

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

Parashat Pekudei פרשת פקודי
Shabbat March 9th, 2019, ב' אדר ב תשע"ט / 2 Adar II 5779

Shabbat Prayer Times

שיר השירים Shir Hashirim	5:45 p.m.
מנחה Minha	6:00 p.m.
קבלת שבת Kabalat Shabbat	6:15 p.m.
הדלקת נרות Candle Lighting	5:57 p.m.
שחרית מנין החיד"א (ותיקין) Shaharit Ha'Hida Vatikim	5:40 a.m.
שחרית (Main Synagogue/Barechu:9:35) Shacharit	8:30 a.m.
תהלים Tehilim	5:00 p.m.
מנחה Minha	5:30 p.m.
שבת טוב Shabbat Ends	7:00 p.m.

Ereb Shabbat, Friday March 15th, 2019
Minha 7:10 p.m. (Candle Lighting 7:06 p.m.)

Weekday Services at Medrash Torah Vehayim

<i>שחרית Shacharit Sunday</i>	
ותיקין Vatikim	7:00 a.m.
מקדימים Makdimim	8:00 a.m.
קבוים Kebuim	9:00 a.m.
<i>שחרית Shacharit Weekdays</i>	
ותיקין Vatikim	7:00 a.m.
מקדימים Makdimim	6:45 a.m.
קבוים Kebuim	8:15 a.m.
מנחה Minha	7:05 p.m.
ערבית Arbit	7:35 p.m.

Shabat Zemanim- Netz- נץ- 6:41 am, Keriat Shema- שקיעה - 8:59 am, Shekia- שקיעה - 6:16 pm

Kiddush

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

Seuda Shelishit

This Shabbat Seuda Shelishit is sponsored by:
Mr and Mrs Jack & Laurence Cohen and Mr and Mrs Isaac and Rena Cohen in loving memory of their father Mair Cohen ז"ל *Everyone is welcome.*

Nahalot

Chaya Nacson ז"ל 2 Adar 2/ Shabbat March 9th
Joseph Anidjar ז"ל 4 Adar 2/ Monday March 11th
Rahel Nacson ז"ל 5 Adar 2/ Tuesday March 12th
Mair Cohen ז"ל 6 Adar 2/ Wednesday March 13th
Simy Benarroch ז"ל 7 Adar 2/ Thursday March 14th

Nahalot for the following week

Yehuda Edery ז"ל 10 Adar 2/ Shabbat March 17th
Elyahou Abisror ז"ל 10 Adar 2/ Shabbat March 17h
Rahel Benzacar ז"ל 11 Adar 2/ Monday March 18th
Marc Soberano ז"ל 13 Adar 2/ Wednesday March 20th
Rahel Abitbol ז"ל 13 Adar 2/ Wednesday March 20th
Haim Edery ז"ל 14 Adar 2/ Thursday March 21st

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

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).

Pop-in Seuda with Rabbi Kadoch @ 138 Colvin Crescent

The entire Kahal is invited to join Rabbi Kadoch at his home 138 Colvin Crescent on Purim day to celebrate the holiday of Purim. Delicious food, savouring wine, mesmerizing Torah, exciting music and incredible camaraderie means you can't miss it. March 21st 12:30-4:30, followed by Minha.

SKC Purim Extravaganza - March 20th following the Megila

See flyer on back pages for more details

Bnei Akiva's

SHABBAT SHALOM SKC!!! Bnei Akiva's Kehila is back better than ever. Starting this week, we will be having a themed Snif for all the Chanichim to learn and have FUN!

This weeks theme is about being respectful! This weeks Snif is at 5:50PM! Please try to grab out Akivaton for an amazing Dvar Torah and Question for the Chanichim to answer.

Save the Date - Tuesday March 26th - Lecture on Children's Anxiety and LDs

On Tuesday March 26th, the SKC presents a special guest lecture given by Mrs. Leanne Matlow, an expert in dealing with children's anxiety and other LDs. She will give advice and tips on how to deal with this common issue found among today's children. Admission is free. Tuesday March 26th at 7:30pm.

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.

Missing Talitot

Eight of the new talitot recently donated to the synagogue have disappeared. If you are aware of their whereabouts or have mistakenly taken them home, we ask that you please return them immediately. For the future, the talitot are not to be removed from the main synagogue without permission. We ask that you kindly adhere to this request.

Clock Change

Please be reminded to move the clocks forward one hour, Motzai Shabbat March 9th before you go to bed.



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, 8:15PM, Medrash, refreshments, men only

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

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

Shabbat - Noam Elimelech on the Parasha with Rabbi David Kadoch, 8:15am-8:45am, Downstairs classroom, coffee and hot chocolate, men only

Motsai Shabbat - Avot U'Banim, 6:45pm-7:45pm, 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: bit.ly/skctorah

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.

Torah Bites

By Rabbi Kadoch

Reflection of Last Shabbat

It's hard to put into words a proper description of the events of last weekend. To give a proper goodbye to an individual who had contributed so much is truly impossible. No series of events could sum up 45 years of service. Nevertheless, the community came together in a way that I have never seen before; displaying a sense of appreciation and gratitude in the most heartfelt and emotional manner seen to the eye. What goes through a person's mind hearing the leader of your community address you one final time? What will he say? How will it be conveyed? But more importantly, how will it be internalized? That thought was on my mind and I can bet that it was on the minds of the 400 people in attendance last Shabbat. The message was clear and precise. Never consider the shortcomings of life of greater value over your accomplishments. Look at the successes of your life, your family, your community; think positively and things will work out. I wasn't around at the start of this community over forty years ago, but one thing is for sure, it's not the same, and it's a large part because of Hacham Assayag.

How do you overcome the language barrier and the perception of being second-class? How do you remove the stigma of "immigrant" and establish yourself as the "norm?" How do you find the strength to build schools, mikvaot, support organizations for the less-privileged, centres of Torah study and at the same time, be a mentor to the future leaders and deal with the life-pressing issues that come with being a community Rabbi? The answer is you can't. It cannot be done with a person's own self-strength. It has to be God-given; and you have to be privileged; you have to be worthy to receive that strength.

Listening to the Hacham's speech on Shabbat morning brought tears to the hundreds of eyes in the room because we are left in doubt of whether anyone can ever continue that legacy. The Hacham's mastery of Torah is felt by Rabbis across the globe. His ability to deal with the issues at hand and remain loyal to Halacha is a skill-set on its own. The proficiency of that skill-set took decades of immersion in our holy Torah and lots of hard work. It's for that reason, and that reason only, that this past Shabbat, was the first Shabbat meal in the history of this city, that all the Sephardic Rabbis got together and sat in the same room; to pay tribute to the man who started it all. Some shared brief anecdotes of the impact the Hacham had on their lives, knowing all too well that they could speak for hours if they had to. It was that meal, in that room, that reality struck.

The Sephardic community of Toronto will never be the same. So they did what any religious man would do; they sought a blessing. Who better to receive words of wisdom than from the man who had seen it all? Because as one of the Rabbis so eloquently put it, "Nobody chooses to be a community Rabbi." You are put in the position because Hashem feels it has to be you; because he feels you have the strength to do it. Because every day we struggle with a cloud of doubt whether we are up for this position; because nothing makes sense and the odds are heavily stacked against us. But somehow it gets done and Hacham Assayag is living proof of that. He is standing evidence of the outcome of pure will and determination. And so, one by one, each person made their way to the centre of the room seeking their

own personal blessing; their own personal guidance on how to trek through this new-found reality that North America just lost one of their biggest Torah scholars. That is why we weren't ready for the lunch to be the final goodbye.

On Sunday morning it continued, and it was here when I really saw the true power of Torah; the true meaning of *Tenu Kavod LaTorah*. One by one, people waited for the Hacham with their toes freezing by the minute. One last encounter with the Hacham before he sets off to the Holy Land. Tears portraying waterfalls. What blessing would you get? Would it suffice? I waited my turn and he blessed me the blessing I was waiting for: "Strength." His words penetrated my heart. "When you think that you run out of strength and you can't do it, that's when Hashem gives it to you. He always gives you the strength you need. Beracha VeHatzlaha." There's nothing more I could have asked for.

The Parasha this week begins with the words: אלה פקודי המשכן - משכן העדות - "These are the sums of the Mishkan, the Mishkan of Testimony. Hacham Assayag built our Mishkan. He built the Mishkan of Toronto, our temporary home where God resides, as another chapter of Jewish history unfolds. But what made the Mishkan of this city so great was that it was the Mishkan of "Edut" - Testimony. Our Sages teach us that the word "Edut" means the Torah - for the Jews have first-hand "testimony" of the Torah given on Har Sinai. Our successes, his successes were because of the Torah that he delivered; the Torah that he instilled, that he established and upheld without any deviation. How appropriate the music playing in the background was that, in honour of the Torah.

Putting it all together, it is very clear to me what I need to do to succeed in this impossible task; to gain the strength needed to deal with the pressing issues of community life: Torah study, work for the sake of Heaven, seek advice from those who've experienced it all and of course prayer. Easier said than done, I know, but God doesn't give you a test you can't handle. When all is said and done, the only consolation this past weekend was knowing that the Hacham will reside with peace and tranquility in the world's holiest city, a retirement that he clearly deserves. Yet we all know that the word "retirement" doesn't exist in a Rabbi's dictionary. We are grateful that he will return to the city every so often; he will be there when we need him; when the questions arise that only he would dare tackle in the past.

I end in reference to the aforementioned pasuk. The Medrash asks why the Torah wrote the word "Mishkan" twice. It states that Moshe Rabenu had Ruah HaKodesh that the first two Temples would be destroyed but the word "HaEdut" implies that the third Temple will be built and not destroyed. The reason is because the third Bet HaMikdash will be built by HaKadosh Baruch Hu and just like He is everlasting so will His Temple be. I pray that the community Hacham Assayag helped build, the Mishkan that he helped erect, soon make its way to Jerusalem, to celebrate our esteemed Hacham and his accomplishments in the glory of the Third Bet HaMikdash. For that, is the ultimate testimony.

Rabbi David Kadoch



Purim 5779 @ SKC

Megila Readings

March 20th
8:05pm (Synagogue)

March 21st
7:45am (medrash)
8:45am (synagogue)

Pop-in Seuda with Rabbi Kadoch

March 21st
12:30pm-4:30pm
138 Colvin Cres
(Minha 415)

Purim Extravaganza

March 20th
Dinner &
Entertainment for
the family
(following the
Megila)
*see separate
flyer

BS"D

A LECTURE FOR ALL
PARENTS!

FOSTERING YOUR CHILD'S HEALTHY MIND



Mrs. Leanne Matlow -
Counselor and Workshop
Facilitator and author of
"Thinking About Thoughts"

Tuesday March 26th @ 7:30PM
Sephardic Kehila Centre
7026 Bathurst Street
Thornhill, ON
Lower Level Synagogue



This event has been sponsored
anonymously.
Light refreshments to follow.



THE ENTIRE KAHAL IS INVITED TO THE

Hilula of Rav Ha'Hida



Celebrating the life of the Tsadik |
Monday March 18, 2019 @ 6:00pm

DINNER GRACIOUSLY SPONSORED BY
MR. AND MRS. JACQUES AND BIBA
BENQUESUS

RSVP by calling the office at 905-669-7654
x200 or email
joseph.mamane@kehilacentre.com



SKC PURIM



JEWISH AND GENERAL TRIVIA

Hosted by: Rabbi Kadoch!

Cellphone w/internet connection
required to play

FOOD, FUN AND PRIZES TO BE WON!

MEMBERS:
\$30/Adult
\$15/child (10 & under)
\$120 family max
NON-MEMBERS
\$40/\$20/\$150

Wednesday
March 20th
following the
Megila
reading



Call or email the office to reserve 905-669-7654 x200