), historian Elie Kedourie gives a fuller treatment of "the break between Muslims and Jews in Iraq," covering the period from the end of the Tanzimat Reforms to Operations Ezra and Nehemiah.