

March 9th, 2018/22 Adar, 5778

**SERVICES ARE CANCELED THIS SHABBAT DUE TO A POWER OUTAGE AT
KEHILAT HANAHAR**

Dear chevreh,

In honor of International Women's Day on March 8th [someday we might not need one day or month set aside to acknowledge women's accomplishments...] I want to highlight an extraordinary woman I recently learned about. This week I was introduced to the existence of Asnat Barazani. This was a woman who lived in northern Iraq, then Kurdistan, in the 16th century. She was the only child in a rabbinic family, which was often historically the sole path Jewish women had to becoming learned in Jewish texts.

Her father Rabbi Shmuel Barazani, respected his daughter's gifts so much that he gave her in marriage to a Rabbi on the condition that she would never have to do domestic work and could continue her studies. She became a master of Hebrew, Torah, Talmud, Midrash, and Kabbalah. The most extraordinary fact for her time is that she ended up training rabbis at her husband's yeshiva while he was alive and after his death. While she didn't have the title of rabbi, she trained serious scholars, including her son, in the 1500s! The Jewish Women's Archive documents Jewish women's stories, elevates their voices, and inspires them to be agents of change. Please check out their website at jwa.org if you are interested.

May we all be inspired by Asnat Barazani's legacy of learning and immerse ourselves and our children in the study of Torah in this age when we (most of us) have full access to it.

I hope to see you at Ohev Shalom at 944 2nd Street Pike in Richboro this Sunday, March 11th at 2:30 pm to view "Brave Miss World" followed by a speaker from NOVA.

***Finally, the KHN Community Seder registration will be live on the website later today. Please sign up!

Shabbat shalom,

Rabbi Diana