

# SEPHARDIC KEHILA CENTRE

## ABIR YAAKOB CONGREGATION



President  
Meyer Keslassy  
Vice President  
Isaac Cohen

שבת שלום  
*Shabbat Shalom*

ברוכים הבאים  
*Welcome to our Synagogue*

Chief Rabbi  
Haham Amram Assayag  
Hazan  
Rabbi David Kadoch  
Shaliach Tzibur  
Marc Kadoch

פרשת בהר/בחקתי *Perashat Behar/Bechukotai*  
Shabbat May 12th, 2018, כז' אייר תשע"ח / 27 Iyar 5778  
Perasha Page 696, Haftara 1179 in Artsroll

### Shabbat Prayer Times

שיר השירים Shir Hashirim	6:30 p.m.
מנחה Minha	6:45 p.m.
קבלת שבת Kabalat Shabbat/Lechu Neranena	7:00 p.m.
הדלקת נרות Candle Lighting/Mizmor Shir Leyom Hashabat	7:20 p.m.
שחרית מנין החיד"א (ותיקין) Shacharit Ha'Hida Vatikim	4:55 a.m.
שחרית (Main Synagogue/Barechu:9:35)	8:30 a.m.
דף יומי Daf Yomi	5:30 p.m.
שעור רמב"ם Rambam Shiur	6:30 p.m.
תהלים Tehilim	7:15 p.m.
מנחה Minha	7:45 p.m.
שבת טוב Shabbat Ends	9:23 p.m.

Ereb Shabbat, Friday May 18th, 2018  
Minha 6:55 p.m. (Candle Lighting 7:30 p.m.)

### Weekday Services at Medrash Torah Vehayim

שחרית <i>Shacharit Sunday</i>	
ותיקין Vatikim	5:10 a.m.
מקדימים Makdimim	8:00 a.m.
קבועים Kebuim	9:00 a.m.
שחרית <i>Shacharit Weekdays</i>	
ותיקין Vatikim	5:10 a.m.
מקדימים Makdimim	6:45 a.m.
קבועים Kebuim	8:15 a.m.
מנחה Minha	8:20 p.m.
ערבית Arbit	9:00 p.m.

Shabat Zemanim- Netz- נץ- 5:56 am, Keriat Shema- שמע- 8:59 am, Shekia- שקיעה- 8:33 pm

### Mazal Tob

Mazal Tob to Mr. and Mrs. Ariel and Elisheva Picillo and their respective families on the birth of a baby boy.

Mazal Tov to Mr. and Mrs. Adam and Simmi Toby-Blankenstein on the birth of a baby girl  
**Proud Grandparents:** Mr. and Mrs. Elias and Adina Toby and Dr. Harvey Blankenstein and Dr. Fay Sliwin  
**Proud Great Grandparents:** Mr. and Mrs. Samuel and Alegria Toby and Mr. and Mrs. Abe and Freda Blankenstein and Mr. Albert Sliwin

### Kiddush

This Shabbat Kiddush is sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. Elias and Adina Toby in celebration of the birth of their granddaughter, and Mr. and Mrs. David and Dina Azulay in honour of their son Elie reading Perek Hamishi.  
*Everyone is welcome.*

### Seuda Shelishit

This weeks Seudah Shelishit is sponsored by:  
Mark and Madeleine Halioua, in loving memory of his father Abraham Halioua ז"ל  
Daniel and Carole Reboh, in loving memory of his brother Elie Reboh ז"ל  
Sol and Bella Benchetrit, in loving memory of his father Jais Benchetrit ז"ל  
Elias and Perla Azulay, in loving memory of his father Menahem Azulay ז"ל  
Mila Nassimova, in loving memory of her father Salomon Nassimov ז"ל  
Weitzman and Offra Abraham, in loving memory of her mother Shoshana Rose Dallal ז"ל  
Jean-Claude and Bryna Abtan in loving memory of her father Yitzchak Irving Gencher ז"ל.  
*Everyone is welcome.*



## Nahalot

Elie Reboh ל"ה, Salomon Nassimov ל"ה 27 Iyar/ Shabbat May 12th  
Shoshana Rose Dallal ל"ה 28 Iyar/ Sunday May 13th  
Abraham Halioua ל"ה, Jais Benchetrit ל"ה 29 Iyar/ Monday May 14th  
Menahem Azulay ל"ה, Baruj Soundry ל"ה 2 Sivan/ Wednesday May 16th  
Yitzchak Irving Gencher ל"ה, Makhlof Benaksas ל"ה 4 Sivan/ Friday May 18th

### Nahalot for the following week

Esther Ponte ל"ה, Simy Edery ל"ה, Shabtai Shapiro ל"ה 5 Sivan/ Shabbat May 19th  
Yaakov Cohen ל"ה, Nissim (Remy) Banoualid ל"ה 8 Sivan/ Tuesday May 12nd  
Shalom Bitton ל"ה 9 Sivan/ Wednesday May 23rd  
Aharon Shemesh ל"ה, Leon Bendrihen ל"ה 10 Sivan/ Thursday May 24th

## Synagogue News

### Pirke Avot

Hazak U'Baruch to **Judah and Matthew Keslassy** who read Perek Revii superbly last Shabbat.  
This Shabbat we're looking forward to listening to **Elie Azulay**.

### Condolences

Our deepest and most sincere condolences to Mrs. Betty Lalou on the passing of her mother Maryvonne Esther Bittan ל"ה in France.  
May her neshama rest eternally in Gan Eden. Amen.

### Rosh Hodesh

Rosh Hodesh Sivan will be on Tuesday May 15th

### Welcome New Members

We would like to wish a hearty Baruch Haba to Mr. & Mrs. Carlos and Marilyn Benlolo, for becoming members of the Kehila family.

### Board of Governors Election - Nominating Committee Volunteers Required

The mandate of the current Board of Governors will expire very shortly. We will be holding Board of Governor elections for new board members and need three volunteers to serve on the Nominating Committee. Members of the Nominating Committee will supervise the election and validate candidates.

### Social Hall Update

We would like to remind the entire community that the Social Centre will be available for use by any member of the community, from Tuesday to Thursday, between the hours of 6:00 PM and 11:00 PM, and Sundays between 2:00 PM to 11:00 PM. The Centre will be closed during all Jewish holidays.

### Rambam Shiur

Please join us every Shabbat afternoon as Haham Assayag gives his famous Rambam shiur on the theme of Pirke Abot, this Shabbat at 6:30 p.m.

### We are almost fully electronic!

We have started sending out statements electronically to members who have outstanding balances. This will expedite delivery and save on mailing costs. Within the message is a link that will take you directly to the synagogue website for payment via credit card. If you have questions, please let the office know or send us a message at [social@kehilacentre.com](mailto:social@kehilacentre.com).

## *Weekly Classes at Abir Yaakov*

### **Daf Yomi**

Please join us daily for Gemara Daf Yomi with Haham Assayag, one hour before Minha in the Midrash upstairs.

### **Tuesday Night LIVE with Tomer Malca**

Please join Tomer Malca on Tuesday nights in the Midrash at 7:30 PM. for a shiur on relevant halacha topics of the day.

### **Night Yeshiva - Wednesday Nights at 8pm**

Attention high school and university boys: Come and enjoy a learning session followed by an intense game of basketball. Every Wednesday beginning at 8pm. Special activities and trips take place bimonthly. For more information contact Yossi Azulay or Isaac Nacson.

### **Kollel Yismach Moshe**

Please join us every Wednesday night at 8:20 PM upstairs in the Midrash for a very inspiring learning experience with the Avreichim of the Kollel Yismach Moshe. Topics will vary.

### **Life Matters - Thursdays at 8:00 PM**

Join Hacham Amram Assayag every Thursday night for a discussion on deep and profound insights on life and Torah values. Refreshments to be served.

For more information contact Max Benatar.

### **Kehila Boys Mishmar Program- Grades 5-8**

Boys Grades 5-8, come out for a great time and see your friends from all schools! Every Wednesday we'll be meeting in the Red Room at 7:00 PM for some learning, snacks and prizes followed by our own basketball league in the gym.

For any questions or for sponsorship opportunities, please contact [yosazulay@gmail.com](mailto:yosazulay@gmail.com)

If you have a Mazal Tob that you would like to share with the congregation or if you have a change of address or email please contact the office at (905) 669-7654 Ext. 1.

Please be advised that the cutoff time for insertion in the bulletin is Wednesday at 4:00 p.m.

This bulletin is printed courtesy of Print Three Concord (905) 738-5682.

## TORAH BITES By RABBI KADOSH

When we think of causing pain to others, we generally associate that with physical or emotional harm. A punch stings and words penetrate deep into one's heart, yet in this week's Parasha we encounter a new form of pain; deception. The fancy terminology for this in our holy tongue is called "Ona'at Devarim". What exactly does this mean? In truth, Ona'at Devarim falls into many categories but let me explain one. More often than not, we make our decisions out of our own self interest. While one can argue that there's nothing wrong with that, one should ensure that this is only when we don't sacrifice the beliefs and interests of our fellow. The Torah in this week's Parasha states לא תוננו. Literally this means "Do not deceive your friend." Rabbi on the spot explains that this commandment includes giving your friend bad advice in order that you gain from it. In other words, don't put him at a disadvantage just because you feel a certain way. I read an incredible story this week that really solidifies this point. There was once a rabbi who kept a very high standard of Kashrut when it came to his meat. The butcher in his city, although he knew all the laws of kosher certification, being that he was not such a God-fearing Jew, the rabbi felt that it would be better not to eat from the meat he slaughtered. As a result, all of his students followed suit. The students, with a strong appetite for meat, decided that if they can only convince this butcher to change professions, the city would be forced to hire a new butcher, who was more God fearing than the first and they can eat some of the delicacies they always wished to enjoy. The students were successful in convincing the butcher to change jobs for one that paid a lot more money. However, the butcher needed the blessing of the Rabbi. At this point the students had smiles from ear to ear. They knew that the Rabbi would certainly promote their idea. When the butcher approached the Rabbi to tell him the situation the Rabbi asked him, "Why exactly are you looking to change jobs? Are you tired of being around meat or is it simply because the new job has a better salary?" The butcher answered the latter. The Rabbi responded: "If that's the case, then it's better to stay where you are now as a butcher and not change professions. A new job means new challenges and lack of comfort. Why change if things are going well for you now. You are much better off as a butcher." The students were appalled! How could it be? This was their chance to bring in a new butcher to finally eat some meat. When they asked the Rabbi why he didn't convince him to switch jobs, the Rabbi quoted the aforementioned pasuk - "Do not deceive your friend" - "How could I give this gentleman advice that will only serve my benefit and not his?" - Next time someone asks us for advice, ask yourself the following: "If what I'm about to say serves me better than it does he?" Remember, you're looking out for his best interests; not your own. Lesson learned.

## INSIGHTS ON THE TORAH By HAHAM AMRAM ASSAYAG

### EREB SHABAT BEHAR-BEHUKOTAY

Hashem speaks to the Children of Israel in Mount Sinai, telling them that when they come into the Holy Land, the land shall rest. Six years the field may be sowed and its produce gathered, but on the seventh there shall be a cessation of work and complete rest for the land. This is known as the year of Shemita. Besides, this cycle of seven years must be counted seven times, marking 49 years when the Shofar will sound on the tenth of the seventh month, the day of Kipur. Then the fiftieth year shall be hallowed and liberty shall be proclaimed on the land when every man will return to his possession and to his family. This is the year of Yobel, when a person must sell something or buy from his neighbor, it shall be bought or sold according to the number of years remaining from the Yobel. According to the years of the Yobel, the price shall increase or diminish. The Torah proceeds to assure us that if one is to keep these laws, the land will give its fruits and Hashem shall send his blessings in the sixth year so it can produce for three years until planting in the eighth and harvesting in the ninth. The Torah continues to give us certain laws concerning the sale of land and properties, which must return to their original owners in the year of Yobel.

Hashem commands the Jew that if his brother were to become poor, he must sustain him, so he can live with his brother. So if his brother were to be sold to him, he shall not make him a slave. As a day labourer he shall be treated, until the Yobel when he shall return to his family and the possessions of his father. Nevertheless, servants who come from

the nations around us, could be acquired for perpetuity and left in inheritance to the new generation. But if a stranger buys a Jew, he must be redeemed immediately.

## HALACHA CORNER By RABBI ELI MANSOUR

### Giving Charity Before Shabuot; Learning on Shabuot Night

Rav Haim Palachi (Turkey, 1788-1869), amid his discussion of the month of Sivan in his Mo'ed Le'chol Hai (listen to audio recording for precise citation), writes that it is proper to allocate money for charity on Ereb Shabuot. He says that one should designate 91 coins for charity, and then add 13 additional coins, one coin at a time, for a total of 104 (twice the numerical value of the word "Ben"). The money should then be given to a worthy, needy Torah scholar. Rav Haim Palachi writes that through this practice one rectifies the sin of Adam Ha'rishon, the sin of the golden calf, and sins involving the Berit Mila, and also brings children to those who are childless and brings the redemption closer. (Those who wish to observe this practice can bring me a bag of coins, such as quarters, and appoint me their agent to distribute the money to needy Torah scholars before Shabuot.) In discussing the customs of Shabuot, Rav Haim Palachi writes that if someone remains awake throughout the night of Shabuot, then his Mazal (fortune) will likewise never "sleep" throughout the year, and he is guaranteed to live throughout the year. He also is rewarded with sons who are Talmideh Hachamim. Additionally, Rav Haim Palachi writes, this merit atones for sins involving viewing inappropriate sights. He cites the comments of the Hida (Rav Haim Yosef David Azulai, 1724-1807) in his work Simhat Ha'regel that many things which happen to a person over the course of the year are the result of his conduct on the night of Shabuot. Accordingly, he writes, one must avoid speaking about mundane matters on this night, and even when he needs to interrupt his learning for some important matter, he should ensure to speak in Lashon Ha'kodesh. He adds that the Rabbi bears the responsibility of warning his congregants against wasting time with idle chatter, frivolity and the like, and that if one wastes time on Shabuot night, he should preferably go to sleep.

Rav Haim Palachi further writes that if one feels he will be unable to pray with Kavana (concentration) in the morning if he remains awake all night, he should take a nap during the night. Despite the immense benefits of remaining awake throughout the night, it is far more important to ensure to pray properly in the morning.

**Summary:** There is a custom to set aside 104 coins for charity before Shabuot, and donate them to a needy Torah scholar. The practice of remaining awake throughout the night of Shabuot is very significant and valuable, but one must ensure not to waste any time throughout the night, and to devote himself exclusively to Torah study. If one feels he will be unable to pray with concentration in the morning if he remains awake all night, he should take a nap to ensure that he prays properly

### Shabuot - Netilat Yadayim, Birkat Ha'Torah and the Bedtime Shema

It is customary to remain awake throughout the night of Shabuot and immerse oneself in Torah study. According to Sephardic practice, one who remains awake the entire night does not wash Netilat Yadayim with a Beracha the next morning. One may thus continue learning even after Amud Ha'shahar (daybreak) on Shabuot morning, and one does not have to stop to wash his hands. There is no requirement to interrupt one's learning to wash his hands at Amud Ha'shahar. However, it is proper to stop at Amud Ha'shahar to recite Birkat Ha'Torah. According to some authorities, the recitation of Birkat Ha'Torah in the morning covers a person's Torah study only until Amud Ha'shahar the next morning, even if he does not go to sleep. Therefore, those who remain awake throughout the night on Shabuot should stop at Amud Ha'shahar to recite Birkat Ha'Torah, and then return to their studies.

One should recite Keri'at Shema Al Ha'mita - the bedtime Shema - even if he remains awake all night. Therefore, on Shabuot night, one should ensure to recite the bedtime Shema before Hasot (midnight as defined by Halacha). Our custom in any event is not to recite the Beracha of "Ha'mapil" on any night, but the rest of the text of Keri'at Shema Al Ha'mita should be recited before Hasot even on the night of Shabuot.

**Summary:** One who remains awake on Shabuot night should nevertheless recite Keri'at Shema Al Ha'mita before Hasot, without the Beracha of "Ha'mapil" (which in any event is never recited according to our custom). At Amud Ha'shahar, one should stop to recite Birkat Ha'Torah. One does not have to wash Netilat Yadayim at Amud Ha'shahar.

THE SEPHARDIC KEHILA CENTRE &  
THE JEWISH BUKHARIAN COMMUNITY  
OF TORONTO

would like to invite the entire Sephardic  
community to an uplifting Shabaton with



**RABBI DAVID YOSEF** שליט"א

Rav of Har Nof Jerusalem, Rosh Kollel Yehave Daat, Member of Moetset Hahahamim

Save the date: Shabat, June 2, 2018  
Details to follow