

May 30 , 2020

7 Sivan, 5780



Congregation Spanish & Portuguese

שארית ישראל

במזבן

Parashat Shavuot פַּרְשַׁת שְׁבוּעוֹת

HAG SHAVUOT SAMEAH



חג שבועות שמח

Thurs./jeudi May 28 mai EREV Shavuot

Fri./Vendr. May 29 mai Shavuot I

Shabbat May 30 mai Shavuot II ~ Yizkor



Dvar Torah: Shavuot
By: Rabbi Maimon Pinto

A Jewish businessman on his way back from grocery shopping, was sitting on the train minding his own business, when the man next to him suddenly turned to him and asked, "Are you Jewish?". Yes, he replied. I gotta ask you something, said the man. What is your secret? Why are you Jews so smart and successful? Taken aback by the question, he replied, well if you really want to know it's because we eat the head of the fish in the Jewish new year. What?? Are you serious? exclaimed his neighbor. Yes, I am very serious, he said. The man sat back in his chair and after a few moments of reflection, looking around the train he whispered, "Do you have some fish head on you?" Yes, I do, he responded, and for \$50 you can have the whole thing. Without a moment's hesitation, the man pulled out a \$50 bill and within moments was snacking on the fish head. As the train was moving, the man turned to the Jewish fellow and said, just one minute, the whole fish cost \$20 and you charged me \$50 for the head only?! Ahh said the man you see it's working already.

For generations, historians and civilizations were amazed at the Jewish phenomenon. What is the Jewish secret? Some claimed that we got the "brains" from a long chain of Jewish learning Tradition. What we Jews call the *Torah*, received in Mount Sinai on Shavuot and passed on from generation to generation, to this present day. While there's no doubt that a session of Talmudic studies can be an intellectual exercise and sharpens one's "brain",

something very unique takes place at Mount Sinai, it's the *people's unit*. In contrast to any other nation, which requires a homeland for its national character, Jews became a nation before having a country. This is far from being a small detail, its part of our Jewish identity that transcends time and space.

The Talmud, in discussing the ripple effect of sin, concludes with the following phrase, Kol yisrael arevim zeh bazeh, meaning all of Israel are responsible for each other. This phrase is the basis of communal responsibility in Jewish law. If one Jew sees another Jew at the verge of sinning, he has an obligation to step in and help. Even more so, it implies an obligation on all Jews to ensure that other Jews have their basic needs for food, clothing, and shelter taken care of. Simply by virtue of being a Jew, one is responsible for the well-being of other Jews, and vice versa.

On Shavuot the sons and daughters of Israel moved from a state of the individual to the collective. The people's unit manifested itself not by simply sharing a homeland, but rather, by sharing a collective destiny. This sense of responsibility towards every Jewish individual is the *secret* of Judaism. We may be living in London, New York or Montreal, but our community is part of Jewish history and the Jewish collective destiny. This is the ideal we must inculcate to our children and all future generations. We must recognize that our "secret" lies in our sense of responsibility towards our family, community and every single Jew wherever he may be. May the God almighty grant us peace, love and fraternity and bless as a single and collective unit.

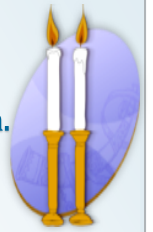
Shabbat Shalom

Shabbat Shalom

Start/Début 8:15 pm.

End/Fin 9:31 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 - Friday: Services with Rabbi Maimon Pinto & Hazzan Benlolo
Thought of the Day with Rabbi Pinto

Monday, June 1

Will be live from the Iny Chapel with Rabbi Pinto & Hazzan Benlolo
Services will begin at 8:30AM.
Following services the clergy will visit cemetery to recite weekly haascabot.

EREV SHAVUOT
THURSDAY/JEUDI, MAY 28 MAI

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 (15 minutes after Shabbat)
Join us in a musical Havdalah & enter the week with song & gladness.

Zoom Meeting ID 526 438 1158

S&P Synagogue Office
will be closed on Friday, May 29,
First day of Shavuot.

Quote of the Week

Make your Torah study a fixed practice, say little, do much and receive everyone with a cheerful countenance.

- - **Shammai**
- **Aish HaTorah**

Our Clergy will be saying Hashcabah at the cemetery on Mondays, please let us know if you would like such a prayer for your loved ones by sending their name(s) to: rabbi@thespanish.org

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 7 Sivan - May 30 mai

Famille Zaguri, à la mémoire de leur mère, Zippora Vakrat bat Rahel ז"ל.
Myriam & Ronald Reuben, in memory of her father, Messod Dahan ז"ל.
Emile El Sayegh, à la mémoire de leur mère, Zippora Vakrat bat Rahel ז"ל.

Sunday/Dimanche 8 Sivan - May 31 mai

Isaac & Jacqueline Dana, in memory their mother, Violette Dana ז"ל.
Penina & Claude Helwani, in honour of their grandson, Jared's Birthday.

Monday/Lundi 9 Sivan - June 1 juin

Philip Khazzam, in honour of his Family.

Tuesday/Mardi 10 Sivan - June 2 juin

Famille Fhima, à la mémoire de Zohra Fhima ז"ל.

Wednesday/Mercredi 11 Sivan - June 3 juin

Her devoted Friends, in honour & appreciation of the late, Irene Buenavida.

Thursday/Jedi 12 Sivan - June 4 juin

Tami Aboubakary

Friday/Vendredi 13 Iyar - June 5 juin

David Mashaal & Linda Mashaal, in memory of their mother, Gertrude Mashaal ז"ל.
Sampson Family, in memory of Esther Nachson Sampson ז"ל.
Isaac & Jacqueline Dana, in of their father, Raphael Dana ז"ל.
Sehayek Family, in memory of their father, Heskell Sehayek ז"ל.
Famille Khadoury, à la mémoire de Raphael Khadoury ben Adel ז"ל.



HALAKHA הלכה

QUE FAIT-ON À CHAVOUOT ?

Jeudi 28 mai 2020, on allumera avant 20h15. Une bougie de 24 heures pour pouvoir aussi allumer les bougies du vendredi soir. Puis les femmes allumeront les deux bougies de la fête, en récitant les bénédictions:

- 1) «Barou'h Ata Ado-naï Elo-hénou Mélé'h Haolam Achère Kidéchanou Bémitsvotav Vetsivanou Lehadlik Nèr Chèl Yom Tov»
- 2) «Barou'h Ata Ado-naï Elo-hénou Mélé'h Haolam Chéhé'héyanou Vekiyemanou Vehigianou Lizmane Hazé».

Dans nombre de communautés, on a la coutume de décorer la synagogue et sa maison de fleurs, en souvenir du don de la Torah, quand le désert et le mont Sinai se sont couverts de fleurs. Il est de coutume de veiller et de lire le Tikoun - Kriei Moéd toute la première nuit de Chavouot, donc la nuit du jeudi 28 au vendredi 29 mai. Cette année, lorsque les conditions le permettent, tous, hommes, femmes et enfants, même les nourrissons, se rendront à la synagogue vendredi matin 29 mai 2020 pour écouter la lecture des Dix Commandements. On marque ainsi l'unité du Peuple juif autour de la Torah, et on renouvelle l'engagement d'observer ses préceptes. On a l'habitude de prendre un repas lacté avant le vrai repas de viande vendredi midi. Vendredi 29 mai, avant 20h16, les femmes allumeront leurs bougies à partir d'une flamme déjà existante et prononceront les bénédictions:

- 1) «Barou'h Ata Ado-naï Elo-hénou Mélé'h Haolam Achère Kidéchanou Bémitsvotav Vetsivanou Lehadlik Nèr Chèl Chabbat Vechel Yom Tov»
- 2) «Barou'h Ata Ado-naï Elo-hénou Mélé'h Haolam Chéhé'héyanou Vekiyemanou Vehigianou Lizmane Hazé ».

Samedi matin 30 mai 2020, on récite, pendant l'office du matin, la prière de Yizkor en souvenir des disparus: on donnera de l'argent à la Tsedaka pour leur mérite après la fête. La fête se termine samedi soir 30 mai 2020 après 21h30. On récite la prière de la Havdala. Rappelons qu'on ne récite pas la prière de Ta'hanoun (supplications) depuis Roch Hodech Sivan (dimanche 24 mai) jusqu'au jeudi 12 Sivan (4 juin 2020).

Shabbat Shalom & Hag Sameah, Rabbi Maimon Pinto

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

SHABBOS, May 30TH

FOR TIMES OF SERVICES, PLEASE
FOLLOW WITH SPANISH & PORTUGUESE

WORDS FROM RABBI WHITE

SHAVUOT 5780

Let's try to connect 4 ideas: (1) As we all know, Shavuot is observed traditionally as commemorating the giving of the Torah. And, as we know, scholars have enumerated 613 laws in the Torah. How are we to relate to these laws?

(2) For 6 weeks before Shavuot, on Shabbat, there is a tradition to read Pirkei Avot, "the Ethics of the Sages." Why? According to a hasidic tradition, we study Pirkei Avot at this time in order to refine our personalities before Shavuot. We must approach our Torah from an ethical perspective.

(3) I would like to suggest that this fits in with the custom of reading the Book of Ruth on Shavuot. This Book is a book about *gemilut hasadim*, about being nice. Ruth was nice to her mother in law Naomi; Naomi didn't want to create hardships for Ruth; Boaz was respectful towards Ruth.

(4) Rashi, in his commentary on the Torah, points out that when the Torah describes the arrival at Mount Sinai, all of the verbs are in the plural, except for the the verb describing the encampment around the mountain: *vayi-han sham Yisrael neved ha-har*. This was one time in our history that we were all one; we all respected one another.

From all of the above, we learn that the Torah should be studied and practiced in a spirit of friendship and respect.

The traditional Ashkenaz greeting after Shavuot is a *gutn zummer*, "a good summer." May we all have a good, healthy summer.

Shabbat shalom



שבת שלום

The **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SISTERHOOD OF THE SPANISH & PORTUGUESE SYNAGOGUE** will take place on ZOOM on **Monday June 8th 2020 at 5:30 PM.** ZOOM LINK will be emailed to all sisterhood members. Should you not receive it this week please contact sisterhood2020@hotmail.com OR the synagogue office. The meeting is open to all Sisterhood Members.

A Word From Hazzan Daniel Benlolo



Shavu'ot celebrates the giving of the Torah. According to ancient tradition, the Torah enumerates 613 mitzvot: 248 affirmative commandments and 365 prohibitions. In the Sephardic tradition, several poems enumerating each of the commandments have been written by various poets, these are called "Azharot" - Admonitions. Our custom is to read the version written by Solomon ibn Gabirol (1020-1069) with an introduction by David ben Eleazar Bekuda (12th.) Traditionally, in the synagogue, we chant the Azharot "round-robin" style on the afternoons of Shavuot (reading the affirmative commandments on the first day and the prohibitions on the second day.)

This year since we cannot meet in the synagogue - we have joined together with our sister congregations and hazzanim from around the world to host a special joint Azharot service in advance of the holiday, on Sunday, May 24th. I will be joining Hazzanim from Philadelphia, Paris, Bayonne, Florence, Amsterdam, London, and Israel for this special virtual event. This type of joint service brings together almost all of the Spanish and Portuguese communities and something that has never been done before!

With thanks to the American Sephardi Federation for hosting this service via its Zoom Webinar platforms. More information will become available soon. Stay tuned!

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/8915883443528/WN_rcuVq327T_Srs09Glij5cQ <https://youtu.be/SFzUInal5XQ>

Shabbat Shalom

The FARHUD - 1 June 2020 ~ By Sami Sourani

The Farhud, the Pogrom of the Jews of Baghdad on Shavuot 1941, had shattered the life of the Jewish Community and put a question as to their future in Babylon/Iraq. The Jews lived there for 2,600 years and a thousand years before the Arab invasion. They supported the invaders, and for centuries they had a mutual respect and friendship. Now, everything is gone. They have loved ones to bury and a future to lament.

At the end of May 1941, the pro-German government of Iraq had failed and the leaders ran away leaving Baghdad without government. This happened on June 1, 1941, the first day of Shavuot. Traditionally, after the religious services, Jews went to the Tigris River to look at the water and wish a better life to all. Some were by the bank and some were standing on the bridge. In that season, the stream was strong and the water level was high.

The pro-German mob, who accused the Jews of celebrating the defeat of the Government, swarmed the worshipers with clubs, hitting them on the head and throwing the bodies in the river. They were drowned and the strong current carried them to unknown destinations. Nobody knows how many.

Then, the mob moved to Jewish houses. A few days earlier, it was planned to identify Jewish houses by painting red crosses on their wall. It was thus easy to break in and ransack and kill men, women and children. In the streets or on public transport

Jews were massacred. From far away, one can hear women screaming, "For Allah sake do not kill my baby, my child". The local police helped the mobs a great deal.

Despite this carnage, there were some non-Jewish neighbors who protected their Jewish friends who lived in the same quarter. The Kurds, in particular, were honest defenders.

As the situation worsened, there was a rumor that the British High Commissioner in Baghdad had requested help from the British Commander in Palestine. Two army divisions arrived.

It was the British High Commissioner who told the commanders that if they had arrived a day late, another thousand people would have been killed. Actually, this is a hint that the estimated casualties were about a thousand a day. Those figures are by far more than the official number of 180 to 200 Jews killed in total. Those low numbers were officially released by the Government after the meeting of the Regent with the Jewish Community representatives. Those numbers did not include families that disappeared or people thrown in the Tigris River.

The Jewish Community buried the victims in a huge mass grave at the Jewish Central Cemetery. When this cemetery was demolished by the Iraqi Government in 1960, this grave was included. The Iraqi Government thus erased the proof of this genocide. Hashem Keeps us Am Ahad.