

SEPHARDIC KEHILA CENTRE

ABIR YAAKOB CONGREGATION



President
Jean-Claude Abtan
Vice President
Eric Benchetrit

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 Vayeshev פרשת וישב
Shabbat November 27th 2021, כג' כסלו תשפ"ב / 23 Kislev 5782
Perasha Page 198, Haftarah 1142 in Artscroll

Shabbat Prayer Times

מנחה Minha	4:25 p.m.
הדלקת נרות Candle Lighting	4:25 p.m.
שחרית מנין החיד"א (ותיקין) Shaharit Ha'Hida Vatikin	6:30 a.m.
שחרית (Main Synagogue) Shaharit	9:00 a.m.
תהלים Tehilim	3:30 p.m.
מנחה Minha	4:00 p.m.
שבת טוב Shabbat Ends	5:31 p.m.

Weekday Services at Medrash Torah Vehayim

שחרית Shaharit Sunday

ותיקין Vatikin	6:50 a.m.
מקדימים Makdimim	8:00 a.m.
קבועים Kebuim	9:00 a.m.

שחרית Shaharit Weekdays

ותיקין Vatikin	6:50 a.m.
מקדימים Makdimim	6:30 a.m.
קבועים Kebuim	8:00 a.m.
מנחה Minha	4:30 p.m.
ערבית Arbit	18 minutes after Sunset

Shabat Zemanim- Netz- נץ- 7:28 am, Keriat Shema- שקיעה- 9:46 am, Shekia- 4:43 pm

Mazal Tov

Yehuda and Gabrielle Oziel on their recent wedding
Proud Parents: Mr. & Mrs. Max and Anita Benatar and Mr. & Mrs. David and Paulette Oziel
Proud Grandparents: Mr. & Mrs. Max and Luisa Assayag

Mr. & Mrs. Michael and Esther Ohana on the birth of a grandson in New York, to their son David and his wife Kira

Mr. & Mrs. Pinhas and Rivka Mishan on the birth of a grandson in Israel, to their son Adam and his wife Leeat

Happy Anniversary

Eliezer & Adele Wexler, Boaz & Esther Willinger

Birthdays this week

Rivka Ohayon, Jean-Claude Abtan, Miri Elmaleh, Shirat Bensadoun, Barbara Dahan, Anita Benarroch, Gabriella Dana, Carolyn Boulos, Nehorai Bensadoun



Happy Hanukkah

Nahalot

Esther Cohen ז"ל 23 Kislev /Shabbat November 27th
Raphael Abtan ז"ל 24 Kislev /Sunday November 28th
Denise Allal ז"ל, Rachel Amiel ז"ל 25 Kislev /Monday November 29th
Perla Keslassy ז"ל 26 Kislev /Tuesday November 30th
Abraham Shemesh ז"ל 27 Kislev /Wednesday December 1st
Isaac Benmergui ז"ל 29 Kislev /Friday December 3rd

Nahalot for the following week

Isaac Nezry ז"ל, Simcha Bitton bat Esther ז"ל, David Kirschner ז"ל,
1 Tevet / Shabbat November 20th
Georgette "Zahara" Keslassy ז"ל, Ramy Dishy ז"ל 3 Tevet / Sunday
November 21st
Yosef Mouyal ז"ל, Allan Martin Kranei ז"ל, Yaakov Totah ז"ל 5 Tevet /
Mon. November 22nd
Yaakov Roditi Gulerson ז"ל, Rabbi David Benguigui ז"ל 6 Tevet / Tuesday
November 23rd

Synagogue News

The Hanukah Light

For each day of Hanukah, Rabbi Kadoch will publish a short episode on some profound ideas of the holiday. The series has been sponsored by Max and Anita Benatar in memory of his cousin Dena Leah bat Sarah Rasha z"l. The episodes will be linked to the SKC whatsapp group and can be found on findingholiness.com

Kiddush Is Back!

Kiddushim have long been an opportunity for everyone to socialize and see each other. We are thrilled to be able to welcome everyone back. We will need everyone to be mindful of social distancing and of COVID restrictions. Anyone who wishes to sponsor Kiddush to celebrate an occasion, should contact Sulty in the office at 905-669-7654 x200 or via e-Mail at sulty@kehilacentre.com.

Kiddush, this week, is sponsored by The Sephardic Kehila Centre

Seuda Shelishit

We are holding Seuda Shelishit again, between Minha and Arbit on Shabbat, with some adjustments due to COVID restrictions. Anyone who wishes to sponsor Seuda Shelishit in memory of a loved one, should contact Sulty in the office at 905-669-7654 x200 or via e-Mail at sulty@kehilacentre.com.

Seuda Shelishit, this week, is sponsored by

~ The Abtan Family in memory of Raphael Abtan z"l

~ Meyer Keslassy in memory of his wife, Perla Keslassy z"l

The Hanukah Light

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MIMI'S LIGHT

Mimi's Light was created 23 years ago by Max Benaim in honour of Mimi Benadiba. With Hanukkah approaching, we are reminded of our many dear friends who are in their homes and aren't able to light the Hanukkah candles. We seek volunteers to add to our current roster. If you know anyone in need of assistance please contact Max Benaim at (416) 918-0676 and together we will make Mimi's Light shine bright! WE URGE PARENTS AND CHILDREN TO VOLUNTEER FOR THIS GREAT EXPERIENCE!! "TO LIVE IS TO GIVE"

Aron Ha'Kodesh Dedication

A special arbat was held on Wednesday, November 24th to dedicate the Aron Ha'Kodesh that was custom built for the lower level synagogue at SKC by a group of friends in honour of their parents. We would like to extend a hearty mazal tov to the entire group on the occasion and look forward to the formal re-dedication of the lower level synagogue once the final touches are in place.

Early Risers, Early Gainers (postponed this week)

Rabbi Kadoch will start a new shiur on Hilchot Shabbat at 8:30am Shabbat mornings prior to Shaharit in the main synagogue. Start your day with an infusion of Torah.

Open to everyone - (coffee and tea available)

Tefilot and Piyutim

Attention men and boys who wish to learn the Tefilot and new piyutim. This is your opportunity to learn from one of our esteemed paytanim, Dr. Adam Ohayon.

Every shabbat, 30 minutes before Minha in main banquet hall.

Mishmar - Wednesdays and Thursdays

Boys 13 and older can join a successful night of learning, food and basketball led by Isaac Nacson. Speak to Isaac for more details

Avot U'Banim Continues This Week

Avot U'Banim for fathers and sons resumes next Motsae Shabbat, November 27th beginning at 7:00pm. Downstairs Synagogue. Food, prizes and lots of learning.

NEW: Back to Basics (postponed)

Shiur postponed for the next two weeks and will resume after Hanukah.

Youth Shabbat - Shabbat December 18th

The next Youth Shabbat in the Medrash will take place on Shabbat December 18th, Parashat Vayehi. To be a part of it, contact Rabbi Kadoch or Isaac Nacson

Shiur Update this week

Rabbi Kadoch will be out of town from this Thursday to Monday. He can be reached on Whatsapp only. As a result there will be no Parashat HaShavua class this Thursday night.

Kids' Program Is Back

We are thrilled to celebrate the return of the kids' program. We have four young women from the community led remotely by Ashlene Azulay, who have gotten together to create a program of activities to entertain and educate children of the community while their parents pray. We encourage parents to bring their children to the centre and feel comfortable that they are in a safe and healthy environment. The kid's program is located in the Lower Level Social Hall (Restaurant) and will run from 10:00 am until 12:00 pm (noon) on Shabbat

Finding Holiness Website - NOW LIVE!

We are happy to announce that Rabbi Kadoch's Finding Holiness podcast now has a website with all his shiurim archived and organized by topic. Check it out at www.findingholiness.com.

Weekly Shiurim

Monday - Study of the Amida (men and women) @ 8 pm
Wednesday-Torah Learning-Limud Torah BACK TO BASICS @8pm
Thursday - Weekly Parasha (men and women all ages) @ 8 pm
Sunday - Gemara Masechet Sotah @ 7:15am
Shabbat - Hilchot Shabbat (main synagogue) @ 8:30 am
Zachary Benatar
Monthly on Mondays @ 2:45pm: Parasha (men and women)

Vayeshev 5778 - Which brothers did Yosef slander?

Rabbi David Kadoch

"את דבתם רעה אל אביהם" (ויבא יוסף)
"And Yosef brought evil reports about them to their father." (37:2)

The story of Yosef's sale is one that really needs to be studied well. The repercussions of the episode live with us until this day. It has also been brought down that the horrific slaying of the Ten Martyrs shortly after the destruction of the second Temple is directly related to the ten brothers who sold their brother into slavery. However, it's what we know from the verses that pose interesting questions for discussion.

We know that Yosef was very close with the brothers from the handmaids of Yaakov, Bilha and Zilpa. Rashi brings the Medrash Tanhuma to explain that this is because the sons of Leah would demean the sons of Bilha and Zilpa, while Yosef would befriend them. Here's the obvious question. If Yosef was indeed friendly with Dan, Naftali, Gad and Asher, then where were these individuals when it came time to his sale? Why wouldn't they step up and defend their brother; the same brother who would behave warmly with them while they were bullied by their older brothers? In addition, how could Yosef report evil about Leah's sons if he was nowhere near them according to Rashi?

Some (see Ohr HaHaim) wish to argue that the sons of the handmaids were too scared to step up to Leah's six sons. In reality, they didn't want to see their brother be sold but they gave in to the peer pressure of their older brothers and tagged along. Others, most notably the Ramban, disagree with this explanation. The reason being that four brothers wouldn't fear five. We know that Reuven was not for the idea of selling Yosef, therefore it was Shimon, Levi, Yehudah, Yissachar and Zevulun versus the four sons of Bilha and Zilpa. Four versus five is not a sufficient disadvantage to simply give in like that.

Therefore the Ramban has a totally different description of the events that took place. While Rashi is adamant in his opinion that Yosef's evil reports were about his older brothers from Leah, the Ramban believes that this is incorrect. For if so, we're still left with our original question of where were the sons of Bilha and Zilpa during Yosef's sale. Hence the Ramban is forced to say that the evil reports that Yosef told Yaakov were about Dan, Naftali, Gad and Asher. He was able to report about them because he was close and amiable with them. This form of slander, albeit incorrect, caused Yaakov to love and respect his son more than everyone else. At this point, the sons of Leah become aware of this and display immense jealousy and hatred toward Yosef.

Now the sale of Yosef makes perfect sense. The sons of the handmaids hated Yosef because he reported them to Yaakov. The sons of Leah loathed him because Yaakov adored him more than all the other brothers and as a result, all of them were united in the decision to sell him to the Ishmaelites.

Parashat Vayeshev: Judging Favorably

Rabbi Eli Mansour

We read in Parashat Vayeshev of the sale of Yosef as a slave by his brothers. Yaakov sent Yosef to check on his brothers who were tending to their herds in Shechem, and when Yosef arrived in the area, he did not find them. A mysterious man, whom the Sages identified as the angel Gabriel, saw Yosef and asked what he was looking for. Yosef explained that he was looking for his brothers, and the angel said, "Nas'u Mi'zeh" – "They journeyed from here," and they went to a nearby area called Dotan. Yosef then made his way to Dotan, where he found his brothers, and they proceeded to throw him into a pit and eventually sold him as a slave.

Rashi, based on the Midrash, writes that when the angel said, "Nas'u Mi'zeh," he meant not only that the brothers had journeyed from Shechem, but also that they "journeyed" from their feelings of fraternal love and commitment, and were planning to kill him.

The Or Ha'haim (Rav Haim Ben-Attar, 1696-1743) raises the obvious question of why Yosef went to his brothers after receiving this news. Once he heard that his brothers "journeyed" from their brotherly devotion, and were devising a plan to inflict harm, how could he endanger himself by going to them?

The Or Ha'haim suggests that Yosef chose one of the two possible interpretations of the angel's response. The angel's words, taken plainly, meant that his brothers moved from Shechem and went to Dotan. The information that they despised Yosef and planned to kill him was conveyed through a subtle allusion. Yosef realized that this response could be understood in one of two ways, and he made the conscious decision to judge his brothers favorably, and assume that they were still committed to him and had not resorted to virulent hatred.

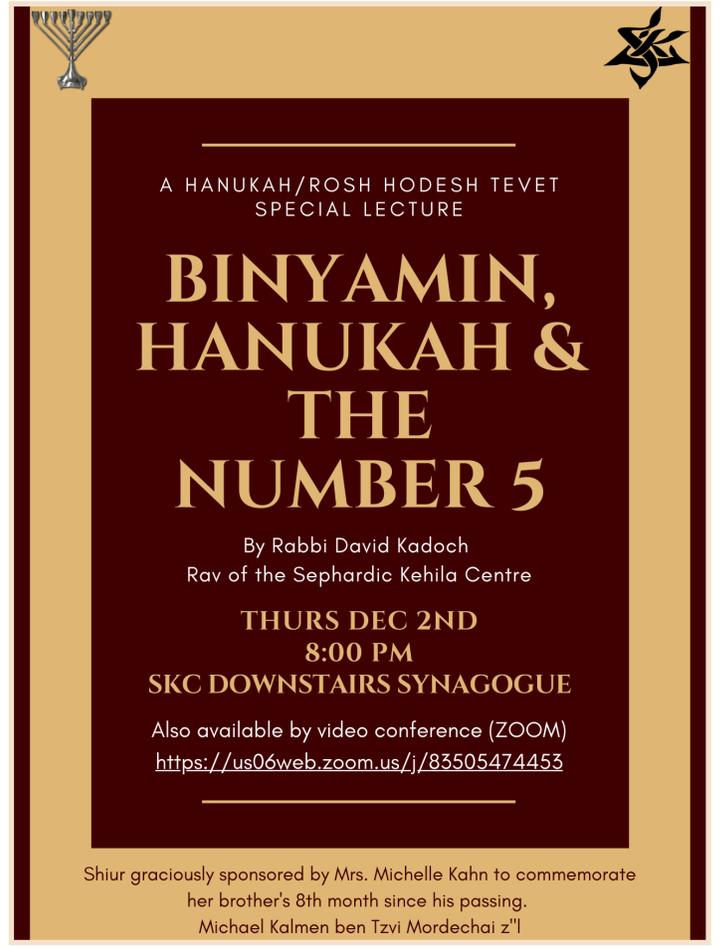
But if this is the case, the Or Ha'haim proceeds to ask, then for what purpose did the angel bother to subtly inform Yosef of his brothers' hostility? If he wanted Yosef to know that his brothers despised him, then why didn't he just say so explicitly?

The Or Ha'haim gives a remarkable answer. He writes that perhaps the angel sought to offer Yosef the opportunity to earn great reward by assuming the more favorable possibility. By choosing to judge his brothers charitably, and interpreting the angel's words to mean simply that they relocated, Yosef became worthy of reward. In fact, the Or Ha'haim writes, it is perhaps on this account that Hashem granted Yosef the grandeur and prestige which he attained in Egypt. All this honor was earned through Yosef's having judged his brothers favorably, by preferring the positive perspective over the negative one.

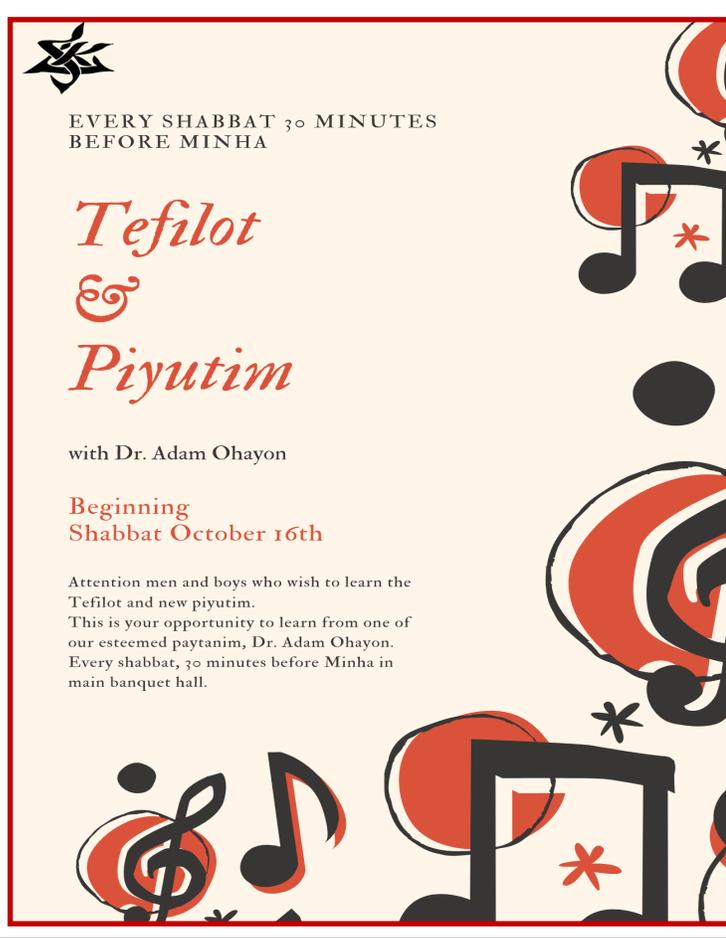
When it comes to our perception of other people, our natural tendency is, usually, to do just the opposite – to find fault, to be suspicious, to interpret people's words and actions critically, and to assume the worst about them. The story of Yosef, as understood by the Or Ha'haim, teaches us about how precious a Misva it is to judge people favorably, to look upon them from a positive angle. Rather than rush to find fault and criticize, we should do just the opposite, and rush to identify people's fine qualities and offer compliments and praise. By following Yosef's example of judging favorably, we will be worthy, as he was, of great success and reward, Amen.




 The entire community is invited to participate in
HACHNASAT SEFER TORAH
 לעילוי נשמת עמרם ומסודה ז"ל
 IN MEMORY OF
 AMRAM (ARMANDO) & MESSODA (MERCEDDES) ESSEBAG Z"l
 Join us for a festive celebration as we welcome
 the new Torah to our community
 Wednesday November 24th, 2021
 20 Kislev 5782
 1:30 pm Torah Completion
 Location: Essebag Residence
 9606 Oakmore Rd.
 Los Angeles CA 90035
 Dedicated by Jeff & Kalaya & Amram, Jonah, Ella & Liel Essebag
 Refreshments will be served



A HANUKAH/ROSH HODESH TEVET
 SPECIAL LECTURE
**BINYAMIN,
 HANUKAH &
 THE
 NUMBER 5**
 By Rabbi David Kadoch
 Rav of the Sephardic Kehila Centre
**THURS DEC 2ND
 8:00 PM**
SKC DOWNSTAIRS SYNAGOGUE
 Also available by video conference (ZOOM)
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83505474453>
 Shiur graciously sponsored by Mrs. Michelle Kahn to commemorate
 her brother's 8th month since his passing.
 Michael Kalmen ben Tzvi Mordechai z"l




 EVERY SHABBAT 30 MINUTES
 BEFORE MINHA
**Tefilot
 &
 Piyutim**
 with Dr. Adam Ohayon
 Beginning
 Shabbat October 16th
 Attention men and boys who wish to learn the
 Tefilot and new piyutim.
 This is your opportunity to learn from one of
 our esteemed paytanim, Dr. Adam Ohayon.
 Every shabbat, 30 minutes before Mincha in
 main banquet hall.



SEPHARDIC KEHILA CENTRE
 PRESENTS
**7TH ANNUAL
 HANUKAH
 BINGO
 PARTY**
 A night of fun, food, games and
 prizes for the whole family!
**SATURDAY
 DECEMBER 4TH 2021
 7PM - 10PM
 SKC GYM**
 FREE ADMISSION
 Food and Bingo cards available for purchase.
 (all proceeds to support Kids' programming at
 SKC)