

SEPHARDIC KEHILA CENTRE

ABIR YAAKOB CONGREGATION

President
Jimmy Keslassy
Vice President
Isaac Cohen

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

Shabbat Vayetze פרשת ויצא

Shabbat November 25th 2023, יב' כסלו תשפ"ד / 12 Kislev 5784
Perasha Page 144 Haftarah 1139 ועמי in Artscroll

Shabbat Prayer Times

מנחה Mincha (Main Synagogue)	4:25 p.m.
הדלקת נרות Candle Lighting	4:27 p.m.
שחרית מנין החיד"א (ותיקין) Shacharit Ha'Hida Vatikim	6:25 a.m.
Shiur Hilchot Shabbat	8:15 a.m.
שחרית Shacharit (Main Synagogue)	8:45 a.m.
תהלים Tehilim	3:30 p.m.
מנחה Mincha	4:00 p.m.
שבת שבע טוב Shabbat Ends	5:32 p.m.



Shabbat Zemanim- Netz- נץ- 7:25 am, Keriat Shema- שקיעה 9:44 am, Shekia- 4:44 pm

Weekday Services

שחרית Shacharit Sunday	שחרית Shacharit Weekdays
ותיקין Vatikim 6:45 a.m.	ותיקין Vatikim 6:45 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 4:30 p.m.
	ערבית Arbit Arbit immediately following Mincha

Mazal Tov

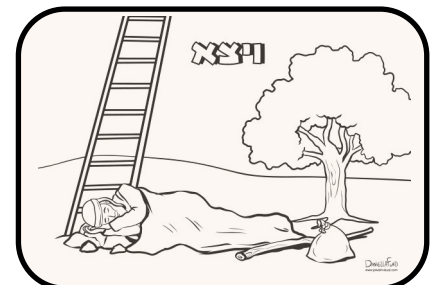
Mr. Mr. Moshe Elmaleh and Ms. Shir Ziskind on their recent engagement.
Proud Parents: Mr. & Mrs. Joe and Shulamit Elmaleh and the entire Ziskind family

Happy Anniversary

♦Reuben & Naomi Benquesus ♦Eliezer & Adele Wexler ♦Boaz & Esther Willinger

Happy Birthday

Rivka Ohayon, Miri Elmaleh, Jean-Claude Abtan,
Anita Benarroch, Barbara Dahan, Rebeca Ponte,
Gabriella Dana, Yonit Sher



Nahalot

Hannah Fruma Chai י"ל **13 Kislev** / Sunday Nov. 26th
Isaac Beniluz י"ל, Joseph Benchetrit י"ל **14 Kislev** / Monday Nov. 27th
Joseph Abitbol י"ל **15 Kislev** / Tuesday November 28th
Leon Sibony י"ל, Salomon Cohen י"ל **16 Kislev** / Wed. November 29th
Esther Chiriqui Saporta י"ל, Jacob Hassan י"ל **17 Kislev** / Thursday
November 30th
Suzy Esseis י"ל, Yitzhak Arie Chai י"ל **18 Kislev** / Friday Dec. 1st

Nahalot for the following week

Messody Cohen י"ל, Pinhas Ouaknine י"ל, David Zrihen י"ל **20 Kislev** /
Sunday December 3rd
Esther Nahmias י"ל, Abraham Azagury י"ל, Luna Cohen י"ל,
Mordechai Azuz י"ל **22 Kislev** / Tuesday December 5th
Esther Cohen י"ל **23 Kislev** / Wednesday December 6th
Raphael Abtan י"ל **24 Kislev** / Thursday December 7th
Rachel Amiel י"ל **25 Kislev** / Friday December 8th

Synagogue News

Avot U'Banim starts this week!

The weekly father-son learning program begins this Saturday night starting at 7:00PM. Pizza and prizes. (See flyer on back)

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:

The Sephardic Kehila Centre

Everyone is Welcome

Early Risers, Early Gainers

Rabbi Kadoch's Shabbat morning Shiur prior to Shaharit continues this Shabbat 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 Mincha on Shabbat afternoon.

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 this Wednesday. See you there!

Oneg Shabbat - Friday December 8th - Shabbat

Hanukah

Friday night December 8th, Shabbat Hanukah, Rabbi Kadoch and his family will host their annual Oneg Shabbat at their house. Come and enjoy light food/snack, sing some songs, and enjoy words of Torah. Everyone is invited - 7:30pm-9:30pm. - 138 Colvin Cres

Security Update

THE SECURITY COMMITTEE & BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAS DECIDED TO IMPLEMENT A NEW SECURITY MEASURE FOR OUR MEMBERS AND ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS OF THE BUILDING:

A FOB system has been installed at all Main Entrance points into the building. We encourage all active participants to collect from our office (mon-fri 9-5) their own personal registered FOB Key. This will allow you access into the building at set times during the day and night allowing for the consistent locking of our entrance doors.

Refundable Security Deposit Required

PARASHA PRISMS: New Shiur for men and women

Couples and/or singles of all ages and levels are welcome 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

Canada's Rally For The Jewish People

This Rally is an opportunity to unite in our nation's capital for Israel, the hostages, and the Jewish people. As hateful incidents continue across the country and our safety is threatened, we need to come together - NOW MORE THAN EVER - to show our government that antisemitism has no place in Canada

Join the Sephardic Kehila Centre on Monday, December 4, 2023

1:30 PM - Parliament Hill, Ottawa

Getting to Ottawa: Purchase a bus ticket on the SKC designated bus \$36-/per person

Visit www.jewishtoronto.com/ottawa-rally-bus-registration to register

Weekly Shiurim

Midrash by Night - **8:00-9:30 pm** Tuesday and Thursdays

Parashat HaShavua - **7:30 pm** Monday / **8:15 pm** Bilvavi-Mussar

Hilchot Shabbat - Shabbat at **8:15 am** Main Synagogue

Gemara Sanhedrin - Sundays at **7:15 am** Downstairs synagogue

Vayetze 5784 - Companionship and Motherhood

Rabbi David Kadoch

A disheartening dispute unfolds between Yaakov Avinu and his wife Rahel in this week's Parasha. Rahel, in distress, demands from Yaakov, "Give me children!" and even issues a veiled threat: "If not, I am as good as dead." Yaakov does not mince words in his response, retorting with frustration, "Am I in the place of God, who has withheld from you the fruit of the womb?" What lies beneath this heated exchange? Another pertinent question arises: What transpired between Yaakov and Rahel during all those years when Leah bore son after son, and Rahel remained childless? How did Yaakov not perceive the distress his beloved wife was experiencing, and why did he not turn to Hashem on her behalf, as his father Yitzhak had done for his mother? I would like to provide you with insights offered by the sefer "Akedat Yitzhak." Two central aspects define the role of every woman in her family: firstly, her role as a wife to her husband, as the pasuk "Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh." Her role is to be a faithful and beloved companion to the man she is married to. The second aspect is her role as a mother to her children. "And Adam called his wife's name Hava, because she was the mother of all living." In the family life of every woman, both these facets are intertwined and complement each other. However, Yaakov viewed these roles differently. His love was directed primarily towards Rahel, seeing her primarily as a companion. Once he (reluctantly) accepted Leah into the equation, he believed that a division of roles could be established: Rahel would be the companion, and Leah would be the mother. Thus, he saw no issue with Rahel's apparent inability to bear children. Like Elkanah had done in the past. Yaakov said to Rachel, "Am I not better to you than ten sons?"

This perspective starkly contrasted with the outlook of the two sisters. Leah and Rahel both believed that the two roles were inseparable; one could not be divorced from the other. Leah fervently prayed time and again that the children she bore to Yaakov would bring about a change in his feelings towards her, not just as a mother to his children but also as a beloved wife. Rahel, while privileged to be Yaakov's companion, was not content with that alone. She sought to be a mother as well. It was evident to her that life held no purpose if she did not also experience motherhood. Yaakov, however, in his viewpoint, insisted on maintaining the clear distinction between the roles.

In the twists of life, roles were reversed. Leah, the mother of children, found her final resting place by Yaakov's side. Conversely, Rahel, the beloved companion, was buried along the road of the exiles, crying for her children who were no more. She was the one who received the prophecy: "There is hope for your future, declares the Lord, and your children shall come back to their own country."

This poignant narrative underscores the importance of embracing a nuanced understanding of the roles and aspirations of the women in our lives. It serves as a powerful reminder that, for women, these roles are interconnected and integral to a meaningful and fulfilled existence. The story encourages us to approach relationships with empathy, recognizing and valuing the multi-faceted nature of the roles our loved ones play in our lives.

Furthermore, it prompts us to consider the intricate balance between companionship and motherhood, acknowledging that these roles are not mutually exclusive but can coexist harmoniously. It encourages a deeper appreciation for the aspirations and desires of those we care about, reminding us that supporting their dreams in all facets of life contributes to a richer and more fulfilling shared journey. This narrative thus becomes a guide for fostering understanding and empathy within our relationships, appreciating the unique blend of roles that define the essence of the women who are integral to our lives.

Servitude

by Joey Benedid

When I was in Yeshiva in New York, our rabbi took us to a special annual BBQ at his sister's house. We drove into the old forests of Five Towns and pulled up next to a very nice yellow house of about 3,000 square feet. It was well maintained, with a small garden, beautiful window boxes, and an old-world charm. Then we drove right past it. That, I was informed, was the servant's quarters. Behind that house was a mansion the likes I've never seen, with massive wings, gardens, pools, etc. See me privately if you want to hear about opulence, but it's not the point of this article.

As we drove into the circular drive, a group of about twenty people were walking out of the mansion. They were all dressed smartly in different shades of grey and white, clean, neat, talking to each other quietly. I was told this was the "changing of the guard", when the night-shift staff of gardeners, maids, and cooks gave way to the day shift (yes, there were two shifts of gardeners).

As I understood what was happening I could point out the roles of each staff member based on their uniform. Cooks in clean, white double-breasted jackets, gardeners in clean, grey utilitarian overalls, and the maids in... whatever a maid uniform is called (also clean).

When a person reaches a certain status in the world, it becomes clear that their representatives and employees reflect directly upon them. These individuals are meticulously groomed, provided with company cars, and expected to engage only in ethical activities. Take the royal family, for instance: their guards are in uniform, their staff is meticulously dressed in livery, and a certain code of conduct is strictly adhered to. In exchange, these employees are cared for, compensated, and supported.

To maintain their privileged position, they must constantly remind themselves, "I serve the royal family." Any deviation from their duties, unauthorized disclosure of information, or a decline in their overall performance can result in immediate termination.

Did you make the connection yet? Imagine if the words SERVANT OF HASHEM constantly floated at the top of your view like a heads-up display. Every time your eyes were open it would just be there at the top, digital green text. How would that constant reminder affect my behaviour when I wake up? What kind of activity would I engage in at work? What would my evening schedule look like with that thought constantly on my mind? Behaving every. single. moment. like a servant and representative of Gd.

HaKadosh Baruch Hu employs us, clothes us, keeps us looking respectable. But this is only as long as we represent his "company". If we look like true servants of Hashem, act like true servants of Hashem, and represent His will and Torah to the world, He has cause to keep us maintained the way we're used to. But if we stop maintaining the "mansion" we lose access to the servant's quarters.

I need to think about my servant status a little more often. If not for the excitement of the reward, at least for the fear of getting fired.

SHIURIM SCHEDULE

Monday

7:30pm - Parashat HaShavua
(Men & 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.

Avot U'Banim

Father-Son Learning Program

Learning & Tehillim • Amazing Prizes • Pizza • Treats & more...



Sephardic Kehila Centre - Lower Level Synagogue
7026 Bathurst Street, Thornhill, Ontario

7:00pm - 8:00pm

Motzaei Shabbat During The Winter Months

For more information or to sponsor an Avot U'Banim Program please contact Dr. Adam Ohayon at adamohayon@gmail.com

Don't take our word for it.

Walk the halls of Ohr HaEmet
and see why our family is the
right fit for yours.

- OPEN HOUSE -
December 4th, 2023 @ 7PM
7026 Bathurst Street Thornhill

Register at: [JDOHSS.org/OpenHouse](https://jdohss.org/OpenHouse)

Don't forget your checklist: (or use ours)

- ☒ A Torah-true environment and hashkafa
- ☒ Separate schooling in one convenient location
- ☒ Top tier Rabanim and educators
- ☒ Successful alumni across the spectrum, from Kollel to academia
- ☒ The latest in education technology
- ☒ Licensed Kindergarten program
- ☒ The warmth and love of a Sephardic background, with room for everyone



Music, Movement & Meditation

SOMA Breath Guidance

Led by Esther Willinger

Sunday
November 19

&

Sunday
November 26

Join us for two evenings of body activation and breathwork. This class will include breathing in beats and rhythmic movement to elevate your spirit and tap into your divine essence.

These unique sessions will feature a live musical performance by Elena Levy.

7:45pm

Sephardic Kehila Centre
7026 Bathurst St, Thornhill
In the Downstairs Social Hall

Be a beacon of light and reserve your spot early!

Members: \$10
Non-members: \$15