

Magain David Sephardim Congregation Passover Bulletin: Table of Contents

“Purim Purim Lanu Pessah en la mano”	1
Shabbat Hagadol – April 12th-13th	3
Seder at Magain David	3
Ta’Anit B’Chorim - Fast of the first born son- April 19th	4
Sephardic Passover Guide by Rabbi Gabriel Cohen	4
Guide to Passover from the Vaad of Seattle	4
Eruv Tavshilin	5
Complete Schedule of Passover Services	6
Sale of Chametz Form	7
EARLY Sale of Chametz Form	8

Holiday Thoughts by Rabbi Simon Benzaquen

“Purim Purim Lanu Pessah en la mano”



So soon it will be here—Whether You’re Ready or Not! Undoubtedly, we will find out soon enough, how much work there is in order to prepare for Pesah; how much cleaning, shopping, baking and cooking there is. We will find out about the extra expenses of Pesah food and for new items and utensils that might need to be purchased for the holiday. Nevertheless, we do what we must.

Ultimately there is an overriding factor for most of us and it will all be worth it. and that is the simple meaning of the saying in Ladino, **“Purim, Purim lanu Pesah en la mano”** that we have to begin preparing for Pesah as soon as Purim is celebrated. But to my humble opinion this Aphorism is a deeper thought into the celebration of the festivals and holidays. The Jewish People have been witnesses, have seen miracles, one redemption after another even before the first one is over. **That is why we think about Pesah even while we are engage with the celebration of Purim,** We have to realize that as we celebrate one thing we will know that something else will come up that will throw us back to square one when we are worried about our stability in our lives as individuals and as a People.

“Bechol Dor Vador Omedim Alenu Le’chalotenu”.

-- In Every Generation We Face Those Who Want To Do Away With Us.

But H.K.B.H. Matzilenu Miyadam” -- The Holy One Blessed Is He, Saves Us From Their Hands.

The most important thing in all this is: To condition ourselves to know, that Hashem is our protector. That if we have faith in Him we will be alright. So that, as we celebrate one thing, one victory over our enemies, soon somebody else will rise but we will prevail with Hashem's help. And the proof is: All our holidays! They remind us that we have what no other nation has, "Hashem"! Who through a promised to our forefathers, He will always protect us. We simply need to acknowledge him with actions that speaks louder and stronger than words, by celebrating the holidays, especially Pesah marking our redemption, that, which gave us independence from tyranny, and the moment that we became a nation with the promise of Sinai and the revelation.

Pesah is ALSO a time when **we gather with our families and friends to read the Haggadah**, ask and answer questions, and enjoy the pleasure of being together. There is the added pleasure to know that we are not alone, when family and friends want to be with us. For many of us adults, this is an opportunity to be transported back in time to the sweetness of our youth, when we were in the care of our parents and/or grandparents, when innocence was part of who we were. As adults, we are now in the driver's seat with our children and family as we attempt to do our best to make it a memorable Pesah for them so that they, too, can learn and remember the value of family traditions so that the chain of transmission continues. **In time the next generation will appreciate what we do for them as we appreciate what the past generation did for us.**

On Pesah, we celebrate the deliverance of Israel from Egypt. This episode in the life and history of our people has become the immortal epic of Israel's history. Our liturgy daily contains references to this historic event. **The Kiddush that we recite after we usher in the Shabbat and Yom Tov recalls the glory of that momentous occasion.**

There are **five mitzvot (commandments) to be fulfilled at the Passover Seder**, two Biblical (from the Torah) and three Rabbinical (from our Sages). The two mitzvot from the Torah are: **to eat matza** ("In the evening you shall eat unleavened bread" - Exodus 12:18) and **to tell the story of our exodus from Egypt** ("And you shall relate to your son [the story of the exodus] on this day" - Exodus 13:9).

The rabbis added the mitzvot of **drinking the four cups of wine, eating marror (bitter herbs) and reciting Hallel (Psalms of praise for the Almighty)**, as a thank you for the liberation of our people from the bondage of Egypt. During Pesah the hallel is chanted both in synagogue and at the seder table service at home.

During the times of the Temple in Jerusalem, there were 16 additional mitzvot associated with the Pesah offering. All of these mitzvot (commandments) are to help us re-experience the bitter times of the servitude in Egypt and to feel and strengthen our sense of freedom and redemption from Egypt. The matza is called "lehem ani" - the bread of the poor man and "lehem oni" - the bread of affliction. In a play on pronunciation, the Sages also called it the bread over which many things are answered.

It has the dual symbolism of representing our affliction and our redemption. The four cups of wine represent the four different terms for our redemption in the Torah (Exodus 6:6-7). **Wine**

is the drink of free people! Bitter herbs represent affliction. And Hallel is our thanks to the Almighty for our redemption and freedom. Passover is the holiday of freedom in other words: to thank G-d Almighty for all that - physical as well as spiritual freedom.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish our beloved **MAGAIN DAVID SEPHARDIM CONGREGATION** *Moadim Lesimha - Pesah Kasher V'esameah.*

Rabbi Simon & Cecilia Benzaquen

Shabbat Hagadol – April 12th-13th

Please join us at Magain David for services and the special reading for the Shabbat preceding Passover.

- Friday afternoon Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat begin at 7:15pm.
- Shacharit begins at 9am with Torah reading at 11am.

Seder at Magain David

Led by Rabbi Simon Benzaquen

1st Night Seder, April 19th, 8:15pm

2nd Night Seder, April 20th 31, 8:30pm

The synagogue will feature Passover seders each night, April 19th and 20th, open to the community.

We are pleased to be led in the seder this year by Rabbi Benzaquen, and joined by Mrs. Benzaquen.

\$80 per adult per seder

\$25 per child - Children under five free

SPACE IS LIMITED. PLEASE RSVP via the website

<http://www.magaindavid.com/seder-reservations.html>

or via an email to info@magaindavid.com

or call and leave a voicemail with your RSVP details at 415-752-9095.



Ta'Anit B'Chorim - Fast of the first born son

April 19th – at Magain David

Friday the 19th of April, Rahamim Cohen will be leading a siyum at Magen David for those who are first born so they don't need to fast. Any first born male is to fast. If a boy is too young to fast, his father should fast for his son. However, a man can absolve himself from fasting by participating in Seudat Mitzvah. A Seudah for a Bar Mitzvah, Brit Milah and/or finishing a book from the Talmud is a Seudat Mitzvah.

Sephardic Passover Guide by Rabbi Gabriel Cohen

Rabbi Gabriel Cohen of the West Coast Rabbinical Court (WCRC) has made available to the congregation a full Passover Guide according to Sephardic tradition. Find the full guide online by following the link: http://www.beth-din.org/docs/Passover/2019/Passover_book_2019.en.pdf or the Magain David website at magaindavid.com/passover

Guide to Passover from the Vaad of Seattle & Maran Hacham Ovadia Yosef

Rabbi Simon Benzaquen has thoughtfully provided us with the guide to Passover from the Vaad of Seattle. This compendium includes:

- Pessah laws and customs
- Kitchen Preparation
- Chametz definitions and rules
- Selected Laws and Custom of the Seder

Product List for Passover for Sephardim and Ashkenazim

You may download the guide by clicking this link: <http://seattlevaad.org/passover/>

If you have any questions about the guide, you can contact the synagogue to reach Rabbi Benzaquen at info@magaindavid.com or 415-752-9095.

Eruv Tavshilin

An *Eruv Tavshilin* should be made on Thursday April 25th, to allow for the preparation of food on *yom tov* that will be consumed on Shabbat. Each person who wishes to prepare food for that Shabbat during the day before, must create an *eruv tavshilin*.

It is preferred that each individual make their own *eruv tavshilin*, but if one forgets to make one, he or she may nevertheless cook on Friday for the Shabbat on the strength of the *eruv* prepared by the Rabbi of the community. (source: *Ben Ish Hai*)

The guidance below is from *The Book of Our Heritage* by Eliahu Kitov.

An *eruv tavshilin* is a halachic device that allows one to cook food on the Festival for use on the Shabbat that immediately follows it. The idea of the *eruv* is this: the Sages banned cooking on a Festival for Shabbat, so that it not mislead a person into cooking on a Festival for a weekday. However if one prepared a cooked food for Shabbat the day before the Festival, it is then permissible to continue cooking it during the Festival: for then it is considered that he has begun all his cooking for Shabbat on the day before the Festival, and now he is only completing his work. With this, he will have a reminder: if it is forbidden to simply cook on a Festival for Shabbat, how much more certainly is it forbidden to cook on the Festival for the weekdays. And this is why it is called an *eruv*, “a mixture” – it “mixes together” the cooking for Shabbat with cooking for the Festival and it all becomes a single activity.

This *eruv* consists of a challah or two matzot – at least 2 ounces - and a cooked food such as meat, fish or a hard-boiled egg. The *eruv tavshilin* is set aside for Shabbat, and the appropriate blessing is said:

Baruch ata... asher kidishanu bemitzvotav vetzivanu al mitzvat eruv.

Then the following is recited:

With this eruv, it shall be permitted for us to back, cook and light fire and do all that is necessary for Yom Tov for use on a Shabbat.

The *eruv* is then kept until Shabbat. Among many communities, it is customary to use the challah or matzah as *lechem mishneh*, one of the two loaves of bread at the Shabbat table.

Complete Schedule of Passover Services

Thursday, April 18th- bedikat hametz after 7.36 pm after the bedikah nullify the hametz.

Friday, April 19th- Last time to eat Chametz: 10:50am | Time to annul and burn the chametz: 11.52 am

<u>Friday, April 19</u>	<u>Saturday, April 20</u>	<u>Sunday, April 21</u>
<u>Ta'anit B'Chorim</u> Siyum for the fast of the first born lead by Rami Cohen <i>at Magain David</i>	<u>Shabbat / First Day</u> Shacharit: 9:00am <i>at Magain David followed by a luncheon</i>	<u>Second Day</u> Shacharit: 9:00am <i>at Magain David followed by a luncheon</i>
<u>First Night</u> <i>Candle Lighting: 7:31pm</i> Mincha/Arvit/Hallel: 7:15pm <i>at Magain David</i> <i>followed by a seder at 8:15pm, please RSVP</i>	<u>Second Night</u> Mincha: 1:45pm <i>at Magain David</i> Lesson at 7pm (No Seuda Shelishit) Candle Lighting/ Arvit/Hallel: 8:31pm <i>followed by a seder at 8:30pm. please RSVP</i> Evening omer Count: 1	Mincha: 1:45pm <i>at Magain David</i> Lesson at 6:45pm Arvit: 8:20pm <i>Yom Tov ends: 8:32pm</i> Evening omer count: 2

<u>Monday, April 22</u>	<u>Tuesday, April 23</u>	<u>Wednesday, April 24</u>
<u>Day 3 – Chol Hamoed</u> Evening omer count: 3	<u>Day 4 – Chol Hamoed</u> Shacharit: 6:45am <i>at Magain David</i> Evening omer count: 4	<u>Day 5 – Chol Hamoed</u> Shacharit: 6:45am <i>at Magain David</i> Evening omer count: 5

<u>Thursday, April 25</u>	<u>Friday, April 26</u>	<u>Saturday, April 27</u>
<u>Day 6 – Erev Chag</u>	<u>Seventh Day</u> Shacharit: 9am <i>at Magain David</i>	<u>Shabbat / Eighth Day</u> Shacharit: 9am <i>at Magain David followed by a luncheon</i>
<u>Seventh Night</u> <i>Candles: 7:37pm</i> Mincha/Arvit: 7:15pm <i>at Magain David</i> Evening omer count: 6	<u>Eighth Night</u> <i>Candles: 7:38pm</i> Mincha/Arvit: 7:15pm <i>at Magain David followed by a meal</i> Evening omer count: 7	Mincha/ Motzei Shabbat: 7pm <i>at Magain David</i> Shabbat and Yom Tov ends: 8:38pm Evening omer count: 8

Bill of Sale and Authorization – Pesach, 5779/2019

I, the undersigned, do hereby sell any and all types of Chometz, mixtures of Chometz, items that possibly contain Chometz and Chometz Nuksheh, presently located

at (address) _____ in (locations):

	Types of Chamatz: Groceries, liquor, medicine, toiletries, etc.	Locations: Kitchen, pantry, garage, cabinets, etc.	Approx. Value \$
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			

consisting of, but not limited to, any of the following: foodstuffs, pet foods, medications, cosmetics, beer, liquor, “benschers,” baking equipment, toys, etc. that are in my possession, including all goods in transit that are delivered to me during the period of April 19, 2019 through the night of April 27, 2019, to Doug Clark or anyone else Rabbi Feldman so designates, the person named in the lengthy Bill of Sale to be executed prior to Passover.

I also hereby rent or sell the places where the Chometz is at present and the Chometz utensils—those that may be sold without necessitating Tevilas Kaylim—are to be sold and the remainder to be rented. The key to the premises where the above-mentioned goods are located can be found at the above location or at

_____.

Buyer shall have free access to the Chometz and/or mixtures containing Chometz, acquired by him. The exact assessment of the quantity and value of the goods mentioned above will take place after Passover.

I hereby authorize Rabbi Feldman, or anyone else he may designate, as my agent to execute this transaction.

The transaction shall be executed with this document and other acts of acquisition that are effective according to Jewish and civil law, for a final sale according to the details described in the lengthy bill of sale. The buyer’s deposit is to be paid to Rabbi Feldman, or whomever he may designate. This authorization is further legalized with the taking hold of the handkerchief or another utensil.

Dated: _____ Signature: _____

Address (if different than above): _____ Print name: _____

EARLY – Sale will go into effect on April 18, 2019

Bill of Sale and Authorization (Email to rabbif@gmail.com or fax to 650-857-0601)

I, the undersigned, do hereby sell any and all types of Chometz, mixtures of Chometz, items that possibly contain Chometz and Chometz Nuksheh, presently located at

(address) _____ in (locations):

	Types of Chamatz: Groceries, liquor, medicine, toiletries	Locations: Kitchen, pantry, garage, cabinets, etc.	Approx. Value \$
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			

consisting of, but not limited to, any of the following: foodstuffs, pet foods, medications, cosmetics, beer, liquor, “benshers,” baking equipment, toys, etc. that are in my possession, including all goods in transit that are delivered to me during the period of April 18, 2019 through the night of April 27, 2019, to Doug Clark or anyone else Rabbi Feldman so designates, the person named in the lengthy Bill of Sale to be executed prior to Passover.

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_____.

Buyer shall have free access to the Chometz and/or mixtures containing Chometz, acquired by him. The exact assessment of the quantity and value of the goods mentioned above will take place after Passover.

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Dated: _____ Signature: _____

Address (if different than above): _____ Print name: _____