

KJ Happenings

17 Shevat 5781 | 30 January 2021

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Weekly Schedule

SHABBAT SHIRA PARASHAT BESHALACH

Shemot 13:17 - 17:16

Haftara, Shoftim 4:4 to 5:31

Jewish Pop for the Week

8th Day, Rollin On

EREV SHABBAT

Friday 1/29

Candle Lighting 5:02 pm

Minha & Arvit – at Home

SHABBAT

Saturday 1/30

Shaharit & Musaf - at Home

Minha, Seuda & Arvit - at Home

Havdallah 6:07 pm

Talmud Torah

[Click here to register!](#)

Sunday Mornings

1/24 to 2/28

WEEKDAYS

Sunday-Friday

Shaharit – at Home

Minha & Arvit - at Home

Membership & Sponsorship

To sponsor an event or become a member contact our office. Call 310.474.0559 or [click here to email Sarah](#).

AMAZON SMILE for
Kahal



Rabbi's Message

Rabbi Natan Halevy
BSD

Shalom uvracha,



The people of Israel leave Egypt in this week's Parasha. Instead of choosing a direct path to the land of Israel, Hashem led the nation on a long, challenging trek through the desert. The Torah gives many explanations for this. In traversing the desert, the people were entirely dependent on Hashem for all their needs. Although Hashem endeavored to make their physical conditions comfortable, the constant reliance on Hashem was a tremendous test for them. Nevertheless, these challenges also elevated their knowledge of Hashem and their emotional intelligence.

While our people were in Egypt, our nation was like a baby at the start of its life. As the people encountered life and its changes, they grew just as a baby grows, fluidly and dynamically, in response to new experiences and challenges. We clearly see this in the development of a child. In particular, the development of a child's intelligence is astounding to witness. Gaining knowledge is clearly connected with growing. And, as King Solomon said, "For in much wisdom is much vexation, and he who increases knowledge, increases pain." I am sure many people can see the truth of this statement during our current time filled with changes which push us to grow. Growing can be challenging, yet as we mature we learn to appreciate the journey towards the destination.

Leaving Egypt was the start of a process of growth, a process leading to the spiritual elevation of our nation—a national journey that has lasted until today. This perilous journey also created the need for awesome miracles. These included 'the manna-bread from the heavens,' receiving water from a rock, and many other wonders.

Through our individual merits, Hashem also manifests wonders and miracles for each person. Often, these are wonders within wonders.

[Click to read more](#)

Donate to Kahal
Joseph



Norma & Sam Dabby
Talmud Torah

Virtual Classes on Zoom
January 24th to February 28th
Six Class Session
Tuition: \$60/student

[Click here for information & registration](#)

[Register Now!](#)

Contact Talmud Torah Director, Molly Jalali



SAVE THE DATE! PURIM 2021

Tuesday, February 16, 2021

Baking for Purim with Iraqi Pastry Demo

Morning of Sunday, February 21, 2021

Purim Children's Online Festivities

Evening of Sunday, February 21, 2021

**Purim Celebration for Adults
with Music & Piano Raffle**

Thursday, February 25, 2021

Fast of Esther

MEGILLAH READING

EVENING OF THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH

MORNING OF FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26TH



KAWAI PIANO RAFFLE

VIRTUAL
DRAWING

LINK TO BE
AVAILABLE
VIA ZOOM

TICKETS \$50
TICKETS FROM
2020 & 2021
HONORED

100 Tickets Only

PRE-OWNED
BABY GRAND PIANO
WINNER RESPONSIBLE
FOR PICKUP

Email KJ to enter the raffle

KJ Shabbat Melodies & Purim Preparation



Beshallah 1, Hazzan Saeed Jalali



Prepare for Purim, Megillat Esther 1



[Tehillim 128, Hazzan Saeed Jalali](#)



[Tehillim 129, Hazzan Saeed Jalali](#)

Help in Troubled Times

Dear community,

In these challenging and sometimes difficult times, Rabbi Halevy is available to listen, offer spiritual counseling and helpful resources. [Click here to send him a message.](#)

Wishing you peace, health, and sustenance,

Board of Directors

[**Send a Message to Rabbi Halevy**](#)

[**If You Missed These Programs . . .View the Videos Here**](#)

[**Baghdad Hanging Commemoration 2021**](#)

and

[**Nancy Khedouri, Jewish Member of Bahrain Parliament**](#)



**Los Angeles County Large-Scale Vaccination Sites Open
Vaccine Eligibility Now Includes County Residents Aged 65 Years**

and Older

**To make vaccination appointment please visit:
<https://carbonhealth.com/covid-19-vaccines>.**

Condolences to the Family of Kitty and Joseph Sassoon, z"l

With great sorrow we send our deepest condolences to the family and friends of our dear, longtime, devoted members, Joseph and Kitty Sassoon, *Yoseph Hyam ben Aharon Elisha z"l* and *Khatoon bat Salha Mitana z"l*, who left us this week. Kitty passed away on Tuesday, January 26th 2021, the 13th of Shevat 5781, just six days before her 100th birthday. Joe followed her on Wednesday, January 27th 2021, the 14th of Shevat 5781. Joe was a beloved Past President of Kahal Joseph. He served for two terms from 1980-1984 and again from 1993-1999. Kitty was active and involved in Kahal's Sisterhood. Their lives together began long before they graced us with their energy at Kahal.

In 1939, a 16-year-old boy named Joseph Sassoon took a boat from his home in Rangoon, Burma to Calcutta, India. It was a trip he'd taken many times, journeying by sea to Calcutta and then continuing over land to the British boarding school in the Himalayas that he attended with his brothers.

This stopover in Calcutta was a little different, though. This time he was staying with the Ekaireb family, fellow members of the Baghdadi Jewish diaspora, and their 18-year-old daughter Kitty. She instantly enchanted him: energetic, engaging, considerate, lovely, and so slight that he could set her on the handlebars of his bicycle. Laughing together, they pedaled around the neighborhood with her sisters and friends. How could she resist this handsome, high school boxing team champion with the quick wit and ready smile? The love between these two teenagers would last more than 80 years.

Kitty Ekaireb was born February 1, 1921, in Calcutta, India, the eleventh of the twelve children of Sally and Ezra Ekaireb. Joseph Hyam Sassoon was born June 15, 1923, in Rangoon, Burma, sixth of the eight children of Seema and Aaron Sassoon.

Not long after that visit in Calcutta with Kitty, Joe was at school taking his entrance exams to Cambridge University in England when the proctor announced that the Japanese had bombed Pearl Harbor. Joe returned home to Rangoon, only to have to flee an invading army there. By the time he was twenty years old, Joe had survived the Japanese invasion of Burma, his family's flight to Calcutta as refugees, and the Bengal famine of 1943. Amid devastation, he and Kitty were married on July 2, 1944.

In 1952 Joe and Kitty emigrated to the United States with their two young children and settled in Los Angeles, where their youngest child was born. Those early years were marked by unceasing hard work motivated by their determination that they would build again in this country, for their own children, the good fortune that the war had taken. Joe was a manager for Met Life and Kitty a manager for Pacific Bell until they retired together in 1986. They were founding members of Kahal Joseph Congregation, and Joe served as its president several times over the years.

Their long and happy retirement was largely spent doting on their steadily growing family. The freezer and refrigerator were always stocked with traditional Indo-Iraqi treats and snacks, and large and lavish meals were continually rolling out to greet whatever friends and family might drop in. Kitty was a very proficient knitter; despite never using a pattern or even writing down a plan, she turned out a stunning quantity of slippers, sweaters, scarves, and hats in all sizes and colors. She knitted perfectly-fitted, tiny doll clothes for her grandchildren and even her great-grandchildren. She shipped these items to any of her descendants who lived at a distance, along with her baked goods and the juiciest, most flavorful lemons from the tree in her backyard.

The satisfaction that Joe and Kitty took in each other and in the family that they built was always evident. Nana and Jojo, as they were named by their first grandchild and ever after called by all that followed, were the first word in gentle, affectionate humor (Jojo) and tireless loving nurture (Nana).

Joe and Kitty celebrated their 76th anniversary last July. That their two lives became one was true to the very end when they became ill with the Covid-19 virus that they shared like everything else they ever had. They have been adored by their family and friends, and they are cruelly missed.

They are survived by: their children Hannah (Bud), Abraham (Rebecca), and Aaron (Susi); six grandchildren; twenty-four great-grandchildren; extended family and many close friends.

The family has asked that if people wish to honor Joseph and Kitty's memory, **[they can make a donation to Kahal Joseph in their name \(click here\)](#)**.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Joe and Kitty's loved ones. May they be comforted together with all the mourners of Tsion. *Min hashamayim tenuhamu.*



Refuah Shelema

Michael Amron
 Gabriel Naghdi / Gavriel ben Rahel
 Ezra ben Farha
 Sassoon Ezra
 Sylvia Cohen
 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 Mazal Tov
 Chaya Rachel bat Simcha Ruhama
 Dina bat Rahel
 Rahel bat Ramah Regina
 Karen bat Chana Meir
 Eti Esther bat Fortuna
 Ezra ben Rahel
 Albert Nissan ben Victoria
 Mark Jonah
 Reuven Halevi ben Batsheva
 David ben Tova
 Odette bat Louise
 Dina bat Simha / Diana Solomon
 Rachel Bakhsh / Rahel bat Dina
 Fouad Salem / Hayeem ben Naima

We remember these yearzeit anniversaries from January 30th to February 6th 2021. We light memorial candles, donate tsedaka, & attend Shabbat services to honor the memory of our loved ones.

17 Shevat / Shabbat, January 30th

Simon Irani Shimon ben Eliyahu
 Ashraf Nassi Ashraf bat Hayim Moshe

18 Shevat / Sunday, January 31st

Raphael Mizrahie Raphael Hai ben Eliyahu Mordehai
 Manachi Kemareh Menashe ben Ezra

19 Shevat / Monday, February 1st

Doris Shemtov David Doris bat Kahela
 Sassoon Moshe Sassoon Sassoon ben Moshe

20 Shevat / Tuesday, February 2nd

Edward David Ezra ben Meir Shemtov
 Nissim Moondani Nissim ben Moondani
 Georgette Solomon

22 Shevat / Thursday, February 4th

Raymond Isaac Rahamim ben Eliyahu

23 Shevat / Friday, February 5th

Victoria Elie Victoria bat Caden
 Maurice Shamash Menashe Hayim
 Carl Zekaria Keduri ben Sion

24 Shevat / Shabbat, February 6th

Snira Klein Snira bat Devora
 Rachel David Rahel bat Regina

[Visit KJ on Facebook](#)

KAHAL JOSEPH CONGREGATION

Rabbi Natan Halevy
 Sassoon Ezra, *Senior Hazzan*
 Saeed Jalali, *Hazzan*

Yvette Dabby, *President*
 Orly Kattan, *Senior Vice President*

Sarah Bouchoucha, *Administrator*
 Dafna Ezran-Young, *Editor*
 Penina Meghnagi Solomon, *Administrative Assistant*