# SEPHARDIC KEHILA CENTRE

## ABIR YAAKOB CONGREGATION

President Jimmy Keslassy Vice President Isaac Cohen

ברוכים הבאים שבת שלום Shabbat Shalom Welcome to our Synagogue

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

Avi Azuelos



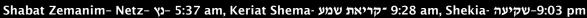
## Shabbat Korah פרשת קרח

Shabbat June 24th 2023, ה' תמוז תשפ"ג 5 Tammuz 5783 Perasha Page 820 Haftarah 1186 ויאמר in Artscroll

# Shabbat Prayer Tímes







# Weekday Services

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Vatikin *ותיקיו* 4:55 a.m. Vatikin ותניקיו 4:55 a.m. Makdimim *מקדימים* 8:00 a.m. מקדימים Makdimim 6:30 a.m. Kebuim *קבועים* 9:00 a.m. Kebuim *קבועים* 8:00 a.m. Minha מנחה 7:15 p.m.

> Arbit *ערבית* Arbit immediately following Minha

שחרית Shaharit Weekdays



## Mazal Tov

To: Isaac Oziel and Shani Avraham on their recent engagement Proud Parents: Mr. & Mrs. David and Miriam Avraham, Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy and Limor Keslassy



Ian & Rachel Keslassy \* Oren & Marni Dishy \* David & Joyce Kadoch

## Happy Birthday

Avraham Arrobas, Michael Serruya, David Anidjar, Mozie Elmaleh, Elie Toby, Mercedes Bendayan, Risa Oziel, Max Keslassy, David Kadoch, Eitan Amar, Vanessa Benarroch, Shmuel Boussidan, Shimon Boussidan, Joseph Kadoch, Marc Kadoch, Messod Bentolila, Elisa Dayan, Albert El-Faks, Moshe Benedid, Samuel Toby



Saada Dahan ז״ל, David Elmaleh ז״ל, Rahel Malka Azuelos ז״ל, Tammuz / Shabbat June 24th

Reina Dayan ז״ל, Rahel Abihsira ז״ל, Moshe Elfassy ז״ל 6 **Tammuz** / Sunday June 25th

Esther Cohen Assayag ז״ל 7 Tammuz / Monday June 26th Isaac Oziel ז״ל 10 Tammuz / Thursday June 29th

#### Nahalot for the following week

David Ohana ז״ל, Salomon Ponte ז״ל, Messod Benhaim ז״ל, Messod Benhaim ז״ל, Tammuz / Shabbat July 1st

Ruben Benhaim איל 13 Tammuz / Sunday July 2nd

Jacky Benoudiz אייל ואיל, Nechama Aronovici אייל 15 Tammuz / זייל 15 Tammuz / Tuesday July 4th

Avraham Mouyal ז״ל, Esmerelda Aquinin ז״ל, 16 Tammuz / Wed July 5th Messod Azoulay ז״ל, Messody Hadida ז״ל, 17 Tammuz / Thurs. July 6th Rivkah Saporta ז״ל, 18 Tammuz / Friday July 7th

## Synagogue News

#### Unveiling

- The unveiling of Mrs. Judy Benatar Z'"L will take place this coming Sunday, June 25th 2023, at 10:30 A.M, at Pardes Shalom Cemetery. Mishmara will be held at Petah Tikva Sunday night at 7:30pm

- The unveiling of Esther (Yvette) Benarroch Abitbol Z'"L will take place this coming Tuesday, June 27 2023, at 10:00A.M, at Pardes Shalom Cemetery.

#### Shabbat Kiddush

Kiddushim bring everyone together on multiple levels and we are thrilled to welcome everyone to SKC for a congregational Shabbat Kiddush. Anyone interested in sponsoring all or part of a kiddush or even helping us enhance the weekly kiddush is asked to call the office at 905-669-7654 x200 or send an e-mail to social@kehilacentre.com. This week's congregational Kiddush is co-sponsored by

The Sephardic Kehila Centre

Evervone is Welcome

#### Seuda Shelishit

Over the past few months, the Divre Torah during Seuda Shelishit have tackled interesting and thought-provoking topics. Joins us after Minha on Shabbat to hear this week's insight.

This week's Seuda Shelishit is sponsored by

- Mr. & Mrs Simon and Barbara Dahan, in memory of his mother, Saada Dahan z"l
- Mrs. Esther Elfassy and children, in memory of Moshe Elfassy z"l
- Mr. & Mrs. Gad and Joanna Elmaleh, in memory of his father, David Elmaleh z"l

Everyone is Welcome

#### Mesilat Yesharim - Back for another summer!

Men and women are invited for another summer to hear words of inspiration and Torah values from the book Mesilat Yesharim. Join Rabbi Kadoch every Shabbat, 45 minutes before Tehilim, to absorb the profound words of this masterpiece.

This week at 7:10 pm in the main synagogue.

#### Early Risers, Early Gainers

Rabbi Kadoch's Shabbat morning Shiur prior to Shaharit continues this Shabbat at 8:30 am.

#### **Shabbat Kids Program**

We encourage parents to bring their children to the program knowing they are well taken care of by our experienced staff. We have a fresh new program and exciting activities to entertain the children. Kehila Kidz program is located in the Lower Level Social Hall (Restaurant) and will run from 10:00 am until 12:00 pm (noon) on Shahhat

Please remember that your children are your responsibility while at SKC and that if they are not participating in the children's program, that they should be sitting with you. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation.

#### SKC Calendar 2023-2024

We are pleased to introduce the "new" SKC Community Calendar. The SKC will be producing this attractive multi-color publication, and mailing it to the entire membership and community free of charge.

The Calendar will include detailed information about upcoming Holidays, upcoming special events, Shabbat and Holiday candle lighting times, Nahalot and Birthdays. The practical design also provides ample room for the recording of personal information and appointments.

For more information and pricing, please contact the syngague

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#### SKC Sisterhood Book Club

Thank you to all the ladies who came out to the Womans Wellness Program, Music Movement and Meditation

A special thank you to Mrs. Esther Willinger for inspiring and energizing the woman of our community for the last several months. We hope to see you in the new year.

### Weekly Shiurim

Midrash by Night - Tuesday and Thursdays following Arvit Parashat HaShavua - Thursdays @8pm HYBRID\* Hilchot Shabbat - Shabbat at 8:30am Main Synagogue Gemara Sanhedrin - Sundays at 7:15am Downstairs synagogue

Zachary Benatar

Weekly on Mondays @ 2:45pm: Parasha (men and women)

# MAZAL TOV TO OUR SCHOLARS AND GRADUATES

- Auston Schlar Netivot Hatorah (SK)
- Joseph Kadoch Netivot Hatorah (SK)
- Avi Kadoch Netivot HaTorah (Grade 8)
- Judah Keslassy Netivot Hatorah (Grade 8)
- Talia Keslassy JDOHSS (Grade 8)
- Ethan Abecassis JDOHSS (Grade 8)
- Alegria Azulay JDOHSS (Grade 8)
- Jonah Azulay JDOHSS (Grade 8)
- Anaelle Levy JDOHSS (Grade 8)
- Ben Sadeh Westmount C.I. (Grade 12)
- Miriam Hadassa Bekerman Bais Chomesh (Grade 12)
- Joshua Keslassy C.H.A.T. (Grade 12)
- Esther Serruya Sheck Hillel C.S (Grade 12)
- Gabrielle (Benatar) Oziel Masters in Developmental Psycholo-gy and Education
- Lauren Benchetrit Honours Bachelor in Health Sciences
- Shoshana Assayag Honours Bachelor of Commerce -Honours HR Management
- Jade Serruya Honours Bachelor of Arts & Bachelors in Education
- Jacob Keslassy Honours Bachelors of Science
- Joshua Abraham Benchaya, McGill Medical School

#### Korah 5783 - The Para Aduma Connection

Rabbi David Kadoch

Yes, I know what you're thinking. Para Aduma? Isn't that next week, in Parashat Hukat? What's with the title, Rabbi? Let me elaborate on an insightful hidush I read by R' Simcha Zissel Broide on this week's Parasha.

Korah and his entourage filed a valid complaint against Moshe. "We are all the children of Hashem. We are all holy! So why do you raise yourself above everyone else?" Korah was referring to Moshe's appointing of his other family members to prestigious positions while Korah was left without anything. The Midrash asks: What did Korah see to start up this argument with Moshe? What stirred him to complain? The Midrash answers: "He saw the Para Aduma (the Red Heifer). What is the meaning of this Midrash? What is the connection between the mitzvah of Para Aduma and Korah's complaint?

The Para Aduma came to atone for the sin of the Golden Calf. As Rashi quotes the Midrash: "Let the mother (the Red Heifer) come and clean up the mess of her son (the Golden Calf). In order for that atonement to succeed, Moshe had to go to Hashem after He was not interested in atoning them. Hashem wanted to destroy them and build Moshe a new people. Moseh said: "Why are you so angry at them? You said in the first of the Ten Commandments "Anochi Hashem EloheCHA!" I am Hashem YOUR God (in the singular)" - In other words, don't be upset if they resorted to making the Golden Calf.

After Korah sees the mitzvah of the Para Aduma he understands that Hashem did not accept Moshe's claim. Because if He did accept Moshe's argument that "Anochi" was only said to Moshe and not everyone else, there would be no need for the mitzvah of Para Aduma. It must be then that the First Commandment of "Anochi" was directed to every Jew, not just Moshe. Therefore, Moshe had no right to elevate himself over everyone else because "we are all holy" - "kulam kedoshim." So who gives you the right to make yourself more prestigious over the rest?

In the end, we must recall that Korah's argument against Moshe was fundamentally flawed for several reasons. Firstly, Korah challenged the authority of Moshe and Aharon, claiming that they were taking too much power for themselves and that the entire community was holy and should share in the leadership. However, what Korah failed to recognize was that Moshe and Aharon had been chosen by Hashem Himself to lead Bene Yisrael. Their positions of authority were not self-appointed, but rather a divine appointment. By questioning their authority, Korah was essentially challenging the wisdom and sovereignty of God.

Secondly, Korah's argument ignored the fact that Moshe had consistently demonstrated his humility and selflessness throughout his leadership. He was not motivated by personal gain or a desire for power, but rather by his unwavering commitment to serving Hashem and guiding Bene Yisrael. Moshe had shown time and again that he was willing to make personal sacrifices and endure hardships for the sake of the community. Korah's argument failed to acknowledge the genuine care and selflessness that Moshe exhibited in his role as a leader. Lastly, Korach's rebellion against Moshe and Aaron was driven by envy and personal ambition. He desired the prestige and recognition that came with leadership and sought to elevate himself at the expense of others. His argument was rooted in selfishness rather than a genuine concern for the welfare of the community. In contrast, Moshe consistently prioritized the well-being of the Bene Yisrael above his own interests. Korah's incorrect argument against Moshe stemmed from his own misguided motivations and a failure to recognize and appreciate the qualities of true leadership.

#### Parashat Korah: Hearing the Other Side

Rabbi Eli J. Mansour

A famous Mishna in Pirkeh Abot (5:17) distinguishes between two kinds of "Mahloket" (controversy) - one which is "Le'shem Shamayim" (for the sake of Heaven), and one which is not "Le'shem Shamayim." As an example of the latter kind of argument, one which is not waged for sincere, altruistic purposes, the Mishna points to "Korah Va'adato," the fight launched by Korah and his cohorts against Moshe and Aharon. This fight was driven by ego and lust for honor, rather than any sort of noble ambition. The Mishna's example of an argument fought "Le'shem Shamayim" is the arguments between the schools of Hillel and Shammai, who debated many Halachic issues out of a sincere desire to arrive at the true Halacha and fulfill G-d's will.

Many commentators have noted a difficulty in the way the Mishna draws this contrast between the two controversies, distinguishing between "the Mahloket between Hillel and Shammai" and "the Mahloket between Korah and his followers." In reference to the first controversy, the Mishna names both parties of the dispute – Hillel and Shammai. But in reference to the other Mahloket, the Mishna names only the members of one side of the argument – Korah and his followers. Seemingly, the

parallel to "the Mahloket be-tween Hillel and Shammai" should be "the Mahloket between Korah and Moshe." Why does the Mishna mention "Korah and his followers" instead of "Korah and Moshe"? The Talmud tells that when Hillel delivered a class, he made a point of first presenting Shammai's opinion before proceeding to his own view. Although he disagreed with Shammai, he ensured to study and understand the rationale underlying Shammai's rulings. He approached every subject with an honest, open mind, driven by the sincere pursuit of truth. He wanted to understand why Shammai said what he did, even he did not agree.

Ray Shimon Schwab (1908-1995) commented that this is one defining characteristic of a "Mahloket Le'shem Shamayim." If someone engages in an argument with sincere, idealistic motives, he approaches the matter honestly and with an open mind. His goal is not to win the argument, not to triumph over his opponent, but rather to arrive at the truth. And therefore he will honestly explore all possibilities to see if perhaps there is merit to the other opinions. But one who fights for the sake of personal honor, to promote his ego, will not listen to the other views. He is not interested in truth; his goal is to win the argument, and so he promotes his side of the debate without giving any consideration to the other side.

For this reason, Rav Schwab explains, the Mishna speaks of "the Mahloket between Hillel and Shammai" and "the Mahloket between Korah and his followers." As far as Korah and his cohorts were concerned, there was no other opinion. They were not interested in truth, and thus they did not consider the validity of Moshe's position. This was not an argument between them and Moshe; it was all about them. Hillel and Shammai, however, were driven "Le'shem Shamayim," and thus recognized and respected each other's opinion, even as they strongly disagreed. When one's goal is not to emerge triumphant, but to arrive at the truth, then he will listen to the other side with an open mind and with respect.

No two people think alike. We have and will always have many disagreements, and this is perfectly acceptable and the way the world has always been. Our goal should not be to agree on every matter, but rather to respect those with whom we disagree. And this begins by listening to other opinions, no matter how strongly we disagree with them. This is the way to ensure that we are driven and motivated by a sincere desire to arrive at the truth, and living our lives genuinely "Le'shem Shamayim."







# MIDRASH BY NIGHT

Tuesdays & Thursdays
Following Arvit throughout the
summer

Torah learning opportunities for everyone Learn with a havruta partner or at your own pace

Various shiurim by R' David Kadoch, R' Shemuel Pinto, R' Yitzhak Hakak and others

Speak to Rabbi Kadoch to find the right class for you

7026 Bathurst Street - Downstairs Synagogue (Coffee and tea available)

