

CHANUKAH: JEWISH PRIDE ON DISPLAY

Abe De Ramos

In 1938, the year of Kristallnacht, the Asian nation of the Philippines opened its doors to European Jews who were trying desperately to escape a grim fate during the Holocaust. The country's president, Manuel Quezon, donated part of his estate to house a community center for the new refugees and had planned to welcome as many as 30,000 families over several years, even designating a rich agricultural region from which they could thrive. At the time, however, the Philippines was still a colony of the United States, and the granting of visas was a decision of the State Department. Because of this and the eventual declaration of World War II, the initiative benefited only about 1,200 Jews—as many as were saved in Oskar Schindler's dramatic rescue.

This little-known event might never have happened if President Quezon had not frequently played poker with the Frieders—five Jewish brothers from Cincinnati who had invested and grown a tobacco-exporting business in the country. Together, they lobbied the government in Manila while raising funds in the United States to help in the resettlement of the new immigrants. The heroism of the Frieders in representing the Jewish people before leaders of a nation to secure their survival, recalls the diplomatic efforts of Theodor Herzl and Chaim Weizmann that paved the way for the creation of the State of Israel.

Survival through adversity is a common theme in many Jewish holidays. This Chanukah, the theme is all the more poignant in light of the resurgence of anti-Semitism in many parts of the world. Chanukah marks the period in history when the Syrian Greeks who ruled Palestine tried to put an end to everything that defined Jewish identity—from the belief in one G-d, to the practice of circumcision, the observance of kosher laws, and the study of Torah. Today, similar, targeted initiatives that serve to nullify Jewish existence in the wider community are taking shape in many parts of the world—from zoning ordinances that prevent the construction of sukkahs, to animal-slaughter rules that render kosher meat practically unavailable to Jewish populations.

On the 25th of Kislev, 165 BCE, Jewish fighters, led by Judah the Maccabee, won the battle against the armies of the ruler Antiochus, ensuring the continuation of the Jewish way of life in the Promised Land. Today, the campaign against Jews is being waged on many fronts



across the diaspora—quietly in legislatures, openly in city streets and college campuses, brazenly in synagogues—a reminder that the threat is once again existential, and that even after millennia of persecution by oppressive regimes, the survival of the Jewish people is still on the line.

In this seemingly constant struggle, it is perhaps instructive that Chanukah commemorates not the Maccabees' military victory, but the miracle of the oil that transpired after the Temple had been reclaimed, when the last cruse of undefiled oil, that was enough to last only one day, burned for eight nights. Lighting candles on each of the eight nights of Chanukah is such a powerful, symbolic act that it is one of the seven rabbinic enactments that carry an elevated status, by having the same introductory blessings accorded to a Torah *mitzvah*. The commandment has two parts: the first is to light the candles solely to remember the miracle; the second is to publicize the miracle by displaying the candles where passers-by can notice them.

These two actions have a special imperative today amid heightened levels of anti-Semitism. At the time of the rededication of the Second Temple, lighting the oil had the meaning of reclaiming Jewish identity after others had tried to obliterate it. Today, lighting candles for Chanukah is an opportunity to reconnect with, to build upon, and to assert one's Judaism, to rejoice in the purity of its beliefs and the beauty of its traditions. Displaying the candles, on the other hand, is to take pride in the fact that the Jewish nation has survived across generations and, as if by miracle, outlasting every power that tried to vanquish it. Perhaps especially important for the diaspora, displaying the candles is to announce the singular message that Jews belong.

In his classic book, "Man's Search for Meaning," Viktor Frankl said that the last of the human freedoms is choosing one's attitude in any given set of circumstances. This Chanukah, lighting candles is a way to internalize the positive attitude symbolized in the miracle of the oil, one that declares: "I am a Jew. Here I am."

Abe De Ramos, a native of the Philippines, has been a serious student of Judaism since 2017. Originally inspired by a group of Israeli bikers that he met in the Caucasus mountains of Georgia, he has continued his studies with the hope of converting to Judaism in the not-too-distant future. He lives in New York City where he works as a supervisory analyst at a wealth management firm.

CONGRATULATIONS AND MAZAL TOV

ENGAGEMENTS

Shira Bousbib and Roey Herzfeld
Mazal Tov to parents, Polly and Gabriel Bousbib
Jamie Fisher and Justin (Avraham Chaim) Koatz
Leah'la Mendlowitz and Eliyahu Issever
Mazal Tov to parents, Masami and Marko Issever

MARRIAGES

Valentina (Aviva) Tkachenko and Sam Pfeiffer
Rutie Steinacher and Naftali Kunz
Mazal Tov to parents, Leah and Rabbi Heshy Steinacher

BIRTHS

Ellin and Jeremy Cooper on the birth of a son, Ariel Lev
Mazal Tov to grandparents, Rabia and Oliver Mitchell
Fei Lu Fang and Roger Wu on the birth of a daughter, Hila

BAR/BAT MITZVAH

Oliver Vynereb
Mazal Tov to parents, Jennifer and David Vynereb
Mazal Tov to grandparents, Sarah Leah and Lou Vynereb

SPEEDY RECOVERY

Dr. Leonard Davidman, *Aryeh Leib haLevi ben Machliah*
Geraldine Katz, *Gershona Yehudit bat Rochel*
Ruth Nelkin, *Rochel bat Sarah*
Lou Vynereb, *Elazar HaCohen ben Malka*

CONDOLENCES

Jesse Giles on the loss of his mother, Jane Giles, ob"m
The family of Adair Goodman, z"l (see box)
The family of Phillip Kawin, z"l
Nika Klinghoffer on the passing of her mother, Nina Perlin Erastov, z"l

TODAH RABBAH

Elaine Witty-Komito, Laurel Henschel and Dr. Sandra and Michael Hecht and their children, Susan Hecht and David Cohen, for sponsoring kiddush on the High Holidays
Ellen and Mordy Lipkis, for sponsoring the Break-Fast after the Yom Kippur Services
Helene Miller, Abe De Ramos, Mindy Lin, Mandy Pan and Annalisa Shoshannah Bahadur for helping with the Beginners High Holidays set up
The Gibber and Vynereb families for the High Holiday flowers at the Lincoln Square Synagogue Beginners Service

TZETCHEM L'SHALOM (to live or study in Israel)

Effie Landau on making Aliyah
Mazal Tov to parents, Bobbie Sue Daitch and David Landau

SAVE THE DATES

Beginners Shabbat Luncheons - \$25
Saturdays, 12:30 PM, Jan 1, Feb 5, Mar 5

SHABBAT ACROSS AMERICA
Fri, Mar 4

Beginners Shmooze on Zoom - register online
Free
Mon, Mar 7, 8:15 PM

Purim Party
\$25 in advance, \$30 at the door
Wed, Mar 16, 7:30 PM

Model Seder
\$15 in advance, \$20 at the door
Tues, Mar 22, 7:00 PM

Beginners Pre-Passover Shabbaton
\$50, lunch only \$25
Apr 8-9

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sun Nov. 28, 2021 - 24th of Kislev
EREV CHANUKAH
 Mincha & Maariv 4:20 PM
 Light one candle after 5:02 PM

Mon Nov. 29, 2021 - 25th of Kislev
FIRST DAY OF CHANUKAH
 Morning Services 7:30 AM
 Light two candles after 5:02 PM

Tues Nov. 30, 2021 - 26th of Kislev
SECOND DAY OF CHANUKAH
 Morning Services 7:30 AM
 Light three candles after 5:01 PM

Wed Dec. 1, 2021 - 27th of Kislev
THIRD DAY OF CHANUKAH
 Morning Services 7:30 AM
 Light four candles after 5:01 PM

Thu Dec. 2, 2021 - 28th of Kislev
FOURTH DAY OF CHANUKAH
 Morning Services 7:30 AM
 Light five candles after 5:01 PM

Fri Dec. 3, 2021 - 29th of Kislev
FIFTH DAY OF CHANUKAH
 Morning Services 7:30 AM
 Light six candles before/Candle Lighting 4:11 PM
 Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat 4:15 PM

Sat Dec. 4, 2021 - 30th of Kislev
SIXTH DAY OF CHANUKAH
ROSH CHODESH - Miketz
 Morning Services 7:45, 9:00 & 9:20 AM
 Beginners Service 9:15 PM
 Mincha 4:00 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends 5:11 PM
 Light seven candles after 5:11 PM

Sun Dec. 5, 2021 - 1st of Tevet
SEVENTH DAY OF CHANUKAH
ROSH CHODESH
 Morning Services 8:30 AM
 Mincha/Ma'ariv 4:20 PM
 Light eight candles after 5:00 PM

Mon Dec. 6, 2021 - 2nd of Tevet
EIGHTH DAY OF CHANUKAH
 Morning Services 7:30 AM
 Mincha/Ma'ariv 4:20 PM

Fri Dec. 10, 2021 - 6th of Tevet
 Morning Services 7:30 AM
 Candle Lighting 4:11 PM
 Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat 4:15 PM

Sat Dec. 11, 2021 - 7th of Tevet
Vayigash
 Morning Services 7:45, 9:00 & 9:30 AM
 Beginners Service 9:30 PM
 Beginners Mishnayot 2:15 PM
 Lazar Class 3:25 PM
 Mincha 4:00 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends 5:11 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv 4:20 PM

Tues Dec. 14, 2021 - 10th of Tevet
A'SARAH B'TEVET
 Fast begins at 6:00 AM
 Morning Services 7:15 AM
 Mincha/Ma'ariv 4:00 PM
 Fast Ends 5:01 PM

Fri Dec. 17, 2021 - 13th of Tevet
 Morning Services 7:30 AM
 Candle Lighting 4:12 PM
 Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat 4:15 PM

Sat Dec. 18, 2021 - 14th of Tevet
Vayehee
 Morning Services 7:45, 9:00 & 9:30 AM
 Beginners Service 9:30 PM
 Beginners Mishnayot 2:20 PM
 Lazar Class 3:05 PM
 Mincha 4:05 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends 5:13 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv 4:20 PM

Fri Dec. 24, 2021 - 20th of Tevet
 Morning Services 8:30 AM
 Candle Lighting 4:16 PM
 Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat 4:20 PM

Sat Dec. 25, 2021 - 21st of Tevet
Shemot
 Morning Services 7:45, 9:00 & 9:30 AM
 Beginners Service 9:30 PM
 Beginners Mishnayot 2:20 PM
 Lazar Class 3:30 PM
 Mincha 4:05 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends 5:17 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv 4:25 PM

Fri Dec. 31, 2021 - 27th of Tevet
 Morning Services 8:30 AM

Candle Lighting 4:20 PM
 Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat 4:25 PM

Sat Jan. 1, 2022 - 28th of Tevet
Vaerah
 Morning Services 7:45, 9:00 & 9:30 AM
 Beginners Service 9:30 PM
 Beginners Luncheon 12:30 PM
 Beginners Mishnayot 2:30 PM
 Lazar Class 3:40 PM
 Mincha 4:15 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends 5:22 PM
 Daily Mincha & Ma'ariv 4:25 PM

Mon Jan. 3, 2022 - 1st of Shevat
ROSH CHODESH
 Morning Services 7:30 AM
 Mincha/Ma'ariv 4:30 PM

Fri Jan. 7, 2022 - 5th of Shevat
 Morning Services 7:30 AM
 Candle Lighting 4:27 PM
 Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat 4:30 PM

Sat Jan. 8, 2022 - 6th of Shevat
Bo
 Morning Services 7:45, 9:00 & 9:30 AM
 Beginners Service 9:30 PM
 Beginners Mishnayot 2:35 PM
 Lazar Class 3:45 PM
 Mincha 4:20 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends 5:28 PM
 Daily Mincha & Ma'ariv 4:35 PM

Fri Jan. 14, 2022 - 12th of Shevat
 Morning Services 7:30 AM
 Candle Lighting 4:34 PM
 Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat 4:40 PM

Sat Jan. 15, 2022 - 13th of Shevat
Beshalach
 Morning Services 7:45, 9:00 & 9:30 AM
 Beginners Service 9:30 PM
 Beginners Mishnayot 2:40 PM
 Lazar Class 3:50 PM
 Mincha 4:25 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends 5:36 PM
 Daily Mincha & Ma'ariv 4:45 PM

Mon Jan. 17, 2022 - 15th of Shevat
TU B'SHEVAT
MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY
 Morning Services 8:30 AM

Fri Jan. 21, 2022 - 19th of Shevat
 Morning Services 7:30 AM
 Candle Lighting 4:42 PM
 Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat 4:45 PM

Sat Jan. 22, 2022 - 20th of Shevat
Yitro
 Morning Services 7:45, 9:00 & 9:30 AM
 Beginners Service 9:30 PM
 Beginners Mishnayot 2:50 PM
 Lazar Class 4:00 PM
 Mincha 4:35 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends 5:44 PM
 Daily Mincha & Ma'ariv 4:55 PM

Fri Jan. 28, 2022 - 26th of Shevat
 Morning Services 7:30 AM
 Candle Lighting 4:51 PM
 Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat 4:55 PM

Sat Jan. 29, 2022 - 27th of Shevat
Mishpatim
 Morning Services 7:45, 9:00 & 9:30 AM
 Beginners Service 9:30 PM
 Beginners Mishnayot 3:00 PM
 Lazar Class 4:10 PM
 Mincha 4:45 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends 5:52 PM
 Daily Mincha & Ma'ariv 5:05 PM

Tues Feb. 1, 2022 - 30th of Shevat
ROSH CHODESH
 Morning Services 7:30 AM
 Mincha 5:05 PM

Wed Feb. 2, 2022 - 1st of Adar I
ROSH CHODESH
 Morning Services 7:30 AM
 Mincha 5:05 PM

Fri Feb. 4, 2022 - 3rd of Adar I
 Morning Services 7:30 AM
 Candle Lighting 4:59 PM
 Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat 5:05 PM

Sat Feb. 5, 2022 - 4th of Adar I
Teruma
 Morning Services 7:45, 9:00 & 9:30 AM
 Beginners Service 9:30 PM

Beginners Luncheon 12:30 PM
 Beginners Mishnayot 3:05 PM
 Lazar Class 4:15 PM
 Mincha 4:50 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends 6:01 PM
 Daily Mincha & Ma'ariv 5:10 PM

Fri Feb. 11, 2022 - 10th of Adar I
 Morning Services 7:30 AM
 Candle Lighting 5:08 PM
 Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat 5:10 PM

Sat Feb. 12, 2022 - 11th of Adar I
Tetzaveh
 Morning Services 7:45, 9:00 & 9:30 AM
 Beginners Service 9:30 PM
 Beginners Mishnayot 3:15 PM
 Lazar Class 4:25 PM
 Mincha 5:00 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends 6:10 PM
 Daily Mincha & Ma'ariv 5:20 PM

Fri Feb. 18, 2022 - 17th of Adar I
 Morning Services 7:30 AM
 Candle Lighting 5:16 PM
 Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat 5:20 PM

Sat Feb. 19, 2022 - 18th of Adar I
Ki Tisa
 Morning Services 7:45 & 9:05 AM
 Beginners Service 9:30 PM
 Beginners Mishnayot 3:25 PM
 Lazar Class 4:35 PM
 Mincha 5:10 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends 6:18 PM
 Daily Mincha & Ma'ariv 5:25 PM

Mon Feb. 21, 2022 - 13th of Adar I
PRESIDENT'S DAY
 Morning Services 8:30 AM

Fri Feb. 25, 2022 - 24th of Adar I
 Morning Services 7:30 AM
 Candle Lighting 5:25 PM
 Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat 5:30 PM

Sat Feb. 26, 2022 - 25th of Adar I
Vayakhel - Parashat Shekalim
 Morning Services 7:45, 9:00 & 9:30 AM
 Beginners Service 9:30 PM
 Beginners Mishnayot 3:30 PM
 Lazar Class 4:40 PM
 Mincha 5:15 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends 6:26 PM
 Daily Mincha & Ma'ariv 5:35 PM

Thur Mar. 3, 2022 - 30th of Adar I
ROSH CHODESH
 Morning Services 7:30 AM

Fri Mar. 4, 2022 - 1st of Adar II
ROSH CHODESH
 Morning Services 7:30 AM
 Candle Lighting 5:33 PM
 Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat 5:35 PM
SHABBAT ACROSS AMERICA 6:45 PM

Sat Mar. 5, 2022 - 2nd of Adar II
Pekudei
 Morning Services 7:45, 9:00 & 9:30 AM
 Beginners Service 9:30 PM
 Beginners Luncheon 12:30 PM
 Beginners Mishnayot 3:40 PM
 Lazar Class 4:50 PM
 Mincha 5:25 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends 6:34 PM
 Daily Mincha & Ma'ariv 5:45 PM

Fri Mar. 11, 2022 - 8th of Adar II
 Morning Services 7:30 AM
 Candle Lighting 5:40 PM
 Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat 5:45 PM

Sat Mar. 12, 2022 - 9th of Adar II
Vayikra - Parashat Zachor
 Morning Services 7:45, 9:00 & 9:30 AM
 Beginners Service 9:30 PM
 Beginners Mishnayot 3:50 PM
 Lazar Class 5:00 PM
 Mincha 5:35 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends 6:42 PM
 Daily Mincha & Ma'ariv 6:50 PM
Move clock forward

Wed Mar. 16, 2022 - 13th of Adar II
TA'ANIT ESTHER
 Fast Begins 5:54 AM
 Morning Services 7:10 AM
 Mincha 6:35 PM
 Ma'ariv 7:35 PM
 Fast Ends 7:35 PM

Megilla Reading 7:40 & 9:15 PM

Thur Mar. 17, 2022 - 14th of Adar II
PURIM
 Morning Services 6:30 & 7:30 AM
 Women's Megilla Reading 9:30 AM
 Additional Megilla Reading 1:00 PM
 Early Mincha 1:45 PM
 Mincha/Ma'ariv 6:55 PM

Fri Mar. 18, 2022 - 15th of Adar II
SHUSHAN PURIM
 Morning Services 7:30 AM
 Candle Lighting 6:48 PM
 Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat 6:50 PM

Sat Mar. 19, 2022 - 16th of Adar II
Tzav
 Morning Services 7:45, 9:00 & 9:30 AM
 Beginners Service 9:30 PM
 Beginners Mishnayot 4:55 PM
 Lazar Class 6:05 PM
 Mincha 6:40 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends 7:50 PM
 Daily Mincha & Ma'ariv 7:00 PM

Fri Mar. 25, 2022 - 22nd of Adar II
 Morning Services 7:30 AM
 Candle Lighting 6:55 PM
 Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat 7:00 PM

Sat Mar. 26, 2022 - 23rd of Adar II
Shemini - Parashat Parah
 Morning Services 7:45, 9:00 & 9:30 AM
 Beginners Service 9:30 PM
 Beginners Mishnayot 5:05 PM
 Lazar Class 6:15 PM
 Mincha 6:50 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends 7:57 PM
 Daily Mincha & Ma'ariv 7:05 PM

Fri Apr. 1, 2022 - 29th of Adar II
 Morning Services 7:30 AM
 Candle Lighting 7:03 PM
 Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat 7:05 PM

Sat Apr. 2, 2022 - 1st of Nisan
ROSH CHODESH -
Parashat Hachodesh - Tazria
 Morning Services 7:45, 9:00 & 9:20 AM
 Beginners Service 9:15 PM
 Beginners Mishnayot 5:05 PM
 Lazar Class 6:05 PM
 Mincha 6:55 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends 8:04 PM
 Daily Mincha & Ma'ariv 7:15 PM

Fri Apr. 8, 2022 - 7th of Nisan
 Morning Services 7:30 AM
 Candle Lighting 7:10 PM
 Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat 7:15 PM

Sat Apr. 9, 2022 - 8th of Nisan
Metzora - Shabbat Hagadol
 Morning Services 7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Beginners Service 9:15 PM
 Mincha 6:40 PM
 Shabbat Hagadol Drasha 7:05 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends 8:12 PM
 Daily Mincha & Ma'ariv 7:20 PM

Thur Apr. 14, 2022 - 13th of Nisan
 Morning Services 7:30 AM
 Bedikat Chametz after 8:06 PM

Fri Apr. 15, 2022 - 14th of Nisan
EREV PESACH, TA'ANIT BECHORIM
 Morning Services with Siyum 6:30 & 7:30 AM
 Latest time to eat Chametz 10:43 AM
 Latest time to burn Chametz 11:17 AM
 Candle Lighting 7:18 PM
 Mincha/Maariv 7:25 PM
 Begin Seder after 8:07 PM

ADAIR GOODMAN, Z"l

Adair Goodman, ז"ל (age 93) and her late husband, Norton (Natan), were mainstays of the LSS Beginners Service for many years. Possessors of youthful exuberance despite their advanced ages, and delightful personalities, they were beloved by all. Adair had a most beautiful singing voice, which added much color to our communal singing. May her memory be a blessing to all.