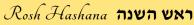
# SEPHARDIC KEHILA CENTRE

# 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 September 16th 2023 א' תשרי תשפ"ד 1 Tishrei 5784



# HIGH HOLIDAYS SCHEDULE

Erev Rosh Hashana	Fri, Sept. 15 <sup>TH</sup> ,2023
Candle Lighting	7:10pm
Minha	7:10pm
Arbit	7:35pm
Kiddush After	7:53pm

First Day of Rosh Hashana Sat, Sept. 16<sup>TH</sup>, 2023 8:30am Minha(Seuda Shelishit to Follow) 6:35pm

7:50pm Candle Lighting and Kiddush After 8:09pm

Second Day of Rosh Hashana Sun, Sept. 17TH,2023 Shaharit 8:30am Tashlich 6:45pm Minha 7:05pm

Arbit 7:55pm Yom Tov Ends 8:08pm

Sun, Sept. 24<sup>TH</sup>, 2023 **Erev Yom Kippur** 2:00pm Minha Kal Nidre 6:30pm Candle Lighting Before 6:53pm

**Erev Yom Kippur** Mon, Sept. 25TH, 2023 Shaharit 8:00am Minha 4:20pm Neila 7:00pm Shofar - Yom Tob Ends 7:53pm



Wishing you all a Shana Toba with good health. long life, joy and happiness

לשנה טובה תכתבו לחיים טובים ולשלום



There will be NO Seuda Shelishit on the first day of Rosh HaShanah. Please eat the seuda at home. Minha on the First day of Rosh Hashanah will be at 6:50pm (not 6:35 pm)



Mr. & Mrs. Avi and Yael Benchetrit on the birth of a baby girl in Israel Proud Grandparents: Mr. & Mrs. Sol and Bella Benchetrit, Mr. & Mrs. Dror and Anat Rozenblit

Proud Great-Grandfather: Mr. Albert Bitton

Mr. & Mrs. Nissim and Goldie Saban on the birth of a baby boy



Benjamin & Yaffa Bensimon

<u>Happy Bírthday</u>

Yael Azoulay, Shani Hazan, Molly Eden Toby, Sylviane Bendelac, David Sadeh, Sara Mishan, Simon Serruya, Perla Azulay, Mimi Elmaleh, Jonathan Amar, Rebecca Benedid, Elias Azulay, Fanny Queroub



Shalom Attias אייל, Ruth Sabbah אייל 1 Tishrei / Shabbat September 16th Mercedes Essebag אייל, Armando Abitbol אייל 2 Tishrei / Sun. Sept 17th Messody Benchetrit אייל 4 Tishrei / Tuesday September 19th Djamile Malinowicz אייל 6 Tishrei / Thursday September 21st Mordechai Bensalmon אייל 7 Tishrei / Friday September 22nd

# Nahalot for the following week

Yamin Beniluz אייל 8 Tishrei / Shabbat September 23rd Herbert Stein אייל 9 Tishrei / Sunday September 24th Reuben Benquesus אייל 10 Tishrei / Monday September 25th Perla Ohana אייל, Rachel Esses אייל 11 Tishrei / Tuesday September 26th Camilla Hadida אייל, Carlos Abitbol אייל, Toby Kimelman Gornstein אייל 14 Tishrei / Friday September 29th

# Synagogue News

### **Welcome To Our New Members**

Mr. and Mrs. Gabriel and Esther Abecassis and Family

Mr. and Mrs. Itay and Adi Avitzur

Mr. and Mrs. Stefan and Gabriella Ayache and Family

Mr. Shimon Azoulay

Mr. and Mrs. Nathaniel and Rachel Benarroch and Family

Mr. Keenan Benarroch

Mr. and Mrs. Prosper and Robyn Benchetrit and Family

Mr. and Mrs. Maxwell and Maya Charlat

Mr. and Mrs. Aaron and Sarah Cohen

Mrs. Tany Cohen

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel and Ana Douek and Family

Mr. Amram Dayan

Mrs. Kelty Granite and Family

Mr. Danny Ifergan

Mr. and Mrs. Henry and Claire Moyal and Family

Mr. and Mrs. Eduardo and Malka Nahmad

Mr. and Mrs. Josh and Biba Atara Rais

Mr. and Mrs. Isaac and Freda Savdie and Family

We wish them a Baruch Haba to our Kehila as well as a happy and healthy engagement in our services for many years to come.

#### Condolences

We extend our condolences to our friend and member, Mr. Liran Elimelech, to his siblings Coby, Tomer and Matan and to the entire family, on the passing of their father, Mr. Shalom Elimelech z"l.

May his neshama rest eternally in Gan Eden and may we only hear Besorot Tovot. Amen.

### Tzom Gedalia

The fast of Tzom Gedaliah is on Monday September 18th Fast begins 5:48am

Minha 6:45pm (main sanctuary)

Fast ends 7:47pm

### Special Shiur by Efi Palvanov

After an extremely successful first class, Efi Palvanov will be back at the SKC, this Wednesday, September 20th.

He will speak on Apocrypha: Exploring the Ancient Books of the Jubilees (Sefer HaYovel)

Men and women are invited to attend. 8:00pm

# Late Minha/Arvit Begins This Week

Please note that we are now running winter scheduling for all Tefilot throughout the week.

#### Selihot

Selihot begins 45 minutes before each respective minyan. Please make every effort to attend to ensure minyan. Tizku LaMitzvot

### **SAVE THE DATE**

SIMCHA TORAH LUNCHEON - SUNDAY OCTOBER 8TH

## **Upcoming Events @ the SKC**

Motsae Shabbat September 23rd (Sunday 12:30am)

- Community Selihot

#### **Monday October 2nd**

- City-wide Simhat Bet HaShoeva Party

#### **Tuesday October 3rd**

- SKC Sukkah Party

### Security Update

A great number of members, guests and participants from various minyanim in the building will be attending the high holidays in your building under security and police presence. Security measures have been prepared for the safety and security of all who attend but we ask you to be vigilant and be reminded to report any suspicious activity that you witness to a staff member, member of the board or member of security team.

Jean-Claude Abtan -- Elias Anidjar -- Mose Bendayan --Sol Benhetrit -- Eric Benchitrit -- Isaac Cohen -- Oren Dishy --Oren Hyams

If you see something, say something.

# What's your impetus to change?

Rabbi David Kadoch

Seriously, ask yourself that question. What's the thing that gets you going? Not just getting out of bed to work, but getting you to change. We're smack in the midst of the month of Elul. Rosh Hashanah is just a few days away. What causes you to repent? For most people, it could be a really good speech from the Rabbi or a powerful video. For others, however, it can be a tragedy such as an untimely death or a bad diagnosis from the doctor. For the latter group, it was actually predicted in this week's Parasha when the Torah states that "it will be that all these things will come upon you, the blessing and the curses, and then you will return to your hearts (teshuva)..." Clearly, when encountering curses (as outlined in last week's parasha) we are often motivated to change. Yet, paying close attention to the pasuk, you might wonder why the word "blessing" was also included. Generally, when I experience blessing, I feel content with what I have and with my life and that usually won't push me to change in any way bit. So why does the pasuk also include blessing as an impetus for repentance?

This question was asked by Ohr HaHayim HaKadosh in his commentary and he writes that the Torah may shed light on the thoughts that led to the repentance of Bene Yisrael. When they were living without sin and enjoying abundant blessings, they didn't connect their good fortune to their way of life. They took these blessings for granted, believing they were entitled to them. It was only when they lost these blessings that they began to realize that their previous way of life was a result of Hashem's special blessings upon them.

Blessings in one's life often serve as a catalyst for teshuva, the profound process of repentance and spiritual return. When we recognize and appreciate the abundant blessings surrounding us—be it good health, loving relationships, or opportunities for growth—it awakens a sense of gratitude and introspection. These blessings, rather than being taken for granted, become a poignant reminder of our responsibility to live with purpose and integrity. In their radiance, we may acknowledge past mistakes or mis-deeds and feel compelled to make amends, striving to align our actions with the goodness bestowed upon us.

In addition, the blessings in our lives have a unique way of illuminating the path to repentance. They serve as a mirror, reflecting not just the goodness we receive but also the potential within us to reciprocate that goodness. When we pause to appreciate the love, abundance, and opportunities surrounding us, we often find ourselves humbled by the sheer grace of it all. This humility fosters a desire for self-improvement and a commitment to rectify past wrongs, knowing that our actions should align with the generosity we've experienced. The blessings, therefore, become a driving force propelling us toward teshuva, urging us to seek forgiveness, mend relationships, and lead a life more aligned with the values and principles that underpin the blessings we hold dear. Blessings, in their magnanimity, guide us towards teshuva, a journey of self-improvement and reconnection with our higher selves and the divine. This is why the Torah felt it necessary to include beracha as a catalyst to return closer to Hashem.

# What We Celebrate on Rosh Hashanah

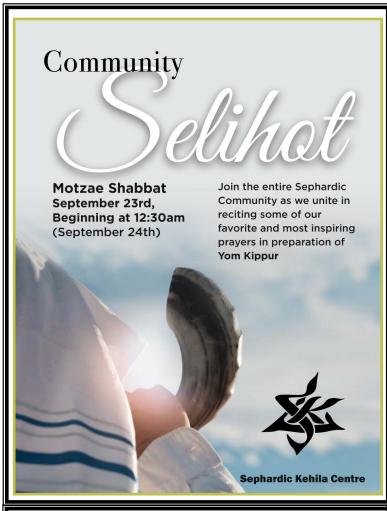
by Rabbi Eli Mansour

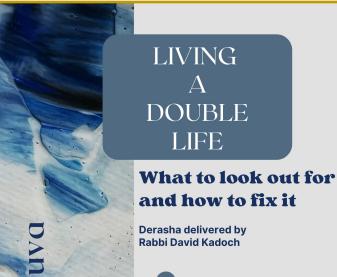
The Torah never directly commands sounding the Shofar on Rosh Hashanah. Instead, it tells us, in Parashat Emor (Vayikra 23:24), that we must observe the first of Tishri as a "Zichron Teru'a" - literally, "the remembrance of a Shofar blast." What exactly does this mean, and what might this reflect about the nature of the Rosh Hashanah celebration? Rashi explains that on this day, we recite in our prayers verses that relate to theme of "Zichronot" - G-d's remembering all past events, and that relate to the sounding of the Shofar. For this reason, Rosh Hashanah is called a day of "Zichron Teru'a."

The Ramban, after a lengthy discussion of Rashi's comments, offers a different explanation. He writes that on this day, we sound the Shofar in order that we be remembered favorably before G-d. Rosh Hashanah is a day of "Zichron Teru'a" in the sense that we sound the Shofar in order to arouse G-d's mercy and compassion, so that we are remembered favorably as we stand trial on this day of judgment. On every Rosh Hodesh and holiday, we add the "Ya'aleh Ve'yabo" paragraph in the three daily prayers, and in Birkat Ha'mazon. In "Ya'aleh Ve'aybo," we ask

that our "remembrance" ("Zichronenu U'fikdonenu") should come before G-d favorably, meaning, that He should view us in a favorable light. We recite "Ya'aleh Ve'yabo" on Rosh Hashanah, just as on all holidays, but there is a fundamental difference between its recitation on Rosh Hashanah and its recitation on other occasions. On Rosh Hashanah, this prayer expresses the essence of the day, what this celebration is all about. Rosh Hashanah revolves around the notion of "Zikaron," that G-d remembers us and thinks of us favorably on this day of judgment. The essence of Rosh Hashanah is not the judgment itself, but rather the "Zikaron," the fact that by observing this day properly, through our prayers, repentance and the sounding of the Shofar, we are judged favorably. And thus the "Ya'aleh Ve'yabo" recitation assumes special significance of this day, as it expresses the core essence of the Rosh Hashanah celebration. This insight answers a very basic question that we might have otherwise asked about Rosh Hashanah. All the holidays and other events on the Jewish calendar commemorate events that are unique to our nation. Pesach celebrates the Exodus from Egypt; Shabuot celebrates Matan Torah; Tisha B'Ab mourns the tragedies that have befallen our people; Sukkot memorializes our ancestors' experience while traveling through the desert, and so on. Rosh Hashanah, however, appears - at first glance - to have no specific connection to the Jewish People. It marks the beginning of the new year, the anniversary of the creation of Adam, the father of all humanity, and it is the day when the entire earth - not just Am Yisrael - is judged. Seemingly, this special day has no unique significance for us, the Jewish Nation.

Moreover, I am sure everyone has often wondered why we observe Rosh Hashanah as a day of festive celebration, enjoying lavish meals and scrumptious foods, if our fate is being determined on this day. Why would we joyously celebrate on the day when our lives are literally being held in the balance? The Ramban's comments provide us with the answer to these guestions. We celebrate Rosh Hashanah as a day of "Zichron Teru'a," a day when we are able to earn Hashem's favor and compassion. We rejoice on this day because He has shown us, His treasured nation, the way to be judged favorably. While Rosh Hashanah is, on the one hand, a frightening day, it is also a joyous day - because Hashem has taught us how to earn His mercy. May we all use this precious opportunity to make a sincere commitment to strengthen our connection to Hashem, and truly celebrate the special privilege we have been given to forge this relationship, through which we become worthy of being inscribed for a year of health, happiness, prosperity and fulfillment, Amen





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Sephardic Kehila Centre 7026 Bathurst St



Shabbat September 23rd 5:10PM

For Jews of all ages and religious levels



