

# SEPHARDIC KEHILA CENTRE

## ABIR YAAKOB CONGREGATION



President  
Meyer Keslassy  
Vice President  
Jean-Claude Abtan

שבת שלום  
*Shabbat Shalom*

ברוכים הבאים  
*Welcome to our Synagogue*

Rabbi Emeritus  
Haham Amram Assayag  
Rabbi  
Rabbi David Kadoch  
Shaliach Tzibur  
Marc Kadoch  
Parnas  
Avi Azuelos

פרשת כי תשא Parashat Ki Tisa  
Shabbat February 23rd, 2019, י"ח אדר א תשע"ט / 18 Adar 1 5779  
Perasha Page 484, Haftara 1160 in Artsroll

### Shabbat Prayer Times

שיר השירים Shir Hashirim	5:30 p.m.
מנחה Minha	5:45 p.m.
קבלת שבת Kabalat Shabbat	6:00 p.m.
הדלקת נרות Candle Lighting	5:39 p.m.
שחרית מנין החיד"א (ותיקין) Shaharit Ha'Hida Vatikim	6:05 a.m.
שחרית (Main Synagogue/Barechu:9:35) Shaharit	8:30 a.m.
תהלים Tehilim	4:45 p.m.
מנחה Minha	5:15 p.m.
שבוע טוב Shabbat Ends	6:41 p.m.

Ereb Shabbat, Friday March 1st, 2019  
Minha 5:50 p.m. (Candle Lighting 5:48 p.m.)

### Weekday Services at Medrash Torah Vehayim

שחרית Shaharit Sunday	
ותיקין Vatikim	6:20 a.m.
מקדימים Makdimim	8:00 a.m.
קבועים Kebuim	9:00 a.m.
שחרית Shaharit Weekdays	
ותיקין Vatikim	6:20 a.m.
מקדימים Makdimim	6:45 a.m.
קבועים Kebuim	8:15 a.m.
מנחה Minha	5:45 p.m.
ערבית Arbit	6:20 p.m.

Shabat Zemanim- Netz- נץ- 7:05 am, Keriat Shema- שמע 9:12 am, Shekia- שקיעה 5:58 pm

### Mazal Tov

To Mr. and Mrs. Albert and Elisa Dayan on the birth of a granddaughter born to Moshe and Cherise Dayan in Deal, New Jersey.

### Kiddush

Kiddush this Shabbat is provided by Abir Yaakov Congregation, everyone is invited to join us after Services.

### Seuda Shelishit

This Shabbat Seuda Shelishit is sponsored by:

- Mr. Simon Sabbah in loving memory of his father Messod Sabbah ז"ל
- Mr. and Mrs. Jean-Claude and Bryna Abtan in loving memory of his grandmother Habiba Abtan ז"ל
- Mr. and Mrs. Ze'ev and Helen Saban in loving memory of his father Shalom Saban ז"ל
- Mr. and Mrs. David and Estrella and Armand and Esther Bensimon in loving memory of their mother, Mazaltov Bensimon ז"ל

Everyone is welcome.

### Nahalot

- Shalom Saban ז"ל 18 Adar 1 / Shabat February 23rd
- Messod Sabbah ז"ל, Messody Elmaleh ז"ל, Josef Fridmen ז"ל 21 Adar 1 / Tuesday February 26th
- Habiba Abtan ז"ל 23 Adar 1 / Thursday February 28th
- Mazaltov Bensimon ז"ל, Messod Benzacar ז"ל 24 Adar 1 / Friday March 1st

### Nahalot for the following week

- Abraham Benedid ז"ל 25 Adar 1 / Shabat March 2nd
- Avraham Himelfarb ז"ל 27 Adar 1 / Monday March 4th

To increase participation during Tefila, this bulletin should not be read during the conduction of prayer services.

This bulletin must be discarded in a proper Geniza. 7026 Bathurst Street Thornhill, Ont. L4J 8K3

Tel: (905) 669 7654 Fax: (905) 669 5138

## *Synagogue News*

### **Condolences:**

We regret to inform you of the passing of Mr. Charlie (Shalom ben Channa) Trojman z"l, brother of our member and friend Mr. Guillermo Trojman, husband of Georgette, father of Mrs. Kathy Benaim and Mr. Patrick Trojman and brother of Mrs. Miriam Kadoch and of Mrs. Clarasol Levy. May his Neshama rest in Gan Eden, Amen  
Shabbat Services will take place Sunday to Wednesday at the Sephardic Kehila Centre.  
Shiva will take place at 7 Townsgate Dr., multi-purpose room, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

### **Buffalo Sabres Hockey with Rabbi Kadoch**

Boys ages 18 - 25 can join Rabbi Kadoch on a trip to Buffalo to see the Buffalo Sabres play the St. Louis Blues on March 17th at 5pm. Cost of the trip is \$65 and includes lunch, transportation and tickets to the game. For more information or to book your spot email Rabbi Kadoch at rabbikadoch@kehilacentre.com (Limited spots available).

### **Avot U'Banim—Last Week**

Father and son learning program continues this week, Motsae Shabbat February 16th at 7:40 P.M. to 8:40 P.M. Pizza and prizes. To sponsor a program, contact Rabbi David Kadoch - Cost for sponsorship \$200.

### **SNIF**

Due to the Chevraya Bet Shvatim Shabbaton this week Snif has been cancelled. We will be back on next week. Shabbat Shalom!

### **New Tzedaka Box in Medrash**

A new tzedaka box has been affixed to the wall adjacent to the entrance of the Medrash. Money deposited in that box will go to replenish and/or purchase new books/sefarim for the Medrash. Tizku LaMitzvot.

### **Cemetery Plots**

The SKC is pleased to announce the availability of Padres Shalom cemetery plots to our members. In order to accommodate the limited availability of these plots, we ask all interested members to contact either Sol Benchetrit at solbench@hotmail.com OR Dr. Adam Ohayon at adamohayon@gmail.com

### **Missing Books in Medrash**

A number of Judaic books and sefarim are missing in the medrash. It has come to our attention that some people may be taking some books to their home for personal use. Please note that this is strictly prohibited and falls under the category of geneva (theft). We ask that all books be returned to the medrash as soon as possible. For the future, sefarim and books in the medrash may not be removed without permission from Rabbi Kadoch.

### **Announcement from Badatz Toronto**

After serious negotiations with Triple A Cheese, we have finally come to an agreement and are able to reinstate the kosher certification of this company. The new kosher production began on January 21st, 2019. Any other production after this date is Kosher certified and approved by Badatz of Toronto Kosher Supervision.

## *Torah Learning Opportunities at the SKC*

**Sundays** - Gemara Masechet Megila with Rabbi Kadoch - 7:15am-8am, Iraqi synagogue, coffee.

**Mondays** - Limud Torah with Rabbi Natan Dabush, 8PM, Medrash, men only

**Tuesdays** - Tuesday Night Live on the Parasha with Tomer Malca, 8PM, Medrash, beer and wings, men only

**Wednesdays** - Limud Torah with the Toronto Sephardic Kollel, 815PM, Medrash, refreshments, men only

**Wednesdays** - Mishmar with Yossi Azulay, 7PM, Iraqi synagogue/gymnasium, pizza and drinks, middle school boys

**Thursdays** - Shoot for the Stars with Rabbi David Kadoch, 9PM, Medrash, beer and wings and/or refreshments, men and women.

**Thursdays** - Advanced Gemara with Shimon Benmergui, 7:15pm, Iraqi synagogue, refreshments, High School/University boys

**Shabbat** - Noam Elimelech on the Parasha with Rabbi David Kadoch, 815am-845am, Downstairs classroom, coffee and hot chocolate, men only

**Motsae Shabbat** - Avot U'Banim, 645pm-745pm, Medrash, pizza and snacks, fathers and sons

**Rosh Hodesh** - Various Topics with Rabbi David Kadoch, 8PM, Lower Level Restaurant, refreshments, ladies only

*Shiurim Online: If you wish to access any of the Torah classes given during the week by Rabbi Kadoch, Tomer Malca or Rabbi Dabush, you can listen to them at anytime by accessing them on our website: [https://www.kehilacentre.com/audio\\_library.php](https://www.kehilacentre.com/audio_library.php)*

If you have a Mazal Tob that you would like to share with the congregation or if you have a change of address or email please contact the office at (905) 669-7654.

**Please be advised that the cutoff time for insertion in the bulletin is Wednesday at 4:00 p.m.**

**This bulletin is printed courtesy of Print Three Concord (905) 738-5682.**

# Insights on the Torah

By Haham Amram Assayag

## SHABAT KI-TISA

**QUESTION:** Why does one say DAVID MELECH YISRAEL HAY VEKAYAM – David King of Israel lives and exists – in Birkat Halebana and what does “Lives and exists” mean?

**ANSWER:** The only time we find in the Talmud a relation between Birkat Halebana and David Melech Yisrael Hay Vekayam is in the Gemara of Rosh Hashanah, page 25, where Rabbi Yehuda Hanassi asks Rabbi Hiya to go out of the town to sanctify the month (check when the moon rises and declare that day Rosh Hodesh) and upon this being fulfilled, a messenger should be sent back to him who will give him a sign saying David Melech Yisrael Hay Vekayam. (This must have occurred when the Government forbade such an activity). What is the symbolism behind this sign? According to Rashi, Hashem, promised David as expressed in Tehillim chapter 89: “his throne shall be as the sun before Me, and shall be eternally established as the moon”. This is the biblical relation between David and the moon.

Rabenu Bahya considers the throne of David, which is the throne of Messiah as the moon, which although it seems to totally disappear for a while, it renews itself. So has the throne of David disappeared and like the moon will again renew itself.

Rebbi Shemtob Gaguin makes an interesting observation that the numerical value of the words David Melech Yisrael Hay Vekayam is 819 – which corresponds exactly to the numerical value of the words Rosh Hodesh.

David Hamelech said in Tehillim:

“Agura Beaholecha ‘Olamim’ – I shall reside in your tents forever”

The Talmud Yerushalmi asks did David believe that he was going to live forever? The answer is that David with this declaration asked of Hashem that He grant him the zechut that his words be said in the Bate Kenessiyot and Bate Midrashot thus will it be considered as if he eternally lives in the sanctuaries. Being that Hashem granted him this merit and his psalms are recited daily in the sanctuaries David Melech Yisrael Hay Vekayam – David King of Israel still lives and exists.

## Torah Bites

By Rabbi Kadoch

### Ki Tisa 5779 – Moshe’s Viduy

יחל משה את פני ה' אלהיו (לב:יא)

Moshe pleaded before Hashem, his God (32:11)

The episode of the Golden Calf has forever stained our religion and our people. Until the coming of Mashiah, we will continue to suffer atrocities and be subjugated by our enemies because of this woeful sin. The iniquity of the Golden Calf brought back death to world as the Jews reached the level of Adam before the sin. Moshe Rabenu, as we know, pleaded on behalf the Jews and saved them from destruction. What exactly did he pray? With what *tefilot* did he use to protect them from certain calamity and annihilation? According to Rabbi Yaakob Abuhatzzeira in his book *Pituhe Hotam*, he recited the *viduy* of the *Aleph-Bet* (Ashamnu/Bagadnu) on behalf of the Jewish people. Let’s look at the *pesukim*:

The *pasuk* writes ויחל משה את פני ה' אלהיו that “Moshe pleaded before Hashem, his God.” The letters of Hashem’s name are *yud/heh/vav/heh*. The letters “before” Hashem’s name are *tet/dalet/heh/dalet* which have the numerical value of 22 – which are the number of letters in the Aleph Bet. In other words, he recited the *viduy* of the 22 letters of the Aleph Bet.

The verse continues ויאמר למה ה' – “And he said, Why Hashem” – the initial letters of these words can be rearranged to spell לוי – Levi/ This indicates that Moshe prophesied that the next day the Tribe of Levi would take revenge of the sinners. Since that will be the case – למה ה' – למה ה' – Why Hashem, should Your anger flare up? – Relent from Your flaring anger and reconsider the evil against Your people.

The final result: The Jews were saved from destruction but only as a result of Moshe’s *viduy* prayer. This is a great opportunity to mention the importance of our *viduy* daily during *Shaharit* and *Minha*. We often search for reasons and excuses to skip the *tahanunim* just to save a few minutes. Our *Hachamim* explain that the power of *tahanunim* is so

great that it is tantamount to the *Amida* prayer. The proof lies that there is no *kadish* recited in between the *Amida* and the *tahanunim*. Normally the *kadish* serves as a step stool to rise in levels of worlds (towards the climax; *Amida*) and to come down from the highest world back down to the lowest world. The fact that there is no *kadish* in between the *Amida* and the *tahanunim*, only imply that one remains on the highest level of *kedusha* when reciting both of them. While indeed there are circumstances that will allow us to circumvent the *tahanunim*, it is certainly not recommended. In fact, as we just saw, the prayer has the ability to save *Klal Yisrael* from destruction.

## Halacha Corner

By Rabbi Eli Mansour

### Parashat Ki Tisa: Moshe Rabbenu’s “Gift” to the Satan

After the sin of the golden calf, Moshe Rabbenu pleaded to G-d on the nation’s behalf, and he asked that if G-d would not forgive the people for this grave sin, “then erase me, please, from Your book which You have written” (32:32).

Tradition teaches that even though G-d ultimately forgave the people, nevertheless, Moshe’s demand was fulfilled in some way, in that his name was omitted from Parashat Tesaveh. His name was “erased” from that Parasha as a partial fulfillment of his request.

The Ben Ish Hai (Rav Yosef Haim of Baghdad, 1833-1909) comments that this “erasure” is alluded to in the word “Mi’sifrecha” (“from Your book”), which may be read as, “Mi’sefer Chaf” – “from the book of the letter Chaf.” The numerical value of the letter “Chaf” is 20, and thus “Mi’sefer Chaf” alludes to the 20th Parasha in the Torah – Parashat Tesaveh. The Ben Ish Hai added that Moshe’s demand was also fulfilled in a different way. Later, in the Book of Bamidbar (12:3), the Torah says of Moshe that he was “Anav Me’od” – “exceedingly humble.” The word “Anav” (“humble”) is normally spelled, “Avin,” “Nun,” “Yod,” “Vav,” but in this instance, it is written without the letter “Yod.” This letter was “erased” from the Torah’s praise of Moshe Rabbenu, in fulfillment of his demand that his name be “erased” from the Torah. The Ben Ish Hai comments that this “erasure,” too, is alluded to in the word “Mi’sifrecha.”

The numerical value of the word “Yud” – the name of the letter that was removed from the word “Anav” – is 20, and this letter is thus hinted at in the word “Mi’sifrecha,” which may be read as, “Mispar Chaf” – “the number 20.” The letter whose name equals 20 – the letter “Yod” – was erased in fulfillment of Moshe Rabbenu’s request.

The Ben Ish Hai adds that this is the deeper meaning of the *Pasuk* at the beginning of Parashat Ki-Tisa, “Ki Tisa Et Rosh Beneh Yisrael.” The simple meaning of this phrase is, “When you take a head count of Beneh Yisrael,” and the Torah here commands that when a census is taken, every member of the nation must give a half-shekel with which he is counted. But on a deeper level, the Ben Ish Hai explains, the Torah here alludes to the two “erasures” of Moshe’s name. The word “Ki” consists of the letters “Chaf” and “Yod,” and thus represents the two omissions that were made to fulfill Moshe’s demand – the omission of Moshe’s name from the 20th Parasha, Parashat Tesaveh, and the omission of the letter “Vav” from the Torah’s praise of Moshe’s exceptional humility. The phrase “Ki Tisa Et Rosh Beneh Yisrael” can then be understood to mean that the “Chaf” and the “Yod” were taken from “Rosh Beneh Yisrael” – the leader of the Jewish People, Moshe Rabbenu.

Why did this have to happen? Why did Moshe’s name need to be “erased”? The Ben Ish Hai explains that after the sin of the golden calf, the Satan – who is always trying to prosecute against Am Yisrael – set out to advocate against the nation before G-d. Once Beneh Yisrael committed such a grave misdeed, the Satan felt he had a very strong case that he could bring against them before the Heavenly Tribunal. Moshe’s strategy, the Ben Ish Hai writes, was to send the Satan a “gift” of sorts, to appease it by having his name “erased.” The Satan would be gratified to see that the name of Moshe, the revered leader of the Jewish People, would be omitted from an entire Parasha, and that the Torah’s praise of his humility would be diminished somewhat through the shorter spelling of the word “Anav.” Moshe made this sacrifice as though throwing a “bone” to the Satan, making the Satan feel he succeeded his attempts to harm Beneh Yisrael, and this sacrifice paved the way for the people to be forgiven for the grave mistake of the golden calf.



LADIES,  
PLEASE JOIN US AS WE WISH FAREWELL TO OUR DEAREST  
**Rabanit Shoshana Assayag**

DROP-IN DESSERT RECEPTION  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2019, 1:30-3:30  
1 CORDOBA DRIVE PARTY ROOM



Please join us to wish farewell to \_\_\_\_\_

# HACHAM AMRAM ASSAYAG

Shabbat, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019

**Community Kidush**

Following tefila. Everyone is welcome.

**Farewell Luncheon**

\$40 per adult // \$15 per child

To reserve by phone

Please call the office by Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> at 905-669-7654 ext.200

To reserve online

Please visit <https://www.kehilacentre.com/event/assayag>

SEPHARDIC KEHILA  
CENTRE PRESENTS



## Shoot for the Stars

Explore the world of Torah  
through a multi-layered lens  
of Rabbinic sources

with Rabbi David Kadoch  
(refreshments to be served)

Thursdays

8PM (for men and women)

Upstairs Medrash

(followed by Arbit)

For more information  
contact Rabbi Kadoch

Feb 21st Topic:  
Jewish Leap  
Year

## COMMUNITY WIDE GATHERING BREAKING THE STIGMA

"He who saves one life...It is as if he saves a whole world."  
(Talmud Sanhedrin 37:1)

Join a Community wide gathering for an important and honest conversation about mental illness, with an expert in adolescent and adult psychiatry.



◆ **WHERE:** Sephardic Kehila Centre (main hall)  
7026 Bathurst Street, Thornhill, Ont.

◆ **WHEN:** Sunday February 24th, 2019  
**TIME:** 7:00pm - 9:00pm

◆ **Introductory inspirational words:**  
Rabbi Messaoud Azoulay,  
Rabbi of Magen David  
Sephardic Congregation

◆ **Guest Speaker:** Dr. Chaim Nissel, PsyD  
University Dean of Students  
Yeshiva University

◆ **Topic:** Breaking the Stigma: "He who saves one life...It is as if he saves a whole world."  
(Talmud Sanhedrin 37:1)

◆ Concluding with Questions & Answers

◆ Light refreshments will be served

This event is sponsored by  
Concrete Mortgage Capital Inc.  
Allen (Yehuda) Azoulay & Daniel Mandel  
For further info contact:  
[allen@concretemortgage.ca](mailto:allen@concretemortgage.ca)



Dr. Chaim Nissel is a New York State licensed psychologist, who holds a master's degree in education and a doctorate in School-Clinical Psychology. He currently works as the Dean of Students at Yeshiva University and was previously Director of their Counseling Center. As a master trainer for the American Association of Suicidology he has trained over 1,300 clinicians on suicide prevention. He also has a private practice working with adolescents and their families. Dr. Nissel is a sought-after speaker and has lectured at numerous conferences, hospitals, universities and community centers in the USA and Canada. Dr. Nissel resides in New Hempstead, NY with his wife and five children.