

KTM

כולל תורה מציון
KOLLEL TORAH MITZION
MONTREAL

Parashat Shemot

Parnas Hayom Tevet

These Days of Learning have been dedicated to the memory of the following by members of their family.

21 Tevet

Stanley Yetnikoff in memory of Isaac Babad (Yitzchak ben Moshe Yisrael z'l)

21 Tevet

Aron Lieberman in memory of his father, Laizer Lieberman (Lazer ben Meir Kolominis z'l)

22 Tevet

Philip Cola in memory of his father, Lemel Cola (Asher Lemel ben Fishel HaKohen z'l)

23 Tevet

Aron Lieberman in memory of his mother, Raizel Lieberman (Raizel bat Aharon z'l)

27 Tevet

Louis Drazin memory of his father, Samuel Drazin (Shmuel Shlomo ben Aharon z'l)

For more information on the KTM Parnas Hayom Project, please call our office at 514 486 5718.

“Israel Does Not Need Support”

Parashat Shemot is the beginning of a new chapter in the story of the creation of the Jewish nation. We come to learn about the enslavement of Bnei Israel in Egypt and, of course, thereafter their redemption by the help of Moshe Rabeinu. This was all part of a larger plan that Hashem had, where exile would eventually lead to the receiving of the Torah and coming to the Land of Israel. Avraham Avinu was in fact informed that all this would happen in "Brit Bein Habetarim". The "Netivot Shalom", a commentary on the Torah, asks why did Bnei Israel have to go through such a hard time in order to eventually receive the Torah? After all, they were considered "Tzadikim" before they entered Egypt and so they would be on a high enough level to receive it. Also, after they entered Egypt it is said that Bnei Israel went from being on a high level of spirituality all the way to the 49th gate of impurity, meaning that they actually declined in Egypt instead of getting to a higher level of spirituality. Further, how come Avraham, when he heard about this, didn't he ask of Hashem to nullify this "decree" of exile?

The gemara tells us (Brachot 5a) that Rabbi Shimon Bar Yochai says that there are three great gifts that Hashem gave Am Israel – the Torah, the Land of Israel and Olam Habah, and these are all acquired through suffering.

If one wishes to receive a great reward he must work hard and may have to go through hard times. If one goes through a hard experience and manages to get by it, he advances and becomes even stronger than he was before. Only with Bnei Israel's suffering would they eventually be able to receive the Torah, even though they were already on a high spiritual level before they entered Egypt, they were still missing something. They needed to go through some type of refining and cleansing that would purify them on such a high level and only then would they be worthy to receive the Torah and enter into the Land of Israel. The enslavement by the Egyptians is what would eventually make them stronger and so the exile was necessary because without it Bnei Israel would not have deserved what they got, which is also why Avraham didn't pray to prevent the exile.

We are living in times where the State of Israel and Jews all of the world are going through tremendous difficulties; being hated by many and even attacked. It may seem as a time of despair, but we actually must look at these sufferings as a path that would eventually lead us to a greater good. We should look at what is going on not as something that will eventually make us weaker and torn apart, but rather stronger and united. Every hard step we are forced to take will eventually bring us one step closer to redemption.

Shabbat Shalom, Akiva Brauner.

This week's Daf is sponsored by:

The KTM Executive in honour of the birth of **Tzofiya Rachel Zviel**. May she grow le'Torah, le'Chuppah, U'le'Maasim Tovim. Mazal Tov to Rav David, Meytal, Moriya & Elyashiv Zviel.

- January 17, 2009
- 21th of Tevet 5769
- Hafatara: Isaiah 27:6-28:13, 29:22-23
- Shabbat Begins: 4:22pm
- Shabbat Ends: 5:28pm

Women's Corner

"Taking Care of You"—Lisa Lancry

Recently I organized a Shabbaton for grade 10 Herzliah High School students. As the Jewish Life Coordinator, I am creating hands on, experiential programs that contribute to positive Jewish identities. The theme of the Grade 10 Shabbaton was "Leadship: Taking Care of Oneself, Taking Care of the Community". The day began with the girls going to Spa Avanti, getting manicures, their hair washed and blow dried, and their makeup done for them. The boys had a private course in Krav Maga-The Israeli Self Defense system.

Our day continued with Challah baking, lunch at Cafe Diezengoff, and then joining the Kabbalat Shabbat program at the Jewish Eldercare Centre. Our students danced up a storm, and sang with all their hearts, rejuvenating the residents of the Eldercare Centre.

We then came to Beth Israel Beth Aaron Congregation to light candles, enjoy a Carlebach Kabbalat Shabbat, and a five course catered Shabbat Dinner. We relaxed at the meal, sang zemirot, and shared divrei torah.

We then enjoyed classes given by Rabbi and Mrs. Benoliel, played board games, and had a dessert extravaganza with Rabbi Dov Harroush and comedy!

Rabbi and Mrs. Benoliel tied the theme of our Shabbaton all together. I was able to hear Mrs Benoliel's session as I was with the women's group. We spoke about the importance of taking care of ourselves as women. That we have an obligation to ourselves first, and then to our family, and then to the community. I thought about how this is probably one of the first Shabbat's that I could actually say was relaxing. Even though I was organizing this shabbaton, and responsible for the kids, I had nothing to do. No Salade Cuite to prepare, no salads to cut up. No shnitzels to fry, no desserts to whip up. No serving, no cleaning up. Just relaxing. I was a princess. I thought about how it would be if this could be every shabbat. I know that it feels beautiful to know that when shabbat comes, we worked for it, but there is also something about coming to the Shabbat table full of

energy, and not exhausted.

But once in awhile, we too can take care of ourselves. Once a month, we can say to ourselves, "What will happen if there is one less salad? What will happen if we buy the roasted chicken from IGA that actually costs LESS dressed and cooked, then if we prepared it ourselves? What will happen if we buy a box of cookies for dessert? I am not talking about catering and buying everything, I know that can be very expensive. But once a month, we can treat ourselves. And what will we do with the extra time that we didn't spend "patchkiing" for a dessert? We can spend time for ourselves. We can read a book. We can take a nice bath. We can paint our nails. We too are worthy. If we do not take care our ourselves, how will we have the strength to take care of those around us?

A Rabbi and wife once told me they were having five guests for Shabbos, and that they were very busy preparing. By the end of the conversation, they revealed that their five guests were their five children. Their children were their guests. They explained that for many Shabbats they were going overboard inviting many people, their kids were acting out. They took a step back, taking care of their family first. They now have two shabbats a month just as family, where their kids are their guests, and two other shabbats with a limited number of other guests.

After we take care of ourselves, we then take care of our family, those closest to us. Only then as leaders can we reach out to our community. We cannot be examples if those around us see that we do not take care of ourselves, and those we love.

Once we have taken care of business (and this is a continuous effort that does not end), we can then go out and be leaders in the community. And unfortunately there is a long list of places to volunteer and give of our time. Find something that is meaningful for you to get involved with. Taking half an hour to go to Maimonides Hospital, or the Montefiore, and wish people Good Shabbos makes all the difference in the world. Believe me, it will make a much bigger difference in the grand scheme of things, than making one more kugel.

Tale of the Week with Rav David Zviel

The Holy Army

HaRav Tzvi Yehudah HaKohen Kook's love of the Israel Defense Force and the holy soldiers of the Army was unique, and his students who were in the Army therefore loved to visit their Rabbi when they were in their army uniform in order to give him contentment. The blessing of HaRav Tzvi Yehuda to all of his students, before their departure to the Army, was pleasing and sweet. It once happened that a student came to HaRav Tzvi Yehuda on the day he was drafted into the Army at an early morning hour. The student who was helping HaRav on that day got up and informed him that there was a student of the Yeshiva who came to receive his blessing before his draft. HaRav Tzvi Yehuda got up with incredible zeal and with unlimited joy, recited the morning blessings, quickly drank the cup of tea which he was accustomed to do each morning in order to fulfill the mitzvah of honouring his father who instructed him to do so this,

and then the young man entered the room. HaRav kissed, blessed, and encouraged him, and even left his house to escort him. HaRav Tzvi Yehuda said that he must always place before his eyes the verse from Divrei Ha-Yamim (2 36:23): "Whoever is among you of all His people - Hashem his G-d be with him, and let him go up!"

A reporter once asked our HaRav Tzvi Yehuda: "If the honourable Rav teaches that the Israel Defense Force is holy, he should close the Yeshiva and not postpone the army service of the students." HaRav responded: "The Army - holy, the Torah - holy of holies."

כל הכבוד לצה"ל



Halacha MiTzion with HaRav Shlomo Aviner

Warning siren in the middle of Shemoneh Esrei

Question: What should a person do if he hears a warning siren for an incoming missile and he is in the middle of the Shemoneh Esrei?

Answer: He should certainly run to the bomb shelter and continue to daven the Shemoneh Esrei there. This is based on two reasons: 1. It is a case of a life-threatening situation. 2. Walking in the middle of the Shemoneh Esrei without speaking is not considered an interruption. For example, if I am davening the Shemoneh Esrei and a child is excessively bothering me and I cannot concentrate, I can move to another place. Or if I am davening by heart and I cannot remember "Ya'ale Ve-Yavo," I can go and get a siddur. Speaking is forbidden but there is no problem of moving if there is a need. Therefore, if I am in the middle of the Shemoneh Esrei and I hear a warning siren for an incoming missile, I should go to the bomb shelter without talking and continue to daven in the place where I left off.

Family MiTzion with Harav Shlomo Aviner "Soul Letters"

Every Jew is compared to a letter in the Torah, and when two people marry, two letters join together to become one word. One word is much greater than two letters, as it has content and meaning, which is not the case with an individual letter. It is not good to be alone, and one does not always have a reason to get up in the morning. While every letter is special, and every Jew is special, since the world was created for him, this is on condition that he knows that he should join with a loving soul and then also join with beloved offspring. The word continues to add letters and grows. But this does not mean that one should intrude too much into another's life. In a Torah scroll, it is forbidden for two letters to touch one another. Each letter must be surrounded by the parchment ("mukefet gevil"). Every soul needs air to breathe. One soul should not force itself on another, but respect its differences and then they will join together and created a new, shared reality.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Try not to become a man of success but rather to become a man of value."

- Albert Einstein (1879 - 1955)

A Taste of Israel

with your tour guide, Ido Klein

Har HaTzofim (Mount Scopus)

A British army cemetery, a university that deals only with humanities, a botanical garden, an ancient burial cave, another cemetery reserved only for VIPs, a hospital, another university (a Mormon one), a huge monastery (also a hospital) and a archeological institute. All of this on one mountain, which is no bigger than Mount Royal. Har Hatzofim is a very interesting place, not only because of its different facilities, but also for its past.

The first significant event which occurred on Har Hazofim was the meeting between Alexander the Great with the Cohen Gadol of that time. For the next 2,200 years nothing significant happened there, until after WWI. Between the two world wars both the Haddasah Hospital and the Hebrew University were established.

Har Hazofim got cut off from the Jewish territories during the War of Independence in 1948, becoming an exclave (one country's territory within another country). Traffic there was only possible with convoys. In April of 1948, a convoy headed to Har Hatzofim was attacked. My grandfather was supposed to be on this convoy, but luckily he wasn't, for all 78 people of the convoy were killed, some brutally murdered after surrendering. After this attack the convoys there stopped until the ceasefire agreement which stated that Har Hatzofim's exclave would remain under Israeli control. It became more like an outpost than a place to live- the university and hospital weren't operational from 1948 until the Six Day War in 1967.

The Six Day War brought the liberation of Judea and Samaria, and both the hospital and the university on Har Hatzofim were renewed. They were rebuilt under the supervision of world class architects. Another significant building effort was the construction of a tunnel, which leads to Ma'ale Adumim under Har Hazofim.

Montreal Community Educational Centre Kollel Torah MiTzion

is happy to invite you to a reception and drawing at which you may be the lucky winner of two first class airline tickets to anywhere in the continental United States.

Flight must be completed by December 31, 2009
Proceeds will go to fund Student Programs

Reception on

Wednesday, February 18, 2009 at 7:00 PM

at Kollel Torah MiTzion

in the Lieberman Beit Midrash of the Hebrew Academy
5700 Kellert Ave., Cote St. Luc, H4W 1T4 (Kollel/Back Entrance)

Grand Prize

Two first class airline tickets to anywhere in the continental U.S.
(Valued at \$5,000 (no cash value))

4 Cash Prizes

1 Prize of \$ 1,000
3 Prizes of \$ 360 each

Cost \$ 50.00

FOR TICKETS PLEASE CALL OUR OFFICE AT 514 486 5718

KTM WEEKLY SCHEDULE

*****NEW*** WINTER SESSION**

January 5-30, 2009

"Ma'amrei HaRaiyah" – Rav Ido Tauber

This class will focus in different writing of the 20th C leader of the religious Zionist movement, Rav Avraham Yitachak HaKohen Kook, with an Emphasis on his ideology concerning religioussecular relations, the Holy vs. the mundane, redemption and general ideology.

MONDAY– 8-9pm • January 5, 12, 19 & 26

"Medicine and Halacha" – Rav Yishai Lisner

With the rapid development of medicine and medical technology, Jewish laws is constantly being challenged to answer difficult questions. This class will focus on questions in modern medicine and how they relate to Halacha.

MONDAY– 8-9pm • January 5, 12, 19 & 26

"Do You Know the Beit HaMikdash?"

– Rav David Zviel

This will deal with the basic understanding of the functioning of the Beit HaMikdash from a practical and philosophical point of view.

MONDAY– 9:15-10pm • January 5, 12, 19 & 26

"Parashat Hashavua" – Rav Yishai Lisner

An in depth look at the weekly parasha using the commentaries of our sages and other Torah commentaries with a special focus on relating these teaching to our daily lives.

TUESDAY– 8-9pm • January 6, 13, 20 & 27

"The Rambam's Introduction to Perek Chelek"

– Rav Ido Tauber

Maimonides' discussion of reward and punishment, the World to Come, and the Rambam's 13 principles of fate.

TUESDAY– 9:15-10pm • January 6, 13, 20 & 27

"Sefer Shmuel" – Rav David Zviel

The first Book of Shmuel features the biographies of four great Jewish leaders - the prophet Shmuel, his mentor Eli Ha Kohen, Shaul Ha Melech, and David Ha Melech.

THURSDAY– 8-9pm • January 8, 15, 22, 29

VISIT OUR NEW ANDIMPROVED WEBSITE

WWW.KTMMTL.ORG

Kollel Torah Mitzion has a core faculty of graduates from Hesder Yeshivot in Israel who come here to serve as teachers and role models in our community. The core of the Kollel is the Beit Midrash which features a full schedule of classes as well as a drop-in center with a warm atmosphere where all, regardless of background, feel comfortable.

Rosh Kollel: Rav Yishai Lisner
President: Rafi Faust
Executive Director: Eddie Shostak
Daf Parasha Co-Editors: Shira Tauber & Eddie Shostak
Daf Parasha Contributors: Rav Yishai Lisner, Rav David Zviel, Rav Ido Tauber, Akiva Brauner, Matti Gottlieb, Ido Klein, Dan Illouz, Nathan Light, Jacob Aspler.

AN URGENT CALL TO PRAYER

Tamar Amar, daughter of Rav Itzik and Smadar Amar, former KTM Montreal Shlichim, is a regular, happy, joyful six year old girl. On the first day of Chanukah 5769, Tamar was diagnosed with a brain tumor. Right now the doctors are trying to reduce the size of the tumor and will be doing their best to help Tamar in the upcoming months. Please pray for her full recovery.

TAMAR DINA BAT SMADAR

WOMEN'S BEIT MIDRASH

"Bein Yisrael L'Amim" – Rav Yishai Lisner

Life as a Jew in Montreal is a constant confrontation of fundamental questions the relations between Jews and Non-Jews. This class will analyze the laws pertaining to living life among Non-Jews, including Amira L'Akum, Bishul Akum, Chalav Akum, and more.

TUESDAY– 9:30-10:30am • January 6, 13, 20 & 27

Tehilim Group

Completion of the entire Book of Tehilim and prayer for those who are ill. If you would like to add the name of someone in need of prayer, please email us at info@ktmmtl.org

TUESDAYS - 10:30am • WEDNESDAYS 4:00pm

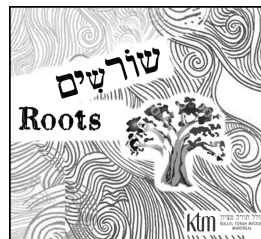
*****SPECIAL LECTURE*****

"The Image of a Leader, Then & Now"
Rav Ido Tauber, KTM

IN HONOUR OF THE YAHRZEIT OF
יששכר דב בן אליעזר (הכהן) טאובר, ז"ל
Thursday, January 22, 2009 @ 8pm

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