



Times of Services 2017

Friday 17 February
Shabbat begins: 5.04 pm

Mincha/
Kabbalat Shabbat: 5.15 pm

Shabbat 18 February

Civic Shabbat

Shacharit: 9.15 am
Haftarah: **Jeremy Mindell**

Mincha after Kiddush
Shabbat ends: 6.08 pm

Sunday 19 February

Shacharit: 8.40 am

Friday 24 February

Shabbat begins: 5.17 pm

Mincha/
Kabbalat Shabbat: 5.30 pm

Reading the Haftarah

If you would like to read Haftarah to mark a special event or just to make your personal contribution to the service, please contact Brian Robinson, who will be delighted to help with any preparation or revision.

Sponsoring an Event



If you are celebrating a **S i m c h a** commemorating a family Yahrzeit, or just feeling generous, please consider sponsoring a Shabbat morning Kiddush, Seudah or Sunday morning breakfast. Contact Joan Michaels: 020 8579 4261.

AJR—Meets the 1st Tuesday in every month at 2.00 pm. Contact Leslie Sommer: 020 8993 7574.

Israeli Dancing!



Tuesday evenings, 8.00 pm at Ealing United Synagogue, Grange Road. Sunday mornings, 10.30 am at Ealing Liberal Synagogue, Lynton Avenue. All welcome. Nominal charge of £1.00.

In the event of a bereavement, in the first instance please contact the Burial Office : 020 8950 7767.
Rabbi Hershi Vogel: 07970 829758
Brian Robinson: 020 8567 6558

Ealing Synagogue Newsletter

שבת שלום

Friday 17 February 2017/Shabbat 22 Shevat 5777
Sidra: **Yitro**



SHABBAT 18 FEBRUARY

EALING SYNAGOGUE'S ANNUAL CIVIC SERVICE

We are delighted to welcome the Mayor of Ealing, Cllr Dr Patricia Walker, members of The Mayor's Office, MPs and multi-faith guests. Please support this very important Shabbat in Ealing Synagogue's calendar.

THANK YOU

Joan Michaels would like to express her enormous thanks to everyone who worked so hard preparing the hall and helping with Kiddush and lunch last Shabbat to make it such a special day.

THURSDAY 2 MARCH : 12.30PM COMMUNITY LUNCH

The Community Lunch is open to everyone. If you would like to enjoy some home-made food and catch up with friends, for catering purposes, please let Alison Shindler know if you would like to attend.

BALFOUR DECLARATION

As part of the 100th anniversary of the signing of the Balfour Declaration, Jeremy Mindell will be giving a series of three talks on the subject at Kinloss Synagogue on the 1st, 8th and 15th March at 8.00pm.

Ealing Synagogue,

15 Grange Road, London W5 5QN

Reg. Charity No. 242552

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Administrator: Carole Lateman

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Ealing Synagogue Newsletter: esnewsletter@btinternet.com

Ealing Synagogue Website: www.ealingsynagogue.org.uk

Snapshot Torah



GUIDE TO THE WEEKLY PARSHA

FOURTH EDITION / ISSUE 17

18th February 2017

YITHRO

22nd Shevat 5777

Kohen - First Aliya: Chapter 18, verses 1- 12

- ✦ When Yithro (Jethro), the priest of Midian and Moshe's father in law heard about all the miracles Hashem had done for Bnai Yisrael; he left Midian along with Moshe's wife and two children to meet up with Moshe.
- ✦ Upon hearing the account of how Hashem had delivered Bnai Yisrael out of Mitzraim (Egypt), Yithro offered up korbanos (sacrifices) to show his gratitude and acceptance that Hashem is truly the one and only G-d.

Levi - Second Aliya: Chapter 18, verses 13 -23

- ✦ Yithro observed how Moshe spent the majority of his days, judging all the people. So he advises him to create a judicial system for the menial disputes, so Moshe can concentrate and deal exclusively with the more difficult problems.

Sh'lishi - Third Aliya: Chapter 18, verses 24- 27

- ✦ Moshe heeds Yithro's advice and chose the most qualified men to assist him with his new service to judge the people.
- ✦ Yithro says farewell to Moshe and heads back to his homeland alone.

R'VI - Fourth Aliya: Chapter 19, verses 1 - 6

- ✦ Three months after leaving Mitzraim, Bnai Yisrael arrive at the base of Mount Sinai.
- ✦ Moshe ascends the mountain where Hashem tells him, if his people will obey his commandments they will become a kingdom of Kohanim (Cohen's) and henceforth be known as Hashem's holy nation.

Chamishi - Fifth Aliya: Chapter 19, verses 7 - 19

- ✦ Moshe repeats Hashem's words to the Bnai Yisrael and they all cry out in unison, 'Naaseh Vnishma' (We will do and we will listen).
- ✦ Moshe tells the people to purify themselves and commands them not to touch the mountain because in three days' time, Hashem is going to descend onto the mountain to address them all personally.

Shishi - Sixth Aliya: Chapter 19, verse 20 – Chapter 20, verse 14

- ✦ With the sound of a Shofar (ram's horn) loudly ringing out, thunder and lightning enveloped the whole mountain as Hashem descended down immersed in a huge fiery cloud.
- ✦ For the first time ever Hashem's voice is heard in full clarity by every single person present, as Hashem recites the Ten Statements. (ten commandments) to them.

Sh'v'i - Seventh Aliya: Chapter 20, verses 15- 23

- ✦ Bnai Yisrael tremble in fear, as they witness the greatest ever event in Jewish history.
- ✦ They request Moshe to address them instead of Hashem as they feared they might die if Hashem continued speaking to them.
- ✦ Moshe enters the smoking cloud where the divine presence is waiting for him to receive two stone tablets for which the ten statements were inscribed in written form.
- ✦ Hashem relates to Moshe additional laws, which correlates into the 613 mitzvahs we know of today.

Haftorah-

YISHAYAH (ISAIAH) Chapter 6, verse 1 to Chapter 7, verse 6 and Chapter 9, verses 5 & 6

OVERVIEW:

- This week's Haftorah recounts the famed vision known as Maaseh Hamerkavah - the vision of Hashem as he sits upon his throne of glory.
- Yishayah prophesises the eventual destruction of Yerushalayim (Jerusalem) and goes to King Achaz, to warn him and not to fear because the enemy alliance will not win the upcoming battle.
- Yishayah's prophecy continues that Chizkiyahu, will succeed the throne and will be crowned as "The Prince of Peace," returning the Jewish people back to an unprecedented devotion and commitment to Torah observance.

SNAPSHOT GUIDE THROUGH THE SIDDER: Pesukei D'Zimrah - Ashrei (part 4)

- Although often hidden, Hashem has complete control over aspects relating to nature.
- Lines 5 and 6 of Ashrei recognises that we sometimes get a glimpse of Hashem's power and splendour by performing miracles above and beyond nature to make us aware of this fact in order to get others to recognise, and praise and thank Hashem for everything he does for us because he loves us dearly.

WEEKLY DISCUSSION:

There has been a lots of debates between our great rabbis and sages on when the first episode narrated in this week's sedra of Yithro took place. Those who believe the whole Torah is written in chronological order would say that Yithro reunited with Moshe and converted to Judaism before Matan Torah. Whereas others would argue he arrived after the torah was given.

One of the reasons how and why they came to this conclusion was the conversation Yithro had with Moshe the day after his arrival. Yithro witnessed for himself the strain Moshe was putting himself under as he tried to all on his own resolve, pass rulings and make judgements on all the disputes Bnai Yisrael were presenting to him, no matter how trivial, without any help. Concerned Yithro approached Moshe and presented him with a solution of putting a judicial system in place made up of the most honest and god-fearing amongst all the tribes who would convene a form of upper and lower court for all the minor disputes and misdemeanours with only Moshe appointed at the top to deal only with the most challenging and difficult cases.

According to some commentaries I've read, all of these disputes and arguments that were being presented here were all related to Halacha, whereby the disagreements that incurred were based on how each individual concerned interpreted them and needed reassurance and clarification that they were adhering and following the laws correctly. This implies that the Torah must have already been given before Yithro arrived on the scene otherwise these type of debates and cases that Moshe was trying to resolve and advise about would not have existed because no one at that time knew exactly what laws were actually going to be contained in the torah to argue about in the first place.

Rav Kook disagrees and not only goes along with those who have the opinion that Yithro came before the Torah was presented but also gives an explanation on why this week's torah portion containing the ten commandments is named after him. Just before the revelations at Sinai Hashem says "if you hearken to my laws faithfully and keep my covenant, you, will become a kingdom of priests and a holy nation". Rav Kook interprets this verse to mean that we as Jews have two primary missions to undertake communally. The Phrase 'nation of priests' teaches us that we must live and act in ways to assist and teach the whole world to become righteous, fulfilling their purpose of following in Hashem's ways. Yet conversely with reference to 'a holy nation' we're supposed to focus inwardly to tend to our own spiritual growth at the same time. How is that possible?

Given that the Torah is often negative towards the other nations, Rav Kook found it remarkable that Yithro was so highly respected and trusted by all, including Moshe himself. You have to remember that Yithro was not only originally a Midianite Priest, but was also once a prominent member of Pharaoh's advisors in Mitzraim. Basically an outsider to the Jewish community. Yet when he shares his wisdom and his past personal experiences with Moshe. Moshe not only trusts Yithro but takes his insights to heart and agrees and implements Yithro valuable advice. Yithro, though an outsider and had no part in our covenant with Hashem clearly had spiritual wisdom. Something which Moshe at that time was lacking in a small way, making him vulnerable and weak. Yithro taught Moshe, 'as leader of a nation of priests' you are duty bound to tend to the entire affairs of the whole world but to become leader of a holy nation you need to look after yourself first. If you don't tend to your own spiritual sustenance then you won't be able to lead and heal the whole world.

This is proof that Yithro arrived before Matan torah and why he deserved to have this very auspicious sedra named after him. Yithro's contribution teaches that the Torah is not a self-contained inviolate system. Rather, an illustration that even before it was given. The Torah could be and is meant to be influenced and interacted not only by us, the Jewish Nation but by all the other different cultures and civilizations that live in this world too. This is the message I get from Yithro. If he a Midianite Priest, an outsider recognises the beauty and power, Hashem's gift to us truly is, then surely we can recognise that fact and preserve it in our hearts so we can fulfil our destinies of becoming ' Kingdom of Priests and a Holy Nation



Compiled, Designed & Written by Jeremy Symons



The US

LIVING | LEARNING | CARING

Richmond Synagogue

LICHFIELD GARDENS RICHMOND SURREY TW9 1AP.

FILM CLUB

We are showing a film the first Sunday in every month @ 3 PM.

Doors opening @ 2.30 PM.

Donations are £5.00 per person to the Richmond Synagogue Charitable Fund.

Donations collected at the door.

Due to a high demand to see these films would you please confirm your booking by email:

ivor.deitsch@btconnect.com.

SUNDAY 5TH MARCH 2017

SHOWING: "WALK ON WATER"



The US

LIVING+LEARNING+CARING

Richmond Synagogue

LICHFIELD GARDENS RICHMOND SURREY TW9 1AP.
EMAIL: ivor.deitsch@btconnect.com

WALK ON WATER

This movie's quiet intelligence sneaks up on you as a talent to watch – The New York Times.
**** Excellent performances that feel real and familiar – Empire.*

Synopsis:

Eyal is a professional hit man for the Mossad, the Israeli Secret Service. His newest mission is to track down the ex-Nazi officer Alfred Himmelman rumoured to be still alive.

Eyal spies on Himmelman's granddaughter, Pia, now living out in Israel after turning her back on her family in Germany. Eyal poses as a personal tour guide and takes her visiting brother Axel from the historical sights of Jerusalem to the shores of the Dead Sea.

Soon after Axel's return to Germany, the Mossad suspects that Himmelman could come out of hiding for Axel's father's upcoming birthday party. Eyal is sent to Germany, where he must get closer to Axel in order to discover the truth about the notorious family.

Uncharacteristically vulnerable since his ex-wife's recent death, professional killer Eyal will also have to discover certain truths about himself.....

Directed by: Eytan Fox

Screenplay: Gal Uchovsky

Music: Ivri Lider

Cast:
Eyal - Lior Ashkenazi
Axel Himmelman - Knut Berger
Pia Himmelman - Caroline Peters
Alfred Himmelman - Ernest Lenart +++

Fit for viewing by persons aged 15 years or more.

Run time: 103 minutes approx.



**EALING SYNAGOGUE
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE
LONDON SCHOOL OF JEWISH STUDIES**

JUDAISM IN THE 21ST CENTURY: CONTEMPORARY CHALLENGES

WITH
**Rabbi Dr Raphael Zarum
and Maureen Kendler**

8.40AM: SHACHARIT FOLLOWED BY BREAKFAST

9.20AM –10.00AM REGISTRATION

TRACK 1

**10.00AM-10.50AM: "THE WOMEN
OF THE HAGADDAH—LESSONS FOR US"
- RABBI DR RAPHAEL ZARUM**

**10.50 AM-11.45AM: "THE FOUR
SONS - WHAT CAN THEY TEACH US
ABOUT RAISING CHILDREN AND
GRANDCHILDREN?" - MAUREEN
KENDLER**

TRACK 2

**10.00AM—11.45AM:
COOKERY DEMONSTRATION
FOOD FOR PESACH
WITH REBBETZEN ZELDA VOGEL**

11.45AM : COFFEE BREAK

**12.00PM : FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS OF TRACKS 1 AND 2
CHALLENGING ISSUES:
PANEL DISCUSSION TO INCLUDE TOPICS SUCH AS:
Female leadership, Conversion,
Same-sex marriage, Agunot, Faith schools, etc.**

1.00PM : CLOSE

WHEN

SUNDAY 26 MARCH

WHERE

**Ealing Synagogue
15 Grange Road,
London W5 5QN**

TICKETS

£15.00 PER PERSON

Book Online at:

[https://myus.theus.org.uk/
events/32693/judaism-in-the-
21st-century-contemporary-
challenges/](https://myus.theus.org.uk/events/32693/judaism-in-the-21st-century-contemporary-challenges/)

**Please specify which sessions
you would like to attend**

CONTACT

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