

# SEPHARDIC KEHILA CENTRE

## ABIR YAAKOB CONGREGATION

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Jimmy Keslassy  
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Rabbi Emeritus  
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Rabbi  
Rabbi David Kadoch  
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Avi Azuelos

שבת שלום ברוכים הבאים  
Shabbat Shalom Welcome to our Synagogue

Shabbat Bereshit פרשת בראשית

Shabbat October 14th 2023, כט' תשרי תשפ"ד / 29 Tishrei 5784  
Perasha Page 2 Haftarah 1130 כה-אמר in Artscroll

### Shabbat Prayer Times

מנחה Mincha (Main Synagogue)	6:20 p.m.
הדלקת נרות Candle Lighting	6:19 p.m.
שחרית מניין החיד"א (ותיקין) Shacharit Ha'Hida Vatikim	6:30 a.m.
Shiur Hilchot Shabbat	8:15 a.m.
שחרית Shacharit (Main Synagogue)	8:45 a.m.
תהלים Tehilim	5:20 p.m.
מנחה Mincha	5:55 p.m.
שבת טוב Shabbat Ends	7:20 p.m.



Shabat Zemanim- Netz- נץ- 7:31 am, Keriat Shema- שמע 10:17 am, Shekia- שקיעה 6:36 pm

### Weekday Services

שחרית Shacharit Sunday	שחרית Shacharit Weekdays
ותיקין Vatikim 6:50 a.m.	ותיקין Vatikim 6:50 a.m.
מקדימים Makdimim 8:00 a.m.	מקדימים Makdimim 6:30 a.m.
קבועים Kebuim 9:00 a.m.	קבועים Kebuim 8:00 a.m.
	מנחה Mincha 6:30 p.m.
	ערבית Arbit Arbit immediately following Mincha

### Mazal Tov

Mr. & Mrs. Armando and Enny Cohen on their son Messi's Hanahat Tefilin at the Kotel this past Thursday.

Our Dear Rabbi David Kadoch on celebrating this week (Tuesday) coming his 40th Birthday.

### Happy Anniversary

♦ David & Dina Azulay

### Happy Birthday

Yves Zrihen, Avi Azuelos, Raphael Igelman, Isaac Bendelac, David Hazan, David Kadoch, Michael Harris, Moti Gulersen, Adi Sher

## Nahalot

Esther Berdugo ז"ל, Messod Sultan ז"ל **29 Tishrei** / Shabbat Oct. 14th  
Rachel Benaim ז"ל, Myriam Medina ז"ל, Mair Oziel ז"ל **30 Tishrei** /  
Sunday October 15th  
Miriam Benhaim ז"ל, Aliya Oziel ז"ל **1 Cheshvan** / Monday October 16th  
Messod Benarroch ז"ל, Hassibe Zeitoune ז"ל, Nissim Elkaim ז"ל, Ambrosio  
Edery ז"ל **2 Cheshvan** / Tuesday Oct. 17th  
Rabbi Elias Toby ז"ל, Mimon Cohen ז"ל **3 Cheshvan** / Wed. October 18th  
Camille Beniluz ז"ל, Abraham Cohen ז"ל, Joseph Benhaim ז"ל **4 Cheshvan**  
/ Thursday Oct. 19th

## Nahalot for the following week

Aida Bendrihen ז"ל **6 Cheshvan** / Shabbat October 21st  
Estrella Rashty ז"ל, Bertha Benquesus ז"ל **7 Cheshvan** / Sunday Oct 22nd  
Rebeca Revivo ז"ל **9 Cheshvan** / Tuesday Oct. 24th  
Victoria Savdie ז"ל **10 Cheshvan** / Wed. Oct. 25th  
Mark Benchimol ז"ל, Samuel Hadida ז"ל **11 Cheshvan** / Thurs. Oct. 26th  
Mordechai Chai ז"ל, Binyamin Chai ז"ל, Amram Benmaman ז"ל, Andy  
Shimkovitz ז"ל **12 Cheshvan** / Friday October 27th

## Synagogue News

### Rosh Hodesh Heshvan

Rosh Hodesh Heshvan is Sunday and Monday (begins Saturday night).

Please note that the 8:00am minyan Sunday morning will begin at 7:45am to accommodate the extra tefilot.

### 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.

### The Sephardic Kehila Centre

*Everyone is Welcome*

### Seuda Shelishit

This week's Seuda Shelishit is sponsored by:

**Mr. & Mrs Samuel and Alegria Toby in memory of his father Rabbi Elias Toby z'l**

*Everyone is Welcome*

### Early Risers, Early Gainers

Rabbi Kadoch's Shabbat morning Shiur prior to Shaharit continues this Shabbat at 8:15am.

**Resumes this week at 8:15am**

### Tefilot and Piyutim

The young boys of the community, led by Adam Ohayon, continue learning the songs and melodies that make our services unique.

To have your child participate, bring him 30 minutes before Minha on Shabbat afternoon.

### New Ladies Shiur

Dear ladies of the community

We are excited to invite you to join our brand new shiur focused on the weekly parasha and its profound life lessons delivered by our own Rabbi Kadoch.

Every Monday at 7:30pm, this insightful gathering promises to be a source of inspiration and spiritual growth. Discover the timeless wisdom embedded in our sacred parashiyot and learn how to apply it to your everyday life. Let's come together to explore, reflect, and strengthen our connection to our Torah and Jewish values.

What a great way to start the new cycle of Torah, with Parashat Noah, this coming Monday.

### Special Shiur by Efi Palvanov

### Now bi-weekly at the SKC

Join Efi Palvanov and his exciting series of classes every other week on Wednesdays in the Downstairs Synagogue.

Next class is Wednesday October 25th See you there!

## SKC Enhanced Security

Dear SKC Community,

I hope this email finds you well and that your able to find support and ways to cope with the current situation. We remain deeply concerned about the events in Israel. Many of our community members and families have family in Israel and we pray for their safety and well-being. We send our deepest sympathies to those who have suffered loss or who are missing loved ones.

Top of mind for us at the Sephardic Kehila Centre is the safety of our building attendees. The security team met this week and expect an ongoing process of assessing the situation and making adjustments as necessary. Here is some more information about what to expect.

### Heightened Security:

We have witnessed and have been informed of increased police presence in the area, nevertheless, during Shabbat services for the next several weeks we've hired off-duty police to be present during services in addition to the security we currently have in place.

We ask for the SKC community to exercise a heightened degree of healthy vigilance and situational awareness. Extra attention should be paid in ensuring all security protocols are being followed, particularly regarding entrances and doors that should remain locked.

### Kids Program:

As always, we encourage parents to bring their children to the centre and feel comfortable that they are in a safe and healthy environment with programs and activities and ask you to reinforce with your children that they should always remain in the program until they are picked up by you or remain seated next to you in the sanctuary. We won't allow the wondering in the halls of any child unattended. Your assistance in the matter will be appreciated.

### Volunteers Needed:

Security measures have been prepared for the safety and security of all who attend but we are asking for additional volunteers to help our current volunteer team. Now more than ever we need your assistance. Please reach out directly to one of our board members or security team members of your interest.

Wishing strength to Israel, and peace and security to us all.

### Security Committee & Board of Directors

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 Benchetrit --

Eric Benchetrit -- Isaac Cohen -- Oren Dishy -- Oren Hyams

**If you see something, say something.**

## 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 7:15 am Downstairs synagogue

### Zachary Benatar

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

## Bereshit 5784 - Losing focus of the mission

*Rabbi David Kadoch*

The piece of Talmud is well known. At the beginning of creation, on the fourth day, Hashem created two luminaries - the bigger one and the smaller one. The bigger one which ruled the day is what we know as the sun and the smaller one, which ruled the night is what we call the moon. However, it wasn't so when they were first formed. The Talmud tells us that they were created equal in size. The moon, unimpressed, spoke up in front of Hashem and said "Can two kings make use of one crown?" In other words, how can there be two luminaries powering over the skies? Hashem accepted the argument and thus told the moon, "Go and diminish yourself." The moon became the smaller luminary as a result.

Many are quick to ask why the moon was punished? Didn't it have a good claim? You won't find any country with more than command-in-chief. So why was it given lesser status by Hashem? The answer can teach us a great lesson about our mission in life.

The moon's mistake was simply what it thought of itself. It considered itself a monarch when nobody told her it was. Instead of viewing herself and the sun as messengers of Hashem, whose purpose is to better the world in numerous ways, she chased after power and authority. She considered herself superior than all the other creations when she was just to be another creation fulfilling the will of Hashem. We see this often in life. People are given jobs to do or agendas to complete, and instead on focusing on the mission they were given and the opportunity presented to them, they search for authority and supremacy over others and they do this for a variety of reasons. Firstly, these positions often come with greater control over resources, decision-making, and influence. Having authority can grant individuals the ability to shape policies, make important decisions, and lead organizations or communities. The feel of being in charge and having the ability to effect change or make a significant impact on a larger scale can be a powerful motivator. Secondly, positions of power and authority can offer prestige and recognition. Society often places a high value on those in leadership roles, and individuals may seek these positions to gain respect and admiration from others. The title, status, and the potential for increased social standing can be appealing.

However, the lesson from the moon's story in the Talmud serves as a cautionary tale against the single-minded pursuit of power and authority. While these positions may offer short-term rewards, they can also lead to unintended consequences. When people prioritize authority over their true purpose and mission, they may lose sight of their unique strengths and contributions. They can become so consumed with the desire for power that they neglect the responsibilities and duties associated with the position they hold, potentially causing harm to themselves and others.

Moreover, seeking power for its own sake can be a never-ending quest, as there will always be someone with more authority or influence. It can lead to a constant cycle of dissatisfaction and disappointment, as true fulfillment often comes from aligning one's actions with their values and passions, and using their abilities to make a positive impact, rather than merely seeking positions of authority. Therefore, the lesson is clear: it is wiser to focus on one's mission and the genuine desire to contribute meaningfully to society, rather than chasing authority, as this path is more likely to lead to personal fulfillment and lasting positive change.

## Bereshit- Bringing Gan Eden Into Our World

*by Rabbi Eli Mansour*

The Gemara in Masechet Ta'anit (25a) tells the story of Rabbi Hanina Ben Dosa, an exceptionally pious Sadik who lived in destitution. His wife once complained about the scarcity that they endured, and so he prayed for a miracle. In response to his prayers, the image of a hand extended from the heavens and gave him a golden leg of a table, instantly making them wealthy.

That night, Rabbi Hanina's wife beheld in a dream an image of the next world, where she and her husband sat at a three-legged table, while everybody else sat at tables with four legs. Upon awakening, she immediately understood that the gift she received had been taken out of their "account" in the next world. She had Rabbi Hanina pray that the leg be taken back. Sure enough, a hand descended and took the table back into the heavens.

The Gemara concludes this story with a mysterious statement: "The later miracle was greater than the first." Meaning, the hand that brought back the table was more miraculous than the hand bringing down the table in the first place.

We must wonder, why does this matter? What difference does it make which miracle was greater? And why, in fact, was the second miracle greater than the first?

The answer given is that normally, anything from the upper world brought into our physical world is, almost by definition, tainted, and thus unworthy of being returned to the heavens. We might draw an analogy to the sterile environment in an operating room. If a medical instrument was brought outside, exposed, it would never be brought back into the operating room, because it is no longer sterile. Similarly, the leg of a table - or anything - that was brought outside the pure, pristine environment of the heavens, into our physical world, is unfit for that environment thereafter. But this case was an exception - because Rabbi Hanina Ben Dosa's home was pure and pristine just like the heavens. His level of piety and sanctity was such that the leg was not tainted to even the slightest extent. This is the great miracle of the leg's return to the heavens - that it was still worthy of being returned, even after coming into our world, because it had come into a part of our world that was heavenlike.

Parashat Bereshit tells the story of Adam and Havah's banishment from Gan Eden after the sin of eating the fruit of the forbidden tree. Ever since their expulsion, mankind has been charged with the responsibility to strive to return to Gan Eden. Through our Torah learning and observance of Mitzvot, we bring into our world the purity of Gan Eden, and thus, in some sense, we return to the garden.

This process reaches its apex after the Yamim Noraim (High Holidays). Having confessed, repented and prayed, focusing on

improving ourselves, we have reached, to one extent or another, greater heights of sanctity, thus turning our world into "Gan Eden."

This explains the tradition of the "Ushpizin," the notion that during the holiday of Sukkot, we are visited in the Sukka by the great Sadikim - Abraham, Yishak, Yaakov, Yosef, Moshe, Aharon and David. The Sukka represents our return to Gan Eden after the cleansing process we have undergone over the course of the Yamim Noraim. Now that we've succeeded in creating a Gan Eden here in our world, resembling, if only somewhat, the home of Rabbi Hanina Ben Dosa, our righteous ancestors are able to come from the heavens and join us, because our Sukka is actually an extension of the heavens.

Our challenge, and our responsibility, during this time of year is to try to maintain the "Gan Eden" that we've created. We must ensure that the growth we experienced during the holiday season continues with us throughout the coming months. Let us try to bring Gan Eden into our world by making our lives purer, holier and nobler, through our fervent commitment to Torah learning and performing Mitzvot.



# SHIURIM SCHEDULE

## Monday

7:30pm - Parashat HaShavua  
(Women)  
8:15pm - Bilvavi/Mussar  
(Young Men)

## Tuesday

8:00-9:30pm - Medrash by Night  
(Open Havruta Learning)

## Wednesday

8:00pm - Shiur w/ Efi Palvanov  
(Men & Women)  
\*bi-weekly

## Thursday

8:00-9:30pm - Medrash by Night  
(Open Havruta Learning)

## Shabbat

8:15am - Hilchot Shabbat

## Sunday

7:15am - Gemara Sanhedrin



For more information on any of the  
above shiurim, or to arrange a  
Havruta (learning partner) for  
Medrash by Night, please contact  
Rabbi Kadoch directly.



# MIDRASH BY NIGHT

Tuesdays & Thursdays  
Following Arvit  
(or 8:00pm in the winter)

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

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

Speak to Rabbi Kadoch to find the right class for you

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

# TJBL Toronto Jewish SHUL BASKETBALL LEAGUE

FOR MEN

Hosted by EC Camps

Mondays and  
Thursdays  
Nov 16 - March 14  
9:00 - 11:00pm  
@ Eitz Chaim Springfarm



13 games + playoffs  
and All-Star Game  
Professional Referees,  
Jerseys, Stats & more  
\$2500 per team



For more information please contact  
Brian Schiffman: 647-795-6093  
TorontoJewishBasketball@gmail.com

בס"ד

# Misheberach Program

A Misheberach Prayer will be recited all year long  
by our Rabbi during Shabbat services for:

Physical cure, Spiritual healing,  
Asking for blessing, Compassion,  
Restoration, Strength,  
For yourself, friends, and loved ones.

\$720 for the year!

In addition:  
The Tuesday Tehillim Group will recite Tehillim for program participants!



Sign up at: <https://www.kehilacentre.com/event/misheberach>