



Shearith Israel
SPANISH &
PORTUGUESE
Synagogue of Montreal
Est. 1768

SHABBAT BULLETIN

January 28, 2023 | 6 Shevat, 5783



Parashat Bo

JANUARY 27TH
By: Julia Peress Rosenfeld

January 27th is a day that is very significant to the Jewish people. In 2005, the United Nations General Assembly designated January 27th as a day of remembrance to mark the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest Nazi concentration and extermination camp. On this day, we pay tribute to the brave survivors, and recognize the heroes who risked their lives to save others during the dark days of the Holocaust. Every year UNESCO reaffirms its unwavering commitment to counter antisemitism, racism, and other forms of intolerance that may lead to group-targeted violence. There are two main goals of this day: one to honour the memory of those who were massacred during the Holocaust and the other to educating future generations of its horrors. As was said by Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon:

The International Day in memory of the victims of the Holocaust is thus a day on which we must reassert our commitment to human rights. [...]

We must also go beyond remembrance, and make sure that new generations know this history. We must apply the lessons of the Holocaust to today's world. And we must do our utmost so that all peoples may enjoy the protection and rights for which the United Nations stands.

Also on January 27th in 1969, Baghdad Radio invited citizen to Tahrir Square.

There were over 500,000 people in attendance to witness the hanging of 10 innocent Jews who were falsely accused of spying for Israel. The Jews were brutally tortured while the spectators danced and celebrated their eventual deaths. At the time, there were 2000 Jewish people living in Iraq. They were law abiding citizens yet were under constant supervision and did not enjoy the same liberties as the rest of the population. Some had their bank accounts frozen; others were fired from their jobs and were not allowed to leave the country.

Hassan al-Bakr was President of Iraq at the time and Saddam Hussein was his right-hand man, whose Ba'ath Party had seized power in a military coup six months before. Following are extracts of a statement to the Maariv newspaper in Tel-Aviv in March 1991 made by Mrs. Selima Gubbay, widow of Fuad Gubbay one of the martyrs.

'Fuad and I were so happy when suddenly our lives were torn apart. One day four Iraqi officers in a blue Volkswagen drove to our home in Basra. They went straight to the air conditioners and pulled out the transformers. 'These are transmitters,' they shouted, 'you are spying for Israel!' Fuad was roughed up when he protested. Our younger son, David, was picked up and thrown against the railings when he tried to kiss his father. ... It was 1968 and I was four months pregnant. Fuad was taken away to a jail in Baghdad. Eventually, he was put on trial with other Jews, all accused of spying for Israel. The trial was broadcasted live on radio and television. Fuad pleaded not guilty. I travelled from Basra to Baghdad to

see him in prison. The next day during the broadcast of the trial, I heard Fuad pleading guilty, admitting that on such and such days, he was here and there, sending secrets to Israel. When I checked the dates, I realised that Fuad had been with me and the children all of those times. He had made up the story in order to save us."

Here is the list of the victims. May we continue to honour them:

Daoud Heskell Dalal z'l
Hesqal Saleh Hesqel z'l
Ezra Naji Zilkha z'l
Na'im Khedhouril Hilali z'l
Sabah Haim Dayan z'l
Daoud Ghali Yadgar z'l
Yaqoub Gourji Namerdi z'l
Fouad Gabbay z'l
Charles Rafael Horesh z'l
Yeheskel Eliahou Dellal z'l
Yeheskel Raphael Yacoub z'l

Next Shabbat, we will pay tribute to these victims during our morning service. *Isaac Sadaka*, who was present in Iraq on that day will share his experiences and thoughts. *Oren Gabbay*, president of the Community of Babylonian Iraqi Jews of Montreal will also address the congregation.

Reading accounts such as the ones above can trigger strong emotions, especially in those who are connected to the events. That being said, it's our responsibility to tell and retell these stories. As Eli Weisel said in his book Night: "To forget would be not only dangerous but offensive; to forget the dead would be akin to killing them a second time." It's important that we do everything we can do to honour the victims and ensure that tragedies like these never happen again.

punished again and again" (sung to tune of dayyenu.) (Rabbeinu Bahya explained that the first 3 makkot relate to the land; the next 3 to animals and people; and the next 3 to the air.)

Hashem promises the people that He will be taking them into a beautiful land. The contrast between the devastation they have seen in Egypt and the beautiful Land that awaits them should have been very impressive.

If so, how come the land of Israel contained the Hula valley? The draining of the Hula was considered one of the great marvels of modern Jewish/Israel ingenuity. The area

was changed into an agricultural wonderland. According to a news account that appeared in the Israeli press in the 50's, only some "environmental meshugaim" were opposed to the project.

By the late 90's, the accepted opinion had changed. The draining of the Hula was now considered to have been a great mistake, as it had hurt the ecosystem and the naturally beautiful wetlands and bird stopovers.

I guess Hashem knew what he was talking about. Is there a lesson to be learned from here?

Shabbat shalom

SHABBAT SHALOM

Start/Debut 4:35 p.m. End/Fin 5:43 p.m.
PARASHAT Bo
HERTZ PAGE 248
HAFTARAH JEREMIAH
HERTZ PAGE 263
SHABBAT SERVICES
SHAHRIT: 8:30A MINHA: 4:30P

WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE

Sunday
Shahrit: 8:30A Minha: 4:30P
MONDAY - FRIDAY
Shahrit: 7:30A Minha: 4:30P

CHEVRA SHAAS Service Schedule

SHABBOS, January 28TH
Schachris 9:30 a.m.
SUNDAY, January 29TH
Schachris 8:00 a.m.

TORAH CLASS

Join **ANDRE ROTCHEL** every
Shabbat after services
Beit Hamidrash
Refreshments

To contact Reverend Hazan
Daniel Benlolo:
cantorbenlolo@thespanish.org
(514) 892-2859



QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Competing pressures tempt one to believe that an issue deferred is a problem avoided; more often it is a crises invented."

-Henry Kissinger

OPINION

Chevra Shaas

Words From
Rabbi Menahem White
BO 5783

Dear mitpallelim:
Reminder: our friend Malcolm Moscovitch is in the Eldercare, Victoria entrance, 4th floor.

Wow, the land of Egypt really got a beating.

When I read this week's parasha, the song that my grandchildren sang at the Seder rings in my head "10 Makkot, makkot 10, the Mitsrim were



S.&P. Shabbat Kiddush is Sponsored by:

David Betito, in memory of his parents, Bella & Jacques Betito z'l.

S.&P. Seudah Shlishit is Sponsored by:

The Congregation

C.S. Shabbos Kiddush is Co-Sponsored by:

The Congregation

Mazal Tov To



We are proud to announce the birth of **SAMUEL LUDO ARON ABITAN** son of **Na'omi Canart & Alexandre Abitan**, brother of **Elouise**.

Proud grandparents are **Arlene & Henri Abitan** and **Sandra Koukou & Louis Canart**

Refuah Shelemah To



Wishing a speedy recovery to **Liza Chitayat Mareuil**.

INSIGHTS

Congregation Maghen Abraham

Thoughts: Mayer Sasson

PERASAHA BO

"And remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt when G-d your G-d brought you out from there... therefore G-d your G-d commanded you to fulfill the Shabbat day." (Dvarim 5, 15)

The sale of Yosef

It is brought in the holy books that the reason that we make the blessing on two breads on Shabbat is to remedy the sin of selling Yosef. The source thereof is the new Zohar that explains that Yosef the Righteous corresponds to the holy Shabbat and therefore fulfilling Shabbat as it should be done by Jewish Law is a wonderful atonement for the sin of the sale of Yosef.

According to the Zohar "Come see, it says in the Ten Commandments "And remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt when G-d your G-d brought you out from there... therefore G-d your G-d commanded you to fulfill the Shabbat day." Here the Torah teaches us a Heavenly secret. That righteous man (Yosef) was sold as a slave in Egypt and in that sin the decree was made for you to be enslaved in Egypt, to atone for that sin of your having sold him. Therefore the Children of Israel should keep the Shabbat and they will be atoned more, for Shabbat is corresponding to Yosef."

Further on the Zohar explains that the seven days of the week are divided as follows: Sunday corresponds to Avraham Avinu, Monday to Yitzchak Avinu, Tuesday to Yakov Avinu, Wednesday to David Hamelech, Thursday to Moshe Rabeinu, Friday to Aharon HaCohen, and Saturday, the holy Shabbat to Yosef Hatzadki.

Therefore, by keeping the Shabbat which corresponds to Yosef there is a remedy and atonement for the sin of selling Yosef.

Accordingly, the Migaleh Amukot explains the verse "And Yosef saw Binyamin with them and he said... bring these men into the house and have animals... prepared (והכין) for the men shall dine with me at noon". Accordingly we can say that since keeping the Shabbat is atonement for the sale of Yosef, Yosef therefore prepared a Shabbat meal for his brothers the day before in order to continue their atonement through the observance of Shabbat.

In "Chanukat HaTorah" a new idea is brought in the name of the holy Rabbi Heshel of Krakow: "We can say that this is the reason that we cut two breads on Shabbat because the numerology of the word לחם twice (78x2) is equal to 156 (יט"ז). We know that keeping the Shabbat is a remedy for the sale of Yosef as it says "And remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt" – this applies to Yosef.

Therefore it says "And it shall come to pass on the sixth day when they prepare (והכינו) that which they bring... it shall be twice as much as they gather daily." Since the double bread is a remedy for the sale of Yosef, for the word לחם twice is equal to יט"ז, they therefore baked the double bread on Friday which is the day corresponding to the sixth Trait of Foundation which is the trait of Yosef Hatzadik.

The Ari z'l says that when the Tribes sold Yosef who symbolized the trait of Foundation, it was hurt and "dried up". Accordingly, this connects to the idea that the sale of Yosef hurt the trait of Foundation that that includes G-d's name six times.

Therefore, on Friday we prepare double bread in order to remedy the harm of the sale of Yosef, by serving double bread לחם which in numerology is also six times the name of G-d.

SHABBAT SHALOM!!

Kids Shabbat Takeover

SHABBAT SHIRA

BY: JULIA PERESS ROSENFELD

We are in the process of finalizing the details for next week's Kids Shabbat takeover. The children have already started preparing for what we are sure will be another memorable service. For those of you who are interested in joining us, there are several ways you and your family can get involved:

1. Read a 4-5 line text in English or French introducing on of the Aliyot.
2. Submit a picture we can include the bulletin related to Shabbat Shira or Parashat Beshalach. I have pictures I can send you if you prefer to colour in a picture than draw.
3. Join our educators Morah Maayan, Nina Hazzan and Shinshin Ariel in the kid's club for activities related to Parasha Shavua.
4. Participate in the service by doing one of the Aliyah (opening the ark, carrying the Torah..)
5. Learn some of the melodies or the songs we will be singing during the service (please contact me and I will send you a recording prepared for the children by Reverend Hazan Daniel Benlolo)

Though this event is geared towards to children, this is a wonderful opportunity to come together as a community to celebrate our youth. Our president, Charles Shemie will join Reverend Hazan Daniel Benlolo on the Bimah as he blesses our children. Following the service we will have a family friendly kiddush.

If you are interested in participating, joining or volunteer please feel free to contact me by email (julia@thespanish.org) or by phone so we can discuss the best way to include you and your family.

julia@thespanish.org

PARNASS HAYOM BEIT HAMIDRASH HELWANI

SHABBAT 6 SHEVAT - JANUARY 28

Jacqueline & Andrew Anson, in memory of her mother, Shimon Bitton ז"ל

SUNDAY/DIMANCHE 7 SHEVAT - JANUARY 29

Famille Shama, à la mémoire de leur mère, Renée (Alkallay) Shama ז"ל

MONDAY/LUNDI 8 SHEVAT - JANUARY 30

Jim, David & Selman Khazzam, in memory of their brother, Sass Khazzam ז"ל

Sandra & Ron Mashaal, in memory of her mother, Aniesse Alaghand ז"ל

TUESDAY/MARDI 9 SHEVAT - JANUARY 31

Schachter Family, in memory of their mother, Miriam Schachter ז"ל

WEDNESDAY/MERCREDI 10 SHEVAT - FEB. 1

Martha Lawee & Family, in memory of Khedouri Lawee ז"ל

Khazzam, Lawee & Meer Families, in memory of Khedouri Lawee ז"ל

THURSDAY/JEUDI 11 SHEVAT - FEBRUARY 2

Rabie Family, in memory of their father, Rouben Ezra Rabie ז"ל

FRIDAY/VENDREDI 12 SHEVAT - FEBRUARY 3

Elie Chetrit, à la mémoire de son père, Nissim Chetrit ז"ל

Ouri Ohayon, à la mémoire de Leticia Suissa bat Yamna ז"ל



Upcoming Events



SHABBAT, FEBRUARY 4 | 10:00A - 1:00P

SPY KIDS SHABBAT TAKEOVER

Join us for a fun song filled, children led service. Followed by a kid friendly kiddush.

Please contact Julia Peress julia@thespanish.org if your child would like to participate in the service.



SHABBAT, FEBRUARY 4 | 11:30A

ANNUAL COMMEMORATION OF THE BAGHDAD HANGINGS

Please join the *Community of Babylonian Iraqi Jews of Montreal* as we honour the 10 Jewish people killed in Baghdad's Tahrir Square on January 27th, 1969.

One of our treasured members, *Isaac Sadaka*, who was present on that day, will share his memories. The *President of the Iraqi community*, *Oren Gabbay* will also address the congregation and memorial prayers will be conducted by *Reverend Hazan Daniel Benlolo*.

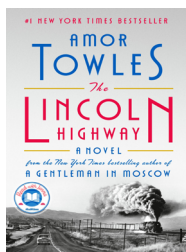


SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5 | 5:00P - 7:00P

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6 | 10:00A - 12:00P

TU BISHVAT FESTIVITIES! (FREE EVENTS)

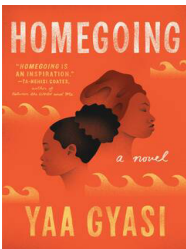
Join us as we celebrate TuBishvat with two fun filled events! Sponsored by Sandra Chitayat & Family, honouring the memory of her parents, Claire & Morris Chitayat z'l.



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12 | 10:30A - 12:00P

SISTERHOOD BOOK REVIEW: The Lincoln Highway by: Amor Towles - Reviewer: Yvonne Saleh Battat Hall

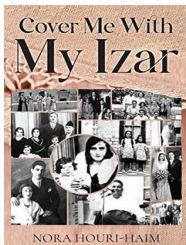
\$5 FOR SISTERHOOD MEMBER & \$8 FOR NON-MEMBERS



SUNDAY, MARCH 12 | 10:30A - 12:00P

SISTERHOOD BOOK REVIEW: Homegoing by: Yaa Gyasi - Reviewer: to be advised - Battat Hall

\$5 FOR SISTERHOOD MEMBER & \$8 FOR NON-MEMBERS



TUESDAY, APRIL 4 | 10:30A - 12:00P

SISTERHOOD BOOK REVIEW: Cover Me With My Izar by: Nora Houri-Haim - Reviewer: Joe Menashe Battat Hall

\$5 FOR SISTERHOOD MEMBER & \$8 FOR NON-MEMBERS