

July 4, 2020

12 Tamuz, 5780



# Congregation Spanish & Portuguese

שארית ישראל

במזכר

## Parashat Hukat-Balak

פרשת חוקת בלק

**TSOM/FAST/JEÛNE - 17 TAMMUZ (Thursday/Jeudi July 9 juillet)**

Begins / Commence: 3:30 a.m. - Ends / Termine: 9:21 p.m.



### Hukat-Balak

By: Rabbi Maimon Pinto

"That's some new kitchen Rebecca just had done. State of the art!" "WOW. . .

did you see the new car Isaac just purchased? Common conversation, everyday talk.

They tell of a sales representative on the road, who had broken all records for sales in his company. When asked the secret of his success, he explained that the first thing he said when someone opened the door was, "Did you see what your neighbor Mrs. Jones just got?" That trick never failed him.

This was never the Jewish ethic, however. We were taught differently, and our ancient value system is as relevant as ever in contemporary life. Privacy, modesty and discretion are all characteristics our people have cherished since we became a nation.

"Balaam raised his eyes, and saw Israel dwelling according to its tribes" (Numbers 24:3).

What was so special about the Israelites' dwelling? Rashi offers one interpretation of the verse, that the doorways of the Israelites' tents in the wilderness were arranged so that they did not face each other. That way, one person was not able to see into his neighbor's tent, and their privacy was protected. A possible interpretation of "not looking into your neighbor's tent" might be this: Do not look into your neighbor's tent to help you decide what you should be doing. Your decisions in life should not be based on what other people are, or are not, doing. Certainly not on what your

neighbors have or do not have.

Social workers today will painfully testify that family breakdowns are often a result of financial difficulties and the stress that these put on marriages. Many of those stresses are self-imposed. Their clients confessed that they didn't really need the new kitchen or the new car, but once their friends were moving up in the status stakes, they felt under pressure to maintain their social standing.

Why? All because we are busy looking over our shoulders or peering into the next-door neighbor's place.

The principle even applies to tzedakah. There is an appeal for the shul or a Jewish charity, and how do we respond? "Well, if so-and-so, who is a multimillionaire, only gave \$10,000, then all I should give is \$10!" What difference does it make what someone else gave or didn't give? You should give what you can, irrespective of what others gave.

How much resentment, bitterness and disappointment we would avoid if we didn't try to measure ourselves by other people's standards! We would be much happier people if we looked into ourselves and achieved what we could and should, without drawing comparisons with others.

If you want to enjoy the blessing of "goodly tents," or even just good housekeeping, keep your eyes and your nose in your own tent.

*Shabbat Shalom*

## Shabbat Shalom

Start/Début 8:28 pm.

End/Fin 9:43 pm.

Havdalah



Services Schedule

Horaire des Offices

**DURING THE COVID19 PERIOD, SERVICES SCHEDULE IS AS FOLLOWS:**

**SHAHRIIT: 8:30 a.m.**

**Everyday Monday through Friday**

**Afternoon/Evening Services:**

**Minha/Arvit 7:30**

**Fridays 5:00**

**Our Week Day Services**

**Zoom meeting ID: 5264381158**

**Sunday-Friday 8:30 a.m. & 7:45 p.m.**

Services with Rabbi Pinto & Hazzan Benlolo.  
Sunday - Thursday: Thought of the Day with Rabbi Pinto: 9:30 a.m. & 7:45 p.m.

**Monday, July 6**

**Services begin at 8:30 A.M.**

Live from the Iny Chapel with Rabbi Pinto & Hazzan Benlolo

Following services Rabbi & Cantor will visit cemetery to recite weekly hashcabot.

Send names of loved ones to: [rabi@thespanish.org](mailto:rabi@thespanish.org)

**Mercredi, 8 juillet - 20h00**

**La Cabale de Soi avec Rav. Pinto  
Magie, mystères et mysticism**

**Thursday, July 9 at 12 p.m.**

**VIRTUAL LUNCH & LEARN WITH RABBI PINTO**  
Timeless Teachings from The Ethics of our Fathers (watch your emails for details).

**Friday - 5:00PM - Light YOUR Sparks**

Discover the most celebrated day of the Jewish calendar, SHABBAT.  
Friday evenings join me for a pre-Kabbalat Shabbat full of melodies & inspirational sparks

**Saturday Night Havdalah  
(15 minutes after Shabbat)**

Join us in a musical Havdalah & enter the week with song & gladness.

**Zoom Meeting ID 526 438 1158**

### Quote of the Week

When the G-d accepts a person's ways,  
He will cause even his enemies to  
make peace with him

**Mishlei 16:07**

# Beit Hamidrash Helwani

בית המדרש הלואני  
Parnass Hashana - פרנס השנה  
Joseph & Betty Nezri  
Parnass Hakavod - פרנס הכבוד  
Mayer & Muriel Sasson  
In Honour of Rabbi Cantor Yehuda Abittan

PROGRAMME DU BEIT HAMIDRASH

שיעור יומי

PROGRAMME QUOTIDIEN - HOK LEISRAËL  
DIM.-VEN. APRÈS SHAHRIT RABBI MAIMON PINTO

ZOOM MEETING ID: 5264381158

## PARNASS HAYOM פרנס היום

Shabbat 12 Tammuz - July 4 juillet

Aintabi Family, in memory of his mother, Zahia bat Chafica ז"ל.

Monday/Lundi 14 Tammuz - July 6 juillet

Juliette Cohen &amp; Famille, à la mémoire de son mari, Joseph Cohen ז"ל.

Tuesday/Mardi 15 Tammuz - July 7 juillet

Dr. Joshua Haimovici, in memory of Regina Garraz bat Avraham &amp; Leah ז"ל.

Wednesday/Mercredi 16 Tammuz - July 8 juillet

Carole &amp; Elie Cohen, à la mémoire de Arrlette bat Olga ז"ל.

Friday/Vendredi 18 Tammuz - July 10 juillet

Vicky &amp; Selim Moghrabi, à la mémoire de Rachel bat Mazal ז"ל.

Year Oliel, à la mémoire de son père, Mimoun Oliel ז"ל.

Famille Dadoun, à la mémoire de Rachelle Dadoun ז"ל.



## HALAKHA הלכה

THE "SHEHECHEYANU" BLESSING

Our Sages teach us that one should recite the "Shehecheyanu" blessing upon seeing a new fruit that renews once a year. Even if one sees this fruit in the hands of another person or on the tree, one should recite the "Shehecheyanu" blessing.

Nevertheless, the Shulchan Aruch (Chapter 225) writes that nowadays, one should only recite the "Shehecheyanu" blessing only upon eating the new fruit. The Sages discuss several reasons for why one should recite this blessing specifically when eating the fruit as opposed to when one sees it. The Magen Avraham writes that when one sees a new fruit and plans on eating it at a later time, one should only recite the "Shehecheyanu" blessing when eating the fruit, for the primary enjoyment of the fruit is when one eats it. Thus, it has become customary to always recite this blessing when eating the fruit.

Nevertheless, if one did recite the "Shehecheyanu" blessing upon seeing the fruit for whatever reason, one should not repeat this blessing when one eats the fruit, for the individual is exempted by the blessing he recited at the time he saw it. However, it is improper to deviate from the prevalent custom established by the Shulchan Aruch, which is to only recite this blessing when eating the fruit.

In any case, we see that the primary establishment of the "Shehecheyanu" blessing is for the enjoyment one has from the fruit, either when seeing it or eating it. Thus, if one does not derive any enjoyment from the fruit, such as, if one was served a new fruit and one does not particularly like this fruit and only wants to taste the fruit to see how it tastes or if the fruit is not yet ripe enough and it is bitter or sour, one should not recite the "Shehecheyanu" blessing upon eating the fruit.

Similarly, since the primary enactment of the blessing was for seeing the new fruit and the enjoyment this engenders, clearly, even if one eats only a small amount of the fruit, one may still recite the "Shehecheyanu" blessing since one is happy and enjoys the new fruit.

Shabbat Shalom, Rabbi Maimon Pinto

CHEVRA SHAAS  
ADATH JESHURUN  
HADRATH KODESH  
SHEVET ACHIM  
CHAVERIM KOL YISRAEL  
D'BET ABRAHAM  
CONGREGATION

SHABBOS, July 4<sup>TH</sup>

FOR TIMES OF SERVICES, PLEASE  
FOLLOW WITH SPANISH & PORTUGUESE

WORDS FROM RABBI WHITE  
Huqqat-Balaq 5780

This year is being marked as the year of UN75, to commemorate the anniversary, on June 26, of the signing of the UN Charter. And that brings to mind a personal story:

When I was in elementary school, my Jewish school was connected to my parents' synagogue. One day, when I was 12 years old, and sitting in class, there was a knock on the classroom door: "Rabbi Poll wants to see Menachem White." Rabbi Poll was the shul's bar mitzvah teacher, who taught us to read the haftarah and put on tefillin.

As I got to the door, and was about to leave, my teacher, Mr. Harris, asked me what my parasha was. I said "Balaq" (which is this week's parasha.) Without missing a beat, he began quoting by heart the first verse of the haftarah, from the prophet Micah: *ve-haya she'eiryt ya'aqov be-qerev 'ammim rabbim ke-tal me'et HaShem* "the remnant of the Jewish people will be in the midst of many nations, like dew from God." Now remember, my story takes place not that many years after the holocaust. So, Mr. Harris interpreted the verse: "after the destruction of the holocaust, the remnant of the Jewish people will be like dew in the midst of many nations." And Mr. Harris continued: the *gematria*, the numerical value of the Hebrew word for "like dew," *ke-tal*, is 59. And Israel was the 59<sup>th</sup> nation to be admitted to the United Nations!

Back in those years, we had great hopes for the UN as a force for good. How disappointed we are now!! However, as my great teacher Rav Soloveitchik said in his famous speech *qol dodi dofeq*, perhaps the UN was established, by Divine plan, for one purpose only: to recognize the State of Israel!!

Shabbat shalom

Dear Friends, our visits at the cemetery have been a real positive experience, for ourselves & those in attendance. Initially our objective was to recite the Hashkavot & memorial prayers to be shared with the congregation via our weekly email. On one of our visits, we met many members & shared very special moments with them in prayer. News spread fast & many of you expressed the desire to meet us at the cemetery to pray for your dearly departed.

With this in mind, we are offering you the opportunity to join us at Mount Royal cemetery on **Sundays from 10-11 a.m.** for a memorial service.

To schedule an appointment, please send an email to: [linda.aboody@thespanish.org](mailto:linda.aboody@thespanish.org)

We wish you all a wonderful & healthy Shabbat, **Rabbi Maimon Pinto & Chazzan Daniel Benlolo**



*The Spanish & Portuguese has recently begun a fundraising program whereby our goal is to raise \$1.5 Million over 3 years to help fund our activities, programs, and events.*

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*Mayer & Muriel Sasson & Family*

*F.G. Shahrabani Family*

*Emile & Rita Fattal - Supporter*