



Congregation Spanish & Portuguese

שארית ישראל

במזבח

Parashat Beha'alotekha

פרשת בהעלותך



Dvar Torah
By: Rabbi Maimon Pinto

In this week's Torah portion, Parashat Beha'alotekha, Aaron is commanded to raise light in the lamps of the menorah, and the tribe of Levi is initiated into the service in the Sanctuary.

A "Second Passover" is instituted in response to the petition by a group of Jews who were unable to bring the Passover offering in its appointed time because they were *tameh* - ritually impure. G-d instructs Moses on the procedures for Israel's journeys and encampments in the desert, and the people journey from Mount Sinai, where they had been camped for close to a year.

The people are fed up with their "bread from heaven" (manna), and demand that Moses give them meat. Moses appoints 70 elders, to whom he imparts of his spirit, to assist him in the burden of governing the people. Miriam speaks negatively of Moses and is punished with leprosy; Moses prays for her healing, and the entire community waits seven days for her recovery.

The tribal princes did not include Aaron when they brought their offerings for the inauguration of the Altar. G-d reassured Aaron by noting that he had inaugurated the Candelabrum, which was just as important - if not more so - than inaugurating the Altar.

G-d instructed Moses to tell Aaron that whenever he would light the lamps of the Candelabrum, he should hold the fire to the wick until it remained burning steadily on its own. Spiritually, this means that when we "light the flame" of our own soul or the soul of another person, we should not just deliver some quick

inspiration and then move on. We should remain near, nurturing the soul's flame until it becomes a steady and self-reliant glow.

This reminds me of a marvelous story retold by Yehuda Avner in his best-seller, "The Prime Ministers". Yehuda Avner was an Israeli prime ministerial advisor, diplomat, and author. He served as Speechwriter and Secretary to Israeli Prime Ministers Golda Meir and Levi Eshkol, and as Advisor to Israeli Prime Ministers Yitzhak Rabin, Menachem Begin, and Shimon Peres.

In one of his visits to the Rebbe with Yitzhak Rabin, the Rabbi suddenly turned to him and asked; "Why have to come around to your Judaism?" Mr. Avner murmured a few words that he later somewhat regretted and waited patiently for the Rebbe's response. Raising his palm in a gesture of reassurance, and with an encouraging smile, he said, "Let me tell you what I try to do. Imagine you're looking at a candle. What you are really seeing is a mere lump of wax with a thread down its middle. So when do the thread and wax become a candle? Or, in other words, when do they fulfill the purpose for which they were created? When you put a flame to the thread, then the candle becomes a candle." "The wax is the body, and the wick the soul. Ignite the soul with the fire of Torah and a person will then fulfill the purpose for which he or she was created. And that is what I try to do - to ignite the soul of our people with the fire of Torah."

So Mr. Avner rose and took his leave, pausing at the door to ask, "My candle - has the Rebbe lit it?" "No," he said, clasping my hand. "I have given you the match. Only you can light your candle."

Shabbat Shalom

Shabbat Shalom

Start/Début 8:25 pm.

End/Fin 9:43 pm.

Havdalah



Services Schedule

Horaire des Offices

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

SHAHRIT: 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-Thursday 8:30 a.m. & 7:45 p.m.
Services with Rabbi Pinto & Hazzan Benlolo.
Thought of the Day with Rabbi Pinto

Monday, June 15

Live from the Iny Chapel with
Rabbi Pinto & Hazzan Benlolo
Services begin at 8:30AM.
Following services the clergy will visit
cemetery to recite weekly hashcobot.
Send names of loved ones to:
rabbi@thespanish.org

Mercredi, 17 juin - 20h30
La Cabale de Soi avec Rav. Pinto
Une creation a partir de rien

Thursday, June 18
VIRTUAL TORAH READING & COMMENTARIES
(watch your emails for details).

Friday - 5:00PM - Light YOUR Sparks
Discover the most celebrated day of the
Jewish Calendar, SHABBAT.
Every Friday evening join me for a
pre-Kabbalat Shabbat full of melodies
and 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

Learn from the mistakes of others -
you won't live long enough to
make them all yourself.

- **Aish HaTorah**

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

Sunday/Dimanche 21 Sivan - June 14 juin

Albert Mann, in honour of his Children & Grandchildren.

Sam Abdou, in memory of his mother, Victoria Abdoo ז"ל.

Tuesday/Mardi 24 Sivan - June 16 juin

Albert Cohen, à la mémoire de son père, Moses Cohen ז"ל.

Victor Herscovitch, in memory of father, Abraham Herscovitch ז"ל.

Lily & Alfred Bilbul, in memory of her father, Naji Saleh Daniel ז"ל.

Wednesday/Mercredi 25 Sivan - June 17 juin

Armand & Lizanne Mamane, à la mémoire de Esther Mamane ז"ל.

Renée Hanna Mahfoda, à la mémoire de son père, Mardoché Mahfoda ז"ל.

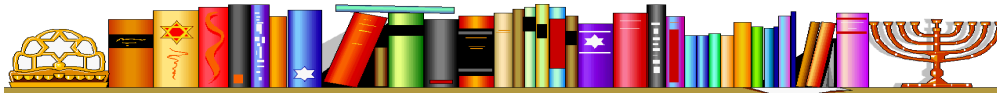
Marie Miriam Benhaïm Schad, à la mémoire de son père, Jacob Benhaïm ז"ל.

Friday/Vendredi 27 Sivan - June 19 juin

Anita & Rony Gabbay, in memory of his mother, Muzli Gabbay ז"ל.

Sue & Kamal Gabbay, in memory of his mother, Muzli Gabbay ז"ל.

Famille Ohayon, à la mémoire de David Suissa ז"ל.



HALAKHA

הלכה

THE INSTITUTION OF PRAYER BY THE MEN OF GREAT ASSEMBLY

The Men of Great Assembly instituted the prayers and the blessings. They established the wording of the Shemoneh Esrei and decided on the phrasing of all the berachot, including Birkot Keriat Shema and Birkot HaNeheinin (blessings recited upon deriving pleasure from something). They also instituted the recital of the three daily prayers, Shacharit, Minchah, and Arvit.

The members of the court of Ezra HaSofer, which was established in the beginning of the time of the Second Temple, are called Anshei Knesset HaGedolah (The Men of Great Assembly). This was the biggest court ever founded in Israel. It was comprised of 120 elders, among them prophets and sages, such as, Chagai, Zechariah, Malachi, Daniel, Chananyah, Misha'el, Azariah, Nechemiah the son of Chachaliah, Mordechai, Bilshan, and Zerubabel, as well as many other sages, the last one being Shimon HaTzaddik.

During the time of the First Temple, Am Yisrael merited supreme spiritual accomplishments; the Shechinah dwelled in the Temple and the devoutly pious of Israel merited prophecy. Despite this, throughout most of the nation, grave sins including idol worship, forbidden relations and murder, were widespread and eventually caused the Temple to be destroyed and the nation of Israel to be exiled. Hence, when they were able to build the Second Temple, Anshei Knesset HaGedolah formed a supreme court, set boundaries to guard the laws of the Torah, instituted religious guidelines, and worded and arranged the prayers and berachot. They created a full framework for Jewish life which gave expression to the values of the Torah in an organized and established manner within everyday living, thereby distancing the nation from sin and bringing them closer to serving Hashem.

Peninei Halacha

Shabbat Shalom, Rabbi Maimon Pinto

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

SHABBOS, June 13TH

FOR TIMES OF SERVICES, PLEASE
FOLLOW WITH SPANISH & PORTUGUESE

WORDS FROM RABBI WHITE
Beha'alotekha 5780

This Friday is 20 Sivan on the Hebrew calendar. This is a day that had particular significance for the Jews of pre-war Europe, but, probably due to the many persecutions they had endured, has been mostly forgotten in the past couple of generations.

In the year 1171, there was blood liable against the Jews of Blois in central France. This led to the burning at the stake of 31 (or perhaps 40) Jews. They had been offered their freedom if they would renounce their religion, but they accepted martyrdom 'al giddush HaShem. There is a tradition that as they were being executed, they sang in unison "aleinu leshabeah." Rabbeinu Yaakov Tam, one of the greatest Talmud scholars of all time, who was contemporary to this event, decreed it to be a fast day.

Subsequently, it was renewed as a fast day to commemorate the Chmielnicki massacre, when many thousands of the Jews in Poland and Ukraine were killed, in 1648/49. This is known in Jewish history as *gezeirot tach vatat*. (Estimates by scholars vary from 10,000 to 300,000 victims. Whatever the exact number, these pogroms and massacres demoralized the Jews of Europe, led to messianic movements, such as Shabbetai Tsvi, on the one hand; and to the popularity of Hasidism on the other hand (as the Hasidic rebbes were a source of encouragement to the mass of Jews.) Perhaps due to the many other tragedies that have befallen our people in the past century, very few Jews today observe it as a fast day, but it is still very important to keep it in mind; to recall the tragedies that befell European Jews, and to remember, that despite everything, we are still here! And we will, *be'ezrat HaShem*, get over this current plague, with renewed energy!!

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 Mondays from 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. for a memorial service.

To schedule an appointment, please send an email to: linda.abody@thespanish.org

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



MAJOR DONORS PROGRAM

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.

We are pleased to announce the following congregants who have made very generous 3-Year donations:

*Jacob & Iris Haimovici & Family
 Joshua & Anne Haimovici & Family
 F.G. Shahrabani Family
 Salim Mashaal & Family
 Charles & Lucie Shemie & Family
 David & Carole Nathaniel & Family
 Ronald & Myriam Reuben & Family
 Victor & Edna Mashaal & Family
 Henri & Arlene Abitan & Family
 David & Vivian Gabbay & Family
 Manny & Denise Touaty & Family*