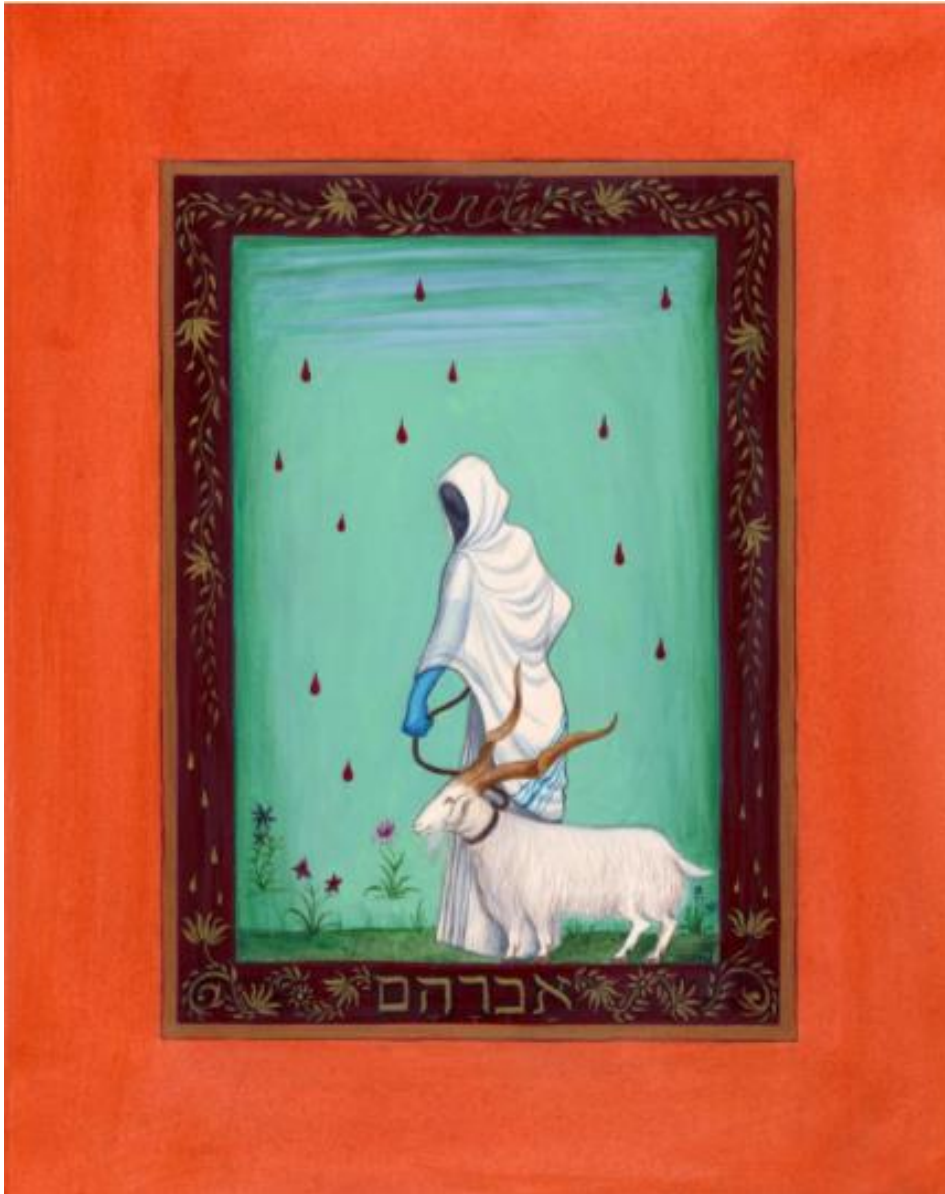




Siona Benjamin (Painting Title: "ABRAHAM") (SOLD)

www.artsiona.com, www.BlueLikeMe.com

US - Nehru Fulbright India scholar 2011, Fulbright Israel scholar 2017

(<https://artsiona.com/paintings/liberty-art-series/#&gid=1&pid=2>)

Shaniwar Teli e-newsletter Oct 2020 page number: 1



From the City of Ashdod, Israel

SHANIWAR TELI e-Newsletter

shaniwarteli@gmail.com

(English Marathi & Hebrew)

Oct. 2020

Vol: 4

*Binding all Bene-Israel Community
Worldwide*

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/wbwo.daniels.1/>

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Cover: Painting by **Siona Benjamin** (Kasookar)
 "Finding Home" # 84 (Fereshteh) 8"x6"
 Gouache and 22K gold leaf on mylar 2006.

In her "Finding Home" series, Siona raises questions about what and where "home" is, while addressing issues such as identity, immigration, motherhood, and the role of art in social change. With her transcultural background, the desire to "find home," spiritually and literally, has been a persistent theme. Her feeling of being unable to establish deep roots anywhere unnerves her yet also pulls her toward a seductive spiritual borderland.

<https://artsiona.com/paintings/finding-home-2/>

Cover pages of issues are blessed by images of various paintings of Siona Benjamin's, with her kind permission.



46-47 -What do we say in “Lecha-Dodi” every Friday? 48 -A Bene-Israel Teaching Bene-Israel students-Picture 49- Was Noah Hindu? 50-52- Health -Male Prostate Gland /Urine Problems 53-54-About Victoria Garden in Byculla 55- What is the special relationship between a Bene-Israel & Ganapati? 56-58-After 2200 years living with Hinduism, how much do you know about Hinduism? 56 - Do Hindu’s worship cow? 56 -Is Hinduism a Philosophy? 56- What are the four Yuga? 56-What is Dharma & Karma? 55- What is the single difference in the four Yuga? 57-How are three monkeys of Gandhi connected to Hinduism? 58-Why do Hindus pray Shiva Lingam? 58-Why is a mouse image always with Ganapati images? 59 -Bene-Israel and the Universe 60-62 - Rare Breed in Bene-Israel; an Entrepreneur 63 -About Joseph Ezekiel Rajpurkar 64-65 -Kammodan Mocadem Publishing House 66-68- Learn Marathi Language on-line (Free) 67 - Youtube Bene-Israel videps 67 – Very Special People 68 -Buy your Burial Plot in Israel 69 - For what did Chief Rabbi of Israel blesses our Rabbi Divekar? 70 - Bene-Israel Artist One-Line Expert 71 -On what does your IQ depend? 72-74 -Museum of Bene-Israel Prayer books 75-76 -Contributions of Indian Jews to Israel 77-87Bene-Israel News IJF – Introduction AJDC –Bayiti, IOBI,ORT, BJP,IJHC, Oren & Shirley,Pune,Navgaon Australia, Canada, New Zealand, Israel 88- Shaniwar Teli – Cooking : Gulabi (pink) Halwa 89 Classified	<i>Chief Editor:</i> Dr. Shulmith Solomon (Charikar) Ph.D, DHE <i>Editors:</i> Ms. Leora Perez Pezarkar MMS Heritage Management (Marathi) Jenny Samson (Bamnolkar) (Hebrew) <i>Idea & Creator:</i> Elijah (Leo) Daniels (Walwatkar) B.Sc. M.B.A <i>Consultant for Heritage & Bene-Israel History:</i> Dr. Nissim Moses (Talkar) B.Sc. Eng. Exprt on BI History <i>Interviews Manager:</i> Ms. Naomi Moses (Awaskar) M.A. <i>Manager - Canada:</i> Mr. Abraham Samson (Mapgaonkar) (B.Tech., (IIT) M.M.S (Operations) <i>Manager - Australia:</i> Mr.Solomon Erulkar (Handasi B.Tech) <i>Manager - New Zealand:</i> Mr. Yoel Reuben Samson (Killlekar) MPA <i>Manager - Raigad District:</i> Mr. Herzl Levy Bhonkar (Adv) <i>Manager – Pune:</i> Dr. Reuben Daniel (Pezarkar) Ph.D



Rabbi Shmuel Ben-Shalom (Divekar)
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P. O. Box 5866,
Jerusalem - 9105801.
ISRAEL.

To Our Dear Indian Jewish Community

Dear Friends,
Shalom Uvracha!

We hope the attached "Article," "Halachoth," and "Seder Simanim" will enhance your Rosh Hashanah, and also hoping that you will be able to benefit from this material.

Attaching herewith also Derasha on Rosh Hashanah, we hope the words of Torah will become more meaningful for our Marathi speaking brethren and serve as an inspiration to reach greater spiritual heights.

Please click on the following to see the "Bene Israel of India" Marathi Derasha on Rosh Hashanah - 3

: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cVeNu6PSk-Q&feature=youtu.be>

Please click on the following to see the Web Page for Halachot, Article, and Seder Simanim :

In English : <http://www.indianjudaica.com/wp/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Halachot-Rosh-Hashanah-5781-2020-English.pdf>

In Hebrew : <http://www.indianjudaica.com/wp/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Halachot-Rosh-Hashanah-5781-2020-Hebrew.pdf>

In Marathi : <http://www.indianjudaica.com/wp/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Halachot-Rosh-Hashanah-Marathi-5781-2020.pdf>

Shana Tova, Tizku Leshanim Rabboth Ne'imoth Vetovoth [veShabbath Shalom]!

Website: www.indianjudaica.com

Email: beshalom@netvision.net.il

Mobile / WhatsApp: 054-7409055.

Message forwarded to us by Samuel & Earna Daniels; USA (Thank you)

Letters on “Shaniwar Teli” ‘s supplement on Distinguished Bene-Israel People	Letters on “Shaniwar Teli”’s project “Adopt a Needy Family in India”
<i>Letter of Appreciation and Compliments To The Shaniwar Teli Editorial Team</i> As a Historian and Genealogist of our Jewish Community, I would like to show my appreciation for All the Effort that is being made by You and your wonderful team in bring forth such a Excellent, Elegant and Broad Based Review of our rich Bene Israel Culture and Heritage. Both your recent publications in my opinion will go down in Bene Israel History as Historical Documents for our future generations. I know that many of our Bene Israel people are frustrated from many of their personal experiences in Israel but you and your team have definitely revived their hopes for a better social future and acceptance as a member of the overall Israeli Population. You and Your Team are Contributing Significantly Towards The Jewish Dream of <i>making Israel one Nation Under God</i>. God Bless You All with Determination, Strength, Patience & Crown Your Efforts with Glorious Success.--Amen. Nissim Moses B.Sc. Engineering Historian Indian Jewish Heritage & Bene Israel Genealogy Research (If you have sent us message to Shaniwar Teli for some corrections, we will be forwarding them to Mr. Nissim Moses)	Shaniwar Teli has received many letters from needy families in India for connecting them to families who will help them for few months. We will not be printing these letters. However we are sharing a few incidents that we heard and did not know if we should laugh or cry. -We sent a needy families name to a family who was willing to help. When the family called the needy family, they said please send 1 lac to 2 lac rupees for few months. Obviously, the family who wanted to help came back to us and we asked them to ignore the family and sent them another name. There is one needy family name that we sent to a family who wanted to help, but they said the person lost the job. Then we sent same name to a second family and they told us they were hospitalized due to Corona and when we sent to the third family, the person well never mind. Most go smoothly but in some cases their luck just does not work. Be we keep trying. We once again <i>thank all the families who are helping</i> the needy families in India. We also thank all <i>the wonderful social workers</i> from Bombay, Pune, Panvel, Raigad and Ahmadabad. Shaniwar Teli Team shaniwarteli@gmail.com Elijah (Leo) Daniels

Letters – We are a Community of Confusions!! 1 2 and 3

Total Confusion 1: We got letters thanking Sassoon & Shiffron for helping them to get AJDC payment while AJDC refused they were helped by any person.

July 22, 2020 -Mr Elijah S Jacob, Executive Director, AJDC, Mumbai. -Mr David Kumar, Manager - Welfare AJDC, Mumbai. -Mr Sassoon Phansapurkar BJP Pramukh for Jewish Minority community, Maharashtra Pradesh. Copy: Shaniwar Teli Sir's, I am Shiffron Hayim Pezarkar from Pune and an active member of the Pune Jewish community. I am also holding a post of Special Executive officer (SEO) Govt. of Maharashtra. Since I am an active member for our Jewish community in Pune, Mr. Sassoon Phansapurkar contacted me and sent me a particular form and asked me to get it filled with names and details of the needy Jewish families in Pune to avail facilities of Emergency Support Fund given by AJDC, Mumbai which has been done by me and sent to you. Sirs, on behalf of my Pune Jewish Community I sincerely thank each one of you for realizing, helping and supporting the needy Jewish	families of Pune who are facing financial difficulties during this Corona Lock down crisis. Once again our Sincere Thanks. May God bless you always. Shiffron Hayim Pezarkar  Thanking Letters below to AJDC & BJP –Mumbai & Pune for help; I Mr Samuel Aaron Bhonkar would like to thank the AJDC 1. Mr ELIJAH S JACOB Executive Director AJDC 2. Mr David Kumar Manager Welfare 3 Mr Sassoon Phansapurkar Jewish minority Pramukh BJP 4 Mr Shiffron H Pezarkar SEO and Active member Pune for informing and sending us the application form and was contacting us from time to time. Therefore I once again thank the AJDC management who has come forward to help for Emergency Financial help	during lockdown to the needful Jewish families of Pune I am Miss Isabela Jhirad residing in Pune would like to thank Mr. Elijah Jacob Director of AJDC for the financial assistance that I have received. Very much grateful to you Sir for accepting my request. My heartfelt thanks to Mr. Sassoon Phansapurkar President of BJP Jewish Minority Community. Thank you Sir for being so kind to me. I am highly obliged to you for accepting my case. I would also like to extend my thanks to Mr David Kumar welfare manager at AJDC for his support and guidance. Last but not the least very much grateful to Mr. Shiffron Pezarkar of Pune who informed and guided me every time. I am thankful for his time and guidance. He spoke on behalf of the Jewish Community of Pune and helped us and even coordinated very well. Thanks to him. Isabela Moses Jhirad. 	Aug. 9, 2020 AJDC has taken note of the of the hardships faced by low/middle class Jewish individuals/families who have been badly affected financially during the ongoing pandemic. We have decided to extend limited emergency support to the affected community members in this category for a limited period. An application form was circulated on the local Jewish social media sites for applying for this emergency support. Please apply only through this form. A special internal AJDC committee has been constituted to scrutinize the applications received within the approved budget. AJDC India has not appointed any agent/s or Individual/s to collect names of affected individuals / families as is being projected and circulated on certain WhatsApp groups. This is for information of all Jewish community members. Elijah Jacob Executive Director-AJDC, India.
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Letters continued

Total Confusion 2: Every Indian group & Social worker claimed it was them who helped the immigrants to get onto the rescue flight. But the facts shows else.

Based on Forwards sent to Shaniwar Teli.

On July 7 IOBI chat group placed below message on all Indian chat groups as IOBI's achievement.	On July 26 many started patting each other's back for the good job as many messages as below kept going around.	Then Oren & Shirley took the cake by forwarding a message from Jewish Agency that ONLY they were the ones who made this happen.	DON'T WE LOVE OUR COMMUNITY!	
Yaffa Gupte: Due to heavy pressure from the Indian community in Israel on the Aliya issue, the Absorption and Immigration Committee approached senior members of the Knesset for help. Today they have details of 17 community members from India waiting to immigrate to Israel. The issue has been addressed to senior executives personally and they are being handled as top priority. They hope the issue will be resolved soon. If you know of other members of the community who are waiting to immigrate to Israel, please ask them to email to the committee's email id only: *vdept3@knesset.gov.il* Please address your emails to- *Member of Knesset David Bitten Chairman of the Immigration Absorption And Diaspora Committee C/o Ms. Dolly Shimon Please do not miss this opportunity. Hurry up and act ASAP so that the prospective immigrants will soon be able to land in Israel.	[7/26, 4:18 PM] ISR. YAFFA GUPTA. Message . Congratulations! Finally we will be welcoming our brothers and sisters, our fellow community members from India. They would be landing in this Holyland, by the Grace of God, on 28th July 2020. I, hereby, would like to Thank each one of you who was a part in assisting and helping make their dream come true in this tough times. I would like to thank the Immigration and Absorption Committee in the Knesset, the Jewish Agency who went way out to support the Indian Jewish community. Welcome my dear New immigrants from India. I would also like to make a special mention of two of our community people from India, who gave us their full cooperation in this matter. They were with me on calls day in and day out irrespective of the time... Thank you dear Mr. Sassoon Phansapurkar and Mr. Perez Pezarkar.[7/26, 6:56 PM] SASSOON SAMSON BJP: THANKS TO YAFFA AND YOUR GROUP MEMBERS AS THIS WAS NOT POSSIBLE WITHOUT YOUR KIND SUPPORT. WE ARE ALWAYS READY & WILLING TO HELP OUR COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN THEIR TIMES OF NEED.	31/7/2020 https://www.facebook.com/96070021079/posts/10157352392356080/?sfns=n=mo PLEASE FOLLOW THE ABOVE LINK TO SEE FULL MESSAGE; How is immigration from India carried out at the height of the corona? This is exactly what Shirley and Oren, volunteers of the Jewish Agency for the Jewish Community in India, did. Before the epidemic broke out, the two began helping seven immigrants from the Bnei Yisrael community: an ancient Jewish community of 4,000 people. The immigrants wanted to unite with their families who are already in the country, and raise their young children in the country. Oren and Shirley helped the immigrants by preparing them for absorption in the Israel and coordinate everything necessary for them, but then the plague broke out and within a day a total closure was declared in the country. In the midst of this uncertainty, Shirley and Oren mediated between the tense immigrants and the Jewish Agency.	Shaniwar Teli (Phone discussion) As per our discussion we were explained that for 7 people no one can approve a 300 passenger flight. The problem was not only with Indian immigrants. There were immigrants waiting in many other countries. No one could help, not Jewish Agency or any pressure groups. There is a set procedure to follow and no one can influence it. As with other countries when there were enough people to fill a rescue 300 passage flight, a decision is take. We do it with all the countries and not only with India. A week before a rescue flight from Russia had arrived. The immigrants who were already issue visa in every country are always considered for a rescue flight. No one has to tell us after visa is issued. We know the immigrants are waiting in 30 countries. They are in good hands. Trust us.	

Total Confusion 3: Community is asking many questions to IOBI. They promised replies in their newsletter. But no answers were included.

Aug.8, 2020 Questions	Aug.8, 2020 – Reply Promise	IOBI – New Letter- No answers	Others
Questions asked to President of IOBI, As you claim IOBI is now a registered NGO (Amuta); -Can you please send the images of the NGO registration documents. Who is the lawyer? - Where is it registered? -Who were the 14 members who singed for NGO? Why were they all one family member. -If you are using Bene- Israel people name (IOBI) to register, everyone has the right to know full details of the registration. It has to be open. -All NGO gets annually some money from the government. How much was received? What happened to that money? -IOBI has been collecting money in name of helping BI in India who are suffering in Corona period. How much was collected so far? What has happened with this money? -Every NGO should have elections. When will IOBI hold offical elections? Asking question on behalf of Bene-Israel people from all over the world for Shaniwar Teli e- newsletter based on messages received. Thank you.	Hello Leo, and warm greetings to all your well wishers from all over the world on behalf of whom you are asking these questions. Since you already hold so much good information about IOBI, I am sure you are also aware that we are coming up with the <i>second edition of our Newsletter.</i> Happy to share with you that we are in the process of highlighting some details of IOBI in our NL in our own special way. Hoping the information provided, will get you and your well wishers from all over the world, the required clarity. I also did some brushing up of some of my Amuta knowledge before we went ahead registering and it helped me understand that an Amuta cannot be formed without a lawyer and an Amuta does not get grants just by registering itself. I have to admit that I am myself intrigued by some of the points that you have mentioned in your list of queries. I would have loved to ask you the source. But will keep that for some other day... Will share our NL the day we launch it .. Do not forget to share it with all your well wishers from all over the world who also have such queries. Stay safe.	The issue was released but we did not get a copy until today. It was forwarded to us by some IOBI members as they too were eager to see the replies. <i>There were no answers to any of the questions in their newsletter.</i> Obviously either the information of being registered is fake or they have registered the IOBI in some personal family name that can be used for collection of payments. Why would anyone hide such information from their own people?? Like one of the IOBI member claims, it is not IOBI but s-IOBI where S= Suspicious. We are sure Mr. John Perry at 70 started this group in 2017/18 with very good intentions. He left it to the younger people to advance it who just don't know what to do with it. Since it is a voluntary work that people have to do after work and for no payment, it is very difficult. We understand.	Message from a helping family from Canada Spoke to them. They will be messaging me and we will continue the dialogue with his elder daughter. I can see why you want to help these people out. They need help. He seemed rather depressed I'm glad to do it. Thank you for the opportunity. Sincerely appreciate it SHALOM TO ALL OUR COMMUNITY MEMBERS A GOOD NEWS TO ALLLL..... OUR DAVID BABA IS BACK TO HIS OWN HOME IN DONGRI TODAY AFTER APPROX 4 MONTHS. WE WERE COMPELLED TO GET HIM TO HIS HOUSE AS WE WERE RECEIVING THREATENING CALLS THAT WE HAVE KIDNAPPED HIM AND TORTURING HIM AND ALSO WE HAVE SOLD HIS ROOM AND GRAB THE MONIES FOR OUR PERSONAL INTEREST. THE COMMUNITY MEMBERS WHO HAVE THREATENED US CAN NOW COME FORWARD AND TAKE FULL CHARGE OF HIM. THE SHAARE RASON SYNAGOGUE IS NOW NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS HEALTH FROM TODAY ONWARDS. REGARDS, JUDAH SAMUEL PUGAVKAR SINORA YEHEAL KOLATKAR

July 14, 20202 Hello "Shaniwar teli" team. Namaskar ! Shalom ! I am Kaushik Lele from Mumbai, India. I admire the love and affection shown by Bene Israel community towards India and Maharashtra in particular, even when living in Israel. I had followed the news of a large get together of your community last year. I read about this newsletter from Facebook group of "MAGEN ABOTH SYNAGOGUE ALIBAG" . Looking at the efforts by your community to cherish the Marathi language and culture, I want to share how I can be helpful in this endeavor. I am helping people world over learn Marathi language. Many Indians, NRIs, even foreigners are learning Marathi successfully online. Importantly, I do not charge any fee for this. I have kept them free as a service to my mother tongue. Mywebsite : http://learnmarathiwithkaushik.com	It has 100+ lessons teaching grammar, pronunciation, sentences, conversations. You can watch videos of non-Indian speaking Marathi here http://learnmarathiwithkaushik.com/testimonials/ The same website also has Gujarati language learning tutorial. The older generation knows Marathi and they wish it to continue in generations to come. I am sure my tutorials will help fulfill this dream of community members. So is it possible for you to introduce these resources to the larger audience through your newsletter? I can provide further information if needed. Let me know what you think about this request. Thanks a lot, Waiting for your response, Kaushik Lele <i>(We have included details in Hebrew English & Marathi in this newsletter as to how you can learn Marathi Language on-line free of any cost)</i>	शेराताई माझ्या कडे मोबाईल लागत नाही तरी स्वाॅरी आपले व्हाईस कॉल ऐकले तरी माझ्या परिवाराकडून धन्यवाद तसेच संकट काळात आपल्या स्वःखुशीने काही मदत पाठविण्यात येणार आहे त्या करी ता मी व माझ्या परिवारा कडून अनेक अनेक धन्यवाद आपला कृपाभिलाषी ----- Today xxxxx xxxxxx called me Just now and he send some help. Thank you very much because of you it was possible. May GOD bless you and family and family of xxxxx xxxxxx Thanking you -----	Sept. 3, 2020 Dear Madam/Sir, Please note that the name attributed to the photograph on p. 54, bottom row, second from left is wrong. It is a photograph of Mr B.J. Israel, NOT of Mr Ezra Kolet. Mr B.J. Israel is the author of 'The Jews of India' (please see attached for details of the book). Reuben Israel Dear Reuben Israel, Yes, we confirm that there is a mistake in the name and it has been corrected for future. Thank you for pointing it out. As a compensation we are including in this a article on Mr. B.J.Israel. Sincerely Shaniwar Teli Team
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Dear Readers,

We, at Shanivar Teli, would like to wish each one of you a Happy New Year and Well over the Fast.

This year we all are going to welcome the New Year, Yom Kippur and Sukkot in a very different way than the earlier times. We will not be able to include our extended families but our hope and love for our family will always be never ending. We have prepared a great volume of newsletters which will help, inform, educate and entertain you during the holidays.

We thank everyone who helped bring the Selichot prayers to our homes via Zoom and YouTube. It is unfortunate that we shall be unable to attend the Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur prayers this year due to restrictions imposed.



Dr. Shulmith Solomon
Charikar

We thank everyone who helped bring the Selichot prayers to our homes via Zoom and You tube. It is unfortunate that we shall be unable to attend the Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur prayers this year due to restrictions imposed.

Only God can turn:

A Mess into a Message.

A Test into a Testimony.

A Trial into a Triumph.

A Victim into a Victor

Dr. Shulmith Solomon Charikar
Editor, Shanivar Teli e-newsletter

Believing firmly in
the power of prayer.

**HAPPY
NEW
YEAR**



Leora's Corner

Puri or Borekas? - India To Israel Leora Micah Joseph



The month of Elul is a period of preparation for the Jewish Festivals. It is a serious, solemn period not only for physical cleansing (cleaning the house and everything in it), but also spiritual cleansing. We are expected to utilize this time to reflect, correct and right the wrong that we may have done over the past year.

No Jewish Festival is complete without its own traditional food. The Bene Israel community have their own special dishes associated with the festivals. A special sweet dish – “Chikha cha halwa” (made from wheat) is prepared a few days before Rosh Hashanah. The Fast of Gedaliah was referred to as “Kheeri cha roja” because we ate Kheer at the evening meal after breaking the fast. Two to three days before Yom Kippur, the Bene Israel women would again get down to the laborious process of making sweet “puris” or Karanjis as the Maharastrians call it. There are two types of sweet filling for the puris. One is made with rava and the other with coconut. My favourite were the ones my grandmother made with coconut, sugar and dry fruits. As a child, I recall sitting next to her to roll the dough and fill the puris while my mother would fry them.

Several years ago my husband and I visited Israel a few days after the High Holy Days. During that visit, we, along with my brother in law (a doctor in Jerusalem) were invited as guests to the home of an elderly lady who was hosting a Mahila Mandal (women's only) meeting in Ramle. At a Mahila Mandal Meeting, whether it is in Thane, Mumbai or Ramle, one thing is certain - there will be food – lots of it. There were I think almost 30-35 women in the house that day. Each of them had brought something to eat. It was a feast for the eyes. Indian snacks jostled for place alongside their Israeli counterparts.

One of the ladies passed around a plate of Borekas (an Israeli snack), that she had made at home. Borekas are a savoury snack with usually a potato or a cheese filling and sometimes mushrooms. I happily picked up two of these and put them on my plate. While the conversation flowed in the room, I decided to eat. I bit into a borekas and my taste buds were pleasantly surprised. The borekas was sweet! It had been stuffed with the sweet filling of the puris! Seeing the surprised look on my face, the lady who had made them casually said: “I had a little of the sweet filling left over after the Festivals, so I decided to make borekas with it.”

That day I understood how cultures can influence one another. The sweet filling of a traditional Indian Bene Israel dish had found its way into an Israeli snack. Man learns to create, to innovate and the end result can be just as amazing, or as in this case, so tasty!! Israel is after all known to be a **melting pot of culture**.



Our Bene-Israel's **"LIVING LEGEND"**

In this "Shaniwar Teli" issue the *Bene-Israel "Living Legend CROWN"* goes to honor;
Prof. Dr. Lael Best, MBBS, MS, FICS, FCTS, FCCP, FACS, FRCS (Eng.) Chief of Thoracic Surgery 1989-to date & Chief of Surgery 2005-2012- Rambam-Health Care Campus-Haifa.

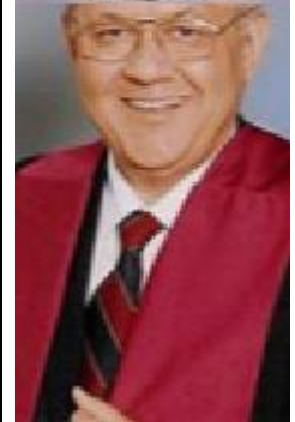
Lael was born on 11th August 1951, in Ahmedabad, Gujarat, studied in Ahmedabad and completed medicine and qualified as a general surgeon. He then obtained his Israeli Board Certification in Cardio Thoracic Surgery in 1985. In 1987-88. He was a Clinical Fellow in Thoracic Surgery at the Mayo Graduate School of Medicine in Rochester MN. USA. On his return he was appointed as Chief and Head of the Department of Thoracic Surgery at Rambam at the age of 38 years. In 2005 became Clinical Associate Professor and also Chief of Surgery (2005-2012) at the Rambam-Health Care Campus Haifa Israel.

During 1977 Dr. Lael Best married Rebecca youngest daughter of Brigadier David Abraham Kolatkar and Rebecca (Ruby) (nee) Eliezer Judah Ashtamkar. Lael & Rebecca have three children, one son Niv and two daughters Shere & Hila and a grandson Yona.



Information taken from article on Prof. Lael Best by Mr. Nissim Moses-Historian-Bene Israel Heritage & Genealogy Research

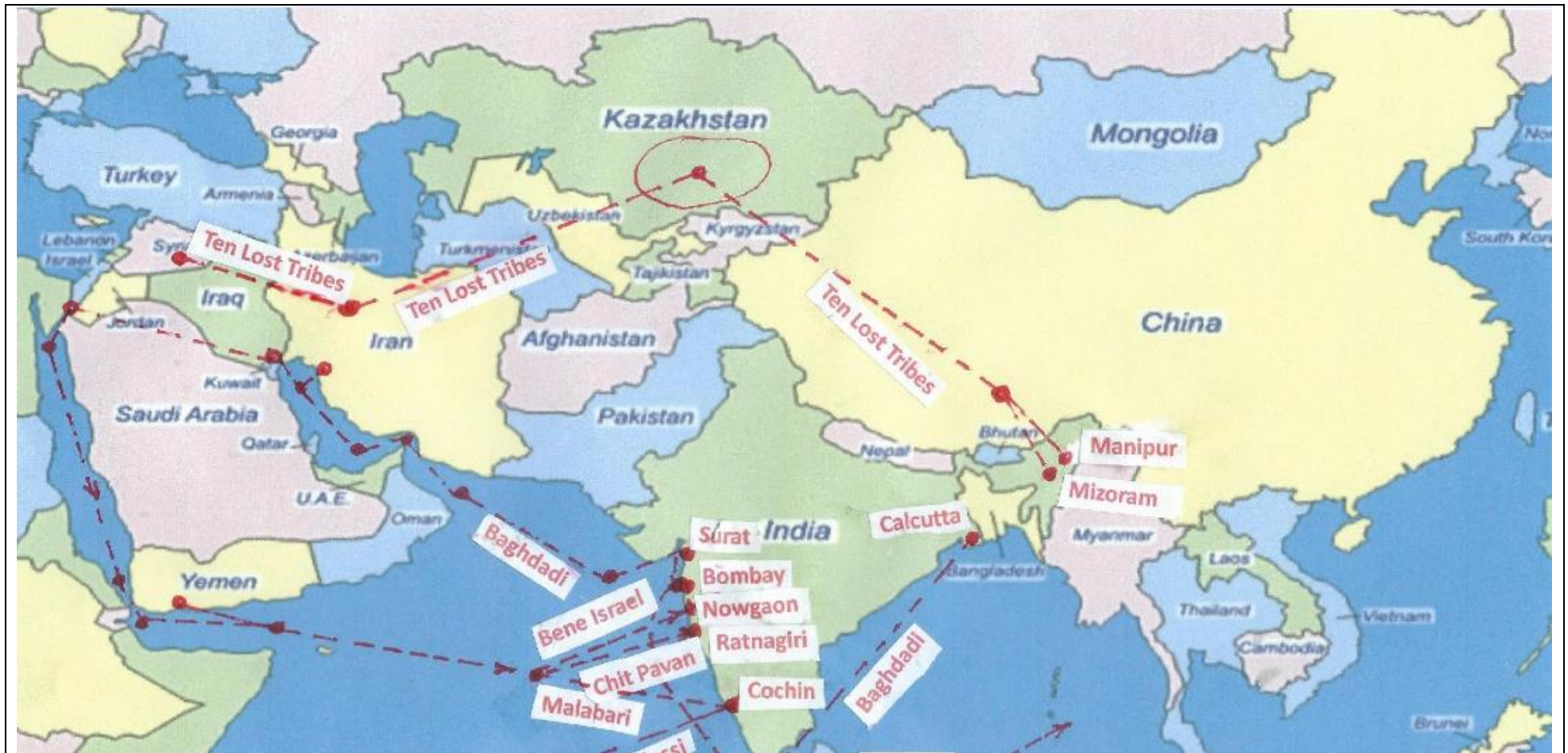
CROWN for the
Living Legend of
the Bene-Israel
Community



Prof. Dr. Lael Best

For Children of Bene-Israel not born in India

This short article is especially for Hebrew-Speaking Bene-Israel children to inform them of the history of their ancestors. How did they reach India and how they were discovered as Jews after 2200 years later and finally came back to Israel, where their ancestors belonged. Why were they called “**Shaniwar Teli**”?





One boat that had left the middle-east sank in a storm. The remaining live and dead bodies were washed off the shores of Nawgaon during 175 BCE (near Bombay in map above).

The live remaining Jews buried the dead at a spot that later became the Nawgaon cemetery for Bene-Israel Jews. During 1970's a monument was built (picture on left).

They started working as oil pressing. Being Jewish these oilmen did not work on Saturdays. Saturday in Marathi is called as “**Shaniwar**” and Oil Pressers as “**Teli**”

SHANIWAR TELI



Shaniwar-Teli/ Bene-Israel: As the world starting opening up with British coming to India “Shaniwar Teli “(Saturday Oilmen)” community was re-discovered as Jews due to their keeping the Shabbat and ethnography (The variations in Culture, Traditions, customs, cuisine, names etc., of the various Jewish Communities related to the time and or of their exodus from the land of Israel).

Sounds of Shofar

(1)TEKIAH = Awaken

(2) SHEVARIM = Take measure of your regrets

(3) TERUAH = We can no longer be a bystander

(4) Tekiah Grdolah = It's a wake-up call

The Shofar Factory

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#inbox/FMfcgxwHMjipWLSqjfCzjCbWQxwVfMpp?projector=1>

(Thanks to Erna & Sam Daniels)

Besides Bene-Israel Community there are many more Jewish communities in India from 586 B.C.E.

Jews in India

Israel is to fund a rare genetic study to determine if there is a 2700 year old link to Afghanistan & Pakistan (PASHTUN JEWS)
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2010/jan/17/israel-lost-tribes-pashtun>

Baghdadi Jews/Gujrat: 1650 CE with rise of radical Islam in the Middle East Jews from the Middle fled for their life to Surat which then was Trading Port of East India Company Colonial Trading Post. They also moved to **Bombay /Calcutta** Calcutta.

Bene Israel/NOWGAON/Maharashtra : About 175 C.E. the ancestors of the Bene Israel were washed ashore at Nowgaon, when their ships sank Monsoon Storm. Following their ancestral profession of Oil Pressing and refrained from work on Saturdays. Because of this the Local inhabitants called them "Shaniwar Telis". The Bene Israel believe that Elijah the prophet saved them

Bene Menashe Jews / Manipur : Ethnographic studies show these Jews origin from destruction of the 1st Temple by Nebuchadnezzar and him taking the ten tribes of Israel into bondage and relocating them in Central Asia in 586 B.C.E

Pardessi (Foreign Origin) Jews escaped Portugal and Spain to avoid Marranos (derogatory term) or Anusim. The colonies of Portugal in India were Cochin, Daman, Diu and Bombay till 1670 CE. When it was transferred to the British. The colony in Goa Just vanished, the colony in Cochin survived because of the protection/asylum given to them by the local Maharajah.

Malabari Jews of Cochin arrival in India 200 years after the destruction of the 2nd Temple in Jerusalem in 70 C.E, from Middle East-probably Yemen and surrounding areas, of the rise of radical Islam and their hatred for Jews "Yahudi"

Bene Ephraim / Andhra Pradesh -(No Known Date of Exodus for the Diaspora). They claim to be from the 1st Diaspora. These Jews are known as Bene Ephraim. The founder of this community; which was unknown even in India till about 20 years ago; was/is a Christian Priest. They are been sponsored by Dr. Kranti Farias a Christian researcher. They claim to have come down from Central Asia to Andhra Pradesh.

Chit Pavan Jews; A part of the original flotilla of ships that left Israel in 175 B.C. Sank of the Coast of Ratnagiri-Maharashtra during the same Monsoon Storm. The locals gathered bodies for cremating But the Chit Pavan-Meaning- Purified by Fire believe they were resurrected by their Holy Saint Parsuram, who had the power to resurrect.



Prepared for "Shaniwar-Teli" e-newsletter by Elijah (Leo) Daniels using the article by Mr. Nissim Moses, Bene-Israel Historian & Genealogist "The Arrival, Sojourn and Heritage of the Bene-Israel in India". We recommend reading the original article for detailed information.

IS "NARENDRA MODI" A CRYPTO JEW?

[NWO BROADCASTING CORP](https://nwobroadcastcorp.wordpress.com/2020/03/07/is-narendra-modi-a-crypto-jew/amp/)

<https://nwobroadcastcorp.wordpress.com/2020/03/07/is-narendra-modi-a-crypto-jew/amp/>

Ghanchi is a Hindu sub caste found in the states of **Gujarat, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh** and other parts of India. These are people who [run kirana stores, and also press and sell oil](#) and sell grain (and tea) from shops. The word **Modi** itself means an individual who owns and runs the neighbourhood kirana store, and it has the [same meaning as the name Gandhi](#). The Sahu, [Teli](#) and Ganiga **are related castes found in North India**. **Modh** communities comprise people who use the name and originate from [Modhera](#) in [Gujarat](#), India. [Narendra Modi belongs to the Modh-Ghanchi sub caste](#) a member of the **oil pressing caste Modi is thus a Teli Baniya** , a member of the oil pressing ,trading caste.

Narendra Modi the Teli looks quite similar to Shaniwar TeliS



The Jewish community of Maharashtra (called Bene Israel) was also known to be a sub-group in the Teli caste called **Shanivar Teli** meaning **Saturday oil pressers** for their Jewish custom of abstention from work on Shabbat. Maharashtra and Gujarat states adjoin each other Gujarat being to the north of Maharashtra. **Analysis: The Bene-Israel Jews (Teli) are at the Heart of the Netanyahu-Modi (Teli) Love Affair!**

In discussion with *Israel Chaim*

19-COVID/CARONA

Corona is COVID-19. Why?



One of the Rabbis of Yeshivat Ohr Somayach was asked In Exodus 15:26 it says "I am the Lord that heals you." Does going to a doctor contradict this?



I have a story for you:

A man swept away by a flood sees two guys approach in a rowboat. "Hop in!" they shout. "No, thanks," he says, "God will save me." Next, a tugboat passes by. "Climb aboard," calls the captain. Again he refuses. "God will save me," he says. Then the Coast Guard sends a helicopter but he refuses to board, giving the same reason. Finally, he drowns.

Up in Heaven, an angel asks why he refused help. "I wanted to rely on God alone," he replies.

"Idiot!" says the angel.

"Who do you think sent you the rowboat, the tugboat and the helicopter?"

G-d acts through the guise of doctors and medicine, just as He acts through the guise of employers to provide us with a living. Would your friends refuse to take money from their bosses, saying they'll get it directly from G-d? I think not. Do they eat

food, or do they wait for G-d to miraculously inject their bloodstream with nourishing vitamins, minerals, fats and carbohydrates?

The Torah (Bible) gives explicit permission to engage in healing. The verse (Exodus 21:19) says that if one person strikes another person, the attacker "shall pay for his unemployment and for his medical expenses".

Our task is to exert the effort and then to recognize that ultimately it is G-d who heals. While seeking proper medical attention, a sick person simultaneously engages in prayer, good deeds, and introspection. We don't accept prayer as "a last resort" – it's a "first resort," along with medicine and the doctor.

Rabbi Ilan Gozal tells the true story of Rav Kalani who was a Chassid & Sadik & who passed away last Pesach .After the lewaya that same night he came in a dream to his son & told him that he received special permission from Heaven to come to his son

& reveal to him the reason for Carona. He commanded his son to reveal to the Jewish people that the reason so many special Jews are passing away is because there is a lot of talking in the Beth Knesset. Only because Rav Kalani while alive was very cautious nevet to talk divrey chol in the Beth Knesset he was given permission to reveal to the world the true reason for the plague.

He told his son the true name of carona is covid-19.why?

Because there is no kavod to Hashem in the Beth Knesset. Covid –Kavod! People talk during prayers in the Beth Knesset .And why 19 because in the prayer Smonei esere there are 19 Brechot where specially people should be cautious. The great pelewonder was that that Sabbath was Parshat kedoshim & in perek 19 it says "be mikdashai terrau ani Hashem". Od yoter pelewonderous was that a few days later the law was announced that one could pray only to the limit of 19 people .From where did law makers come to the number 19? From the jackpot?

It says in the Naveim "mi bikesh mimchem lirmos chatserai".Who gives permission to you to come to chatserai to migdash me-at sheli to lirmos oto be diburey chol & lihitasek be telephonim during Tefila & kriyath ha Tora & Kadish.

LET US ALL TAKE HEED & REPENT & MEKABEL KABALOTH NEVER AGAIN TO REPEAT THIS GREAVIOUS SIN AGAIN!AND MAY HASHEM SEND YESHUA VE REFUA WITH MASHIACH SIDKENU BE KAROV.....Israel Chaim Ben Yosef 0526891414

Surplus & Deficit? (made easy)

Dafna Samuel Pugaukar (only reviewed – not researched)

As afternoon fell Masilkar the Bene-Israel butcher & grocery shop owner rested when Koletkar walker in to the shop, looking sad. Masilkar offered him chai. Koletker said, my son Eric is getting ready for ISI exam and he just does not understand the Surplus & Deficit chapter. Masilkar laughed and asked Koletkar call Eric to the shop. When Eric came, Masikkar explained.

Eric see, your month your Dad bought from me button on 4 Fridays. He owes me \$ 4.00. Your Dad also bought groceries from me this months for \$ 3.00. And remember few days ago when you had plumbing problem and I sent my plumber son to repair. This service cost your Dad \$ 2.00. So the total your Dad has the pay me for **net products and service** is \$9.00. Now Eric, your Dad is my accountant. For his service I pay his \$ 3.00 per month. He uses service of a lawyer and charges me \$ 2.00 every month. So in the end of the month I owe your Dad \$ 5.00. So your Dad own me \$9 less \$ 5.00 = \$ 4.00

This means I am in **Surplus** of \$ 4.00 (**Trade Surplus**) and Your Dad is in **Deficit** for \$ 4.00 (**Trade Deficit**)

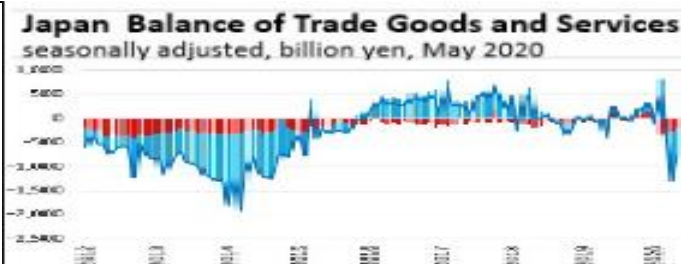
Now either your Dad should pay me \$ 4.00 or sell me goods worth \$ 4.00

Now assume your Dad is **India** and I am **China**. So India owes China \$ 4.00 or when you talk of international trade, Indian owes China \$ 400 million, or India is in deficit of \$ 400 million and China is in Surplus of \$ 400 million.

China now demands that India pay them \$ 400 million (deficit) or sell then goods worth \$ 400 million. But India has no money or anything to sell to China that they want. So India says let us continue another year and we will equal the deficit. But next year it is the same and the deficit rises to \$ 800 million. India is in trouble and takes huge loans from World Bank to pay China part of the deficit. On the other hand China cannot stop selling to India. If China stops selling to India then there will be job losses in China, less tax will be paid and India will buy from another country. This is a Catch 22 situation.

The U.S. trade deficit with China in 2019 was \$345.6 billion
The India trade deficit with China in 2019 was \$ 63 billion
The Israel trade deficit with China in 2020 was \$ 0.13 billion

Net Goods & Services
-733.4
Net Services
-192.2
Net Goods
-541.2



In Konkan, Bene Israel synagogues down from 300 to 20

Written by Garima Mishra | Pune | Published: May 22, 2017

<https://indianexpress.com/article/cities/pune/in-konkan-bene-israels-synagogues-down-from-300-to-20-4667710/>

There was a time when every village in Konkan had Bene Israel population. They always built either a small synagogue or a prayer hall.



At one time there were 300 Synagogues /Prayer Halls in Konkan area.

Now the number has gown down to 20

In Tala Ghosale village of Mangaon taluka, an old 10×10-ft structure serves as a kindergarten school, run by zilla parishad. On the face of it, there's nothing unusual about the one-storey structure, which looks like any other overlooked government building. However, dig deep into its history and it's revealed that it was a synagogue built in April 1849, where the Bene Israels prayed once upon a time.

Its name was Knesset Israel Synagogue which means "Assembly of Israel". At the entrance on the right side is the door beyond which is the staircase leading to the "ladies gallery", a significant part of all synagogues.

Facing east is a small curtained portion on the wall like an alcove, a closed window covered by a curtain. The synagogue stopped functioning in the early part of the 20th century as no Jews were left in the area and thus was handed over to zilla parishad.

There was a time when every village in Konkan had Bene Israels, who built either a small synagogue or a prayer hall. In smaller villages though, the synagogues were just mud walls with a thatched roof, which often needed repair.

According to ancient texts, the Bene Israel synagogues and prayer halls all over the Konkan at one time were around 300. However, today, they are practically extinct especially in smaller towns and villages. “This is because of the mass migration to Israel and elsewhere, which was much more from Konkan initially, followed by exodus from bigger cities in the late 1960s to the first half of 1970s,” says Pune-based Dr. Irene Judah, who has written the book Evolution of the Bene Israel and their Synagogues in the Konkan.

Speaking about the state of the remaining synagogues — about 20-odd, out of which 10 are functional — Judah shares that Or Le Synagogue in Nandgaon (built in 1896) does not have electricity as bills have not been paid for years. “Generally, a synagogue does not have an attached toilet in the same building, but here the entrance door of the toilets was in the main synagogue itself. The synagogue raises a stink. I was told that Menashe Benjamin Cheulkar maintained the synagogue well till 2001, but once he died, his sons did not bother,” says Judah. Likewise, she says, the Ambepur Synagogue (built in 1868) is in shambles. There is no Tamid light and a few chandeliers are lying in a corner. The few relics inside the synagogue include two glass hundies, two white metal hundies, one Hanukah and prayer books in the table drawers, old kippas and old curtains of the Hechal.

Citing the reasons behind the dilapidated synagogues in Konkan, Judah says that the rural Bene Israel congregations are too small to maintain their local synagogues, even though there is still sufficient income coming in from the synagogue land holdings which are rented out to tenant farmers. A few functional synagogues include Beth El Synagogue in Revdanda (Alibaug taluka); Magen Aboth Synagogue in Alibaug taluka; Beth Ha Elohim Synagogue in Pen; Shaarai Shalom Synagogue in Borlai; and Hesed El Synagogue in Poynad. “But not all the functional structures witness regular prayers being said,” said Judah.

Talking about the inspiration behind writing the book, Judah says that since her childhood she had been hearing about Bene Israels' history from her parents, grandmother and relatives. "Somehow, the synagogues always fascinated me. I had kept a notebook in which I would write down all the interesting facts. In the late 1940s, many Bene Israels had their properties in the Konkan. During the summer holidays, my maternal grandmother often took my sisters and me to the Konkan. She took us to various synagogues for the Shabbath services. I started writing about my experiences in a notebook. Over the years, I read from old journals, the opinions of various historians and sea-faring travellers' experiences on their encounters with the Bene Israels. After my retirement, I finally wrote the book," said Judah, who did MBBS and MCPS from the G S Medical College Parel, Mumbai. She also did MD (Physiology) from AFMC Pune.

Aditya Roy Kapur

Aditya's mother is Salome Aaron



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aditya_Roy_Kapur

Alvin Gadkar

Our Bene-Israel actor in serial "Mere Sai"
on Soni TV



CONGRATULATIONS TO
"MAGEN ABRAHAM
SYNAGOGUE" OF AHMEDABAD
(GUJARAT) ON THE 86TH
ANNIVERSARY TODAY.
LOTS OF LUCK AND **BEST**
WISHES TO BENE ISRAEL
JEWISH COMMUNITY OF
AHMEDABAD. **MAZAL TOV !**



Why do Bene-Israel do not go along with each other?

Elijah (Leo) Daniels

Background:

When I raised this question, every Bene-Israel quickly understood what I was talking about but hardly anyone was willing to talk about it. Some laughed away saying there is no use in talking about it and others said you know how much I have done for the community but never heard a word of thank you or a word of appreciation.

As I went along asking more Bene-Israel's in India Israel and visiting tourists from Canada, I realized there was some confusion in their replies. They were not consistent. For example Israeli born adult youths did not understand what I was talking about, though most of them agreed their parents always spoke about it.

Another confusion was, while I was more interested in understanding why all Bene-Israel organization finally always prove impotent in performing their tasks, the answers I was getting were more about personal conflict between Bene-Israel people on personal issues. So I realized this topic could be divided in to three viewpoints;

1. Why Bene-Israel's do not trust their leaders (The was the topic I was interested in)
2. Why Bene-Israel's do not go along with each other in personal lives (The topic covered below by Nissim Moses's article)
3. Children born off the Bene-Israel families in foreign countries (Israel, Canada, Australia, USA).

We will cover each topic one by one.



Continued below: Why do Bene-Israel do not go along with each other?

1. Why Bene-Israel's do not trust their leaders

by Elijah (Leo) Daniels Walwatkar

We notice many Baghdadi Jews have built their synagogues, Libraries, Hospitals, Schools, and famous buildings in Mumbai/Pune/Calcutta/Delhi. There is only **one man** behind them; David Sassoon. **One man paid, one man decided.**

We the Bene-Israel's **did not have** any David Sassoon in our community. This is one of our major problems. David Sassoon was a man who not just had the money but also the intention to spend it for the good of his Jewish community (Baghdadi) in the way, he only decided.

As a result of lack of one man spending and making decision, the collection of funds and decision making falls on a committee. Let us take an example what happens in such a committee:

It was estimated in 2019 that Rs. 25 Lacs (\$ 36,000 / 1,286,000 NIS / 46,000 CAD) is needed to building a wall, building a gate and restoring the Navgav heritage cemetery. As **no single Bene-Israel** person (like David Sassoon) can pay this amount. Therefore the committee expects the Bene-Israel families to contribute towards this work. If 2500 Bene-Israel families gives Rs.1000 each; the committee will collect Rs.25 lacs.

But now 2500 people who contributed money towards the donation will therefore also have their own opinion. It is impossible to please everyone. Due to difference of opinion the project gets only part payments gets delayed / stopped. Meanwhile the community gets frustrated and feels cheated and decide never to donate again and never to trust any Bene-Israel leaders. This is the story of all our Bene-Israel committees that are seen as impotent; lack of funds. Without funds, no committee can do anything, no matter how good are their intention.

It is not that the Bene-Israel community does not go along with each other in all the matters. For example when it comes to the issue of building a Bene-Israel synagogue, they all get together and donate. In 200 (since 1700) years Bene-Israel's built 22 synagogues in India and in 70 years, over 100 Bene-Israel synagogues in Israel. I believe this is more successful as Bene-Israel's living around see the progress in building of the synagogue and feel more confident their donations is really used for the purpose.

Continued below: Why do Bene-Israel do not go along with each other?

But when it comes to non-religious donations like for Bene-Israel Museums, Cemetery maintenance, parents-home, community centers, you will not see a penny of donations from Bene-Israel as someone sometime had collected payments promising things that were never done.

2. Why Bene-Israel's do not go along with each other in personal lives

by Nissim Moses Talkar

Here below are the thoughts of our Mr. Nissim Moses (Historian Indian Jewish Heritage and Bene Israel Genealogy Research). He wrote it hesitantly and just for me and made a clear note **"Not for Publication"**. All of us who know Nissim, know that besides being a wonderful person a friend and always positive to accept new ideas, he is also is a bit **naughty**. I think he said all he had to say on this topic very cleverly and ends the article most diplomatically with a historic fact that none of us can deny. So I thought we should share his thoughts too with all of you. Hope Nissim will forgive me.

Unique Characteristics of the Bene Israel Men and Women

A Personal Observation in Addition to The General Jewish Characteristics

By Nissim Moses-Historian Indian Jewish Heritage and Bene Israel Genealogy Research

The Author would like to start this article with a few jokes which appropriately describe the general characteristics of the Jews as a people.

1. The Jews firmly believe that they being the Chosen People That "God hasmade them the best in everything/profession" Which includes "Stupidity.???"
2. When two Jews quarrel there are always three opinions -but the only common opinion is always That they will not agree with each other. But then there arises a problem, what does one Jew do when he has no one to quarrel with, well the Jew being clever puts a mirror in front of him and quarrels with his own mirror image.

Continued: Why do Bene-Israel do not go along with each other?

3. The Jews firmly believe in The Almighty Being as one who is an Infallible, Perfect Being called God. But, in spite of that they have evolved a whole Philosophy Built around a term called “Tikun Olam”-Correcting-Adjusting the World- But they have no explanation as to why that if God is infallible and makes everything perfect, then why do they have to perform corrections- They firmly believe that they can do a better job than even the Almighty”.

4. When the author first made Aliyah to Israel, he was in contact with two religious families the husbands being brothers. Each maintained an ultra-Kosher kitchen and observed all the Mitzvot to all the nitty gritty details; but the two brothers never ate or drank in each other’s house, because each claimed; that the other was not sufficiently kosher as per the rulings of his own specific Rabbi. This affiliation to the ruling of a specific rabbi became more obvious and clearer when the author moved from

Haifa to Petah Tiqwa in the central region of Israel; not far from Bene Brak. Here each area in Bene Brak was the imperial domain of a particular Rabbi, People from the congregation of one Rabbi would not eat food certified by another rabbi as kosher. Many an intra-communal strife have been caused between the groups affiliated to two or more Rabbis.

5. The Jews are very clannish and believe and take the concept of the “Chosen People” to the level that each person believes that “He, Himself” is the Chosen one to be the leader, king, messiah, you name it and he will dedicate all his energy, efforts and life in proving that to his fellow Jewish people- “Even in chanting prayers”. The author has studied in an Anglican- Christian school and been on a few occasions to a church and has noticed how the congregation would sing the hymns in unison, without one trying to go out of pace or out of tune with the others or sing any louder than the others. Every effort is made to be in unison with the other participants. In a Jewish (Bene Israel) synagogue, prayer hall, or religious or ceremonial function; while chanting prayers or singing religious songs; each person will sing out of pace and tune from the others; with a slightly different version of the same tune. He will try to sing a little louder than the others. Further, he will try and linger longer on each note causing a notably annoying situation to the others participating in the ceremony. But he believes that it is his right to establish his superiority and is quite oblivious to the annoyance of others.

Continued below: Why do Bene-Israel do not go along with each other?

6. The author here will give an example of the Intra Communal-Quarrelsome Nature of the Bene Israel. At a Hena (Haldi-Mehndi) ceremony of a young person; the night before the wedding it is customary for the bride or groom's mother to be especially honored by her brothers, sisters, and her husband's sisters and brothers and other relatives. The Ceremony involves her sitting on a chair next to the bride or groom each in their own house and a certain person; with a list in order of familial age seniority would call out the names of each person to lay a gift Sari on the mother of the bride or groom. (The sisters of that lady or her husband would place the sari on her stomach and the brothers would place it on her back). Generally, most of the ceremony would go as planned, but if the reader by mistake called out a name out of turn or forgot to place a person in the list or, any other unintentional error and there would be an explosion of anger, shouting, insults, incriminations against the reader even if he apologized. A totally embarrassing situation. With all that has been said above; the author always wondered why this unique behavior of the Bene Israel; as compared to the other Jews who often will compromise with one another, but the Bene Israel would not.

Having studied the Bible it slowly began to dawn on the author that this was a biblical evolved trait of the Levites-The Temple Servers from ancient times. All quarrels from the time of Moses as reported were in the temple on leadership. About three hundred years ago a senior British officer in the British India Army noted the unique qualities of the Bene Israel Soldiers as being, "Very dedicated, hardworking, intelligent, loyal and disciplined soldiers who know their drill well. They have superior Leadership qualities, but are very Intra-Quarrelsome and intolerant of each other among their own people".

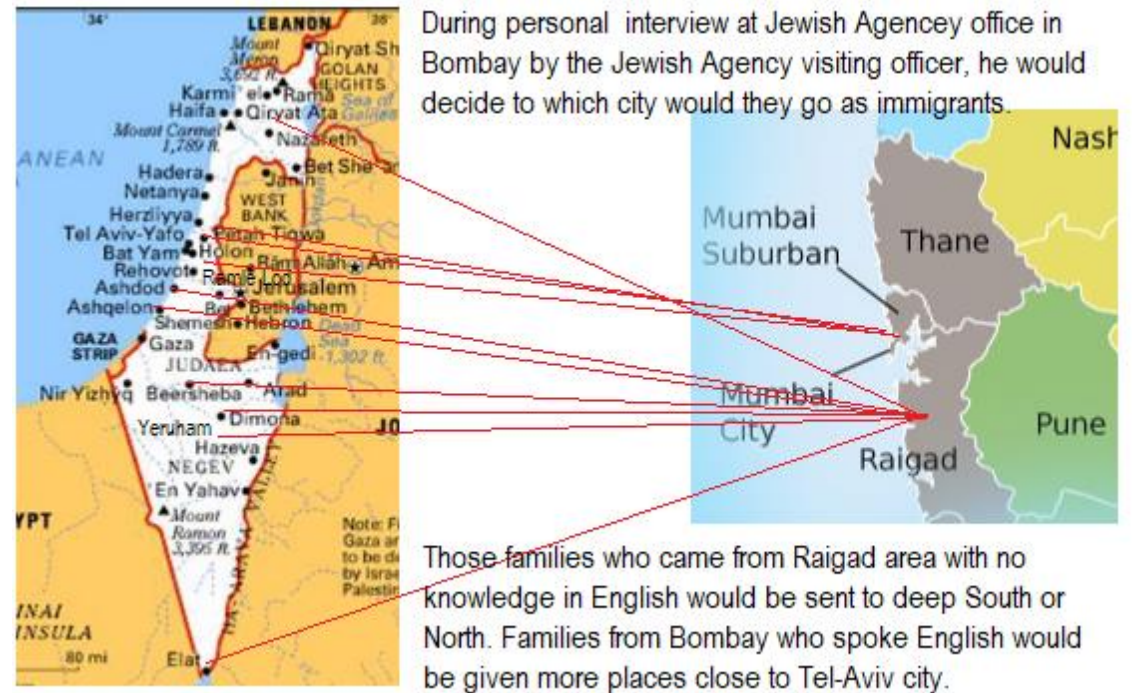
-----Author : Nissim Moses-----

3.Children born to the Bene-Israel families in Israel

Before we go to the remarks made by Bene-Israel's children born in Israel we should know about the immigration history of the Bene-Israel community. There were two major categories for the Jewish Agency officers who interviewed the families who wanted to immigrate to Israel. Either they would speak English, in which case they could have a direct conversation with the officer in English. The officer would see them as English speaking who could get jobs around Tel-Aviv, then capital of Israel. These English speaking immigrants who mainly came from Bombay were sent to Lod, Ramle, Pitaq Tiqva, Or Yehuda areas. However the English speaking Bene-Israelis were very few as they preferred to go to western countries.

Continued below: Why do Bene-Israel do not go along with each other?

The major BI population that immigrated to Israel came from Raigad district that spoke only Marathi and needed an interpreter to speak to the immigration offices. Thousands of these families found themselves in deep south and north of Israel where other non-English speaking communities were living. They had to learn Hebrew as Marathi was of no use while talking to the local administrators looking for jobs. Most of them were forced to work in production and construction works including building roads and homes. They were allotted homes as per their family size and community halls to conduct their prayers in their own Bene-Israel way. The children below are born to these parents.



Response from Israeli Born Youngsters:

1. 37 Years old gentleman: This is not the case with us Israeli born Bene-Israel children (IBBIC). We love to help each other. And if some IBBIC will stand for elections, we will support them too.
2. 30 years old youth: The Bene-Israel immigrant community is the most unsecured community. They are always afraid of everything. They lack self-confidence and want to be away from any responsibility except towards their family.
3. 24 years women: Bene-Israel's comings from India always were very shy people and were ashamed of the way they spoke Hebrew. My parents kept quite in school meetings just shaking their heads. They half understood what was going on in our lives. They kept comparing their own lives with ours, while we were in a different country and different culture.
4. 27 years old man: Only thing that my parents were interested were Indian Movies Indian Food and attending Indian Synagogues and wanted us to become doctors. They never were part of the school activities, city cultural activities. They did not understand why we had no uniform for school or why we had to go to Poland to see the concentration camp.

Continued below: Why do Bene-Israel do not go along with each other?

5. 38 years old women: There is something very seriously wrong with the Bene-Israel immigrant community. Something happened with them in India that has made them like this. They trust quickly everyone except their own Bene-Israel people.
6. 42 years old gentleman: Bene-Israel is a puppy wagging their tail with all the community's in Israel except with Bene-Israel community. The same Bene-Israel community puppy becomes a fox with another Bene-Israel community member.
7. 38 years old gentleman: Bene-Israel people live in closed mental circles and they don't like to cross it's boundaries. Most of them will live in a family circle (family Job Food Drinks Prayers). For them the society environments, politics, country are circles that they have anything to do with them. It is other's responsibility. They like to keep to themselves.

From these answers from Israel born BI we can conclude clearly that they don't even understand what we are talking about. It is a positive feature as our children in Israel feel part of the community and country. The army service definitely helps bringing a positive integration between children of Jews of 80 different countries who now live in Israel.

The Dark Secret - One Bene-Israel talking about other Bene-Israel in India & Israel

The most common answer I have received from Bene-Israel's is an example of a Crab. At shops selling live crabs kept in a container, they never have to close the container that holds the crabs. The moment one crab makes an effort to climb out to freedom; ***the other crabs will pull it down***. This is us Bene-Israel.

This according to some is a typical behavior of the **Maharashtrian population** in India amongst whom we lived 2200 years and have been influenced by their weakness too.

The strongest and saddest example of this is; the only strong leader of Hindu Maharashtra, King Shivaji, who captured most of India and defeated Moguls and British, **was poisoned** by his second wife, just at the age of 50 to make sure her son will follow the throne. Therefore crab behaviors should be "Hereditary" which was passed on to us Bene-Israel over these 2000 years.



Possible Solution for Bene-Israel Unity to preserve our Heritage.

Solution: It is impossible to leave our Bene-Israel projects in air for lack of funds. We have to find a solution to find the money to fund and way to progress in the following Bene-Israel projects;

1. Building and Restoring the Navgoa cemetery and monument.
2. Building a Bene-Israel Museum in Raigad and in the center of Israel (Ramle perhaps).
3. Continues Maintenance of major cemeteries on constant basis like Worli, Bandar, Panvel and villages.
4. Maintenance of deserted Bene-Israel synagogues and cemetery in Raigad area (Maharashtra & Gujrat).
5. Making Raigad a Pilgrimage place for Bene-Israel and Jews in general (A holiday destination).

Our ideas is forming a **“Shaniwar Teli Bene-Israel Funds”** a registered non-profit body in Israel/India, where every Bene-Israel family living outside of India will pay \$ 100 per year and families staying in India will pay Rs. 1000 (\$ 15) per year. The committee members will be elected every two years by all the members of the community through Whatapp elections (Today there are clear rules how to hold elections on whatapp groups for groups). The group will work with official lawyer and accountant who will be paid from these funds.

These funds will be used each year towards BI projects and details of all the expenses and work done will be sent to every Bene-Israel member annually with written summary and pictures. We plan to give regular salaries to a Bene-Israel Manager in India who will take up the responsibilities of all the projects in India. Similarly the Bene-Israel project Manager in Israel for Museum, Parents Home, community centers with carom boards and Table Tennis tables, perhaps in the halls of the synagogues in the cities Bene-Israel live will be paid a salary.

We understand currently no Bene-Israel group / organization is not officially responsible for anything in India. But if there are any groups that has specific interest in a project (like Worli Cemetery), then the local Manager will decide in consultancy with the **“Shaniwar Teli Bene-Israel Funds”** committee how to handle it.

This is the idea in general. All of us can work on this basic plan and improve it and with innovative suggestions. We need very experienced Bene-Israel people like Nissim Moses in Israel and Elijah Jacob in India as managers to make this project a success. Of course there are other able people in the community like Ezra Moses who can also be a great leaders in getting the work done for the community.



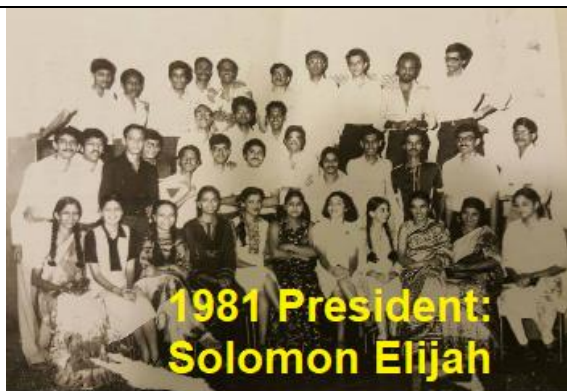
This is me in the train for overnight picnic to Matharan in early 80's. You can see Sinnora, Lavina, Sandra, Myrtel Ivan and Rueven. The whole train comartment was full of YG members. Great Fun!!!

THE JRU YOUTH GROUP OF THE 1980'S

- *Leora Micah Joseph*



Youth Group Logo designed by Elijah Jacob



What connects a Financial Expert in New Zealand, an Orthopedic Surgeon in Israel, a Chartered Accountant in Canada, a Lawyer in Mumbai, a Shipping expert in India, a Mechanical Engineer in Australia, a UN Policy Maker, a Beautician in the USA and an orthodox Jewish homemaker in England, an IVD (In-vitro Diagnostics)expert in Israel and Director of AJDC? Read on to find out.



The Jewish Religious Union is the only Reform Congregation in India with its synagogue Rodef Shalom near Rani Baug, Byculla, Mumbai. The late Dr. Ms. Jerusha Jhirad was one of its' founding members. Rodef Shalom's Spiritual leader and a guiding force for this movement was the late Rabbi Hugo Gryn of England. The synagogue also hosted a Rabbi's residence opposite the sanctuary.

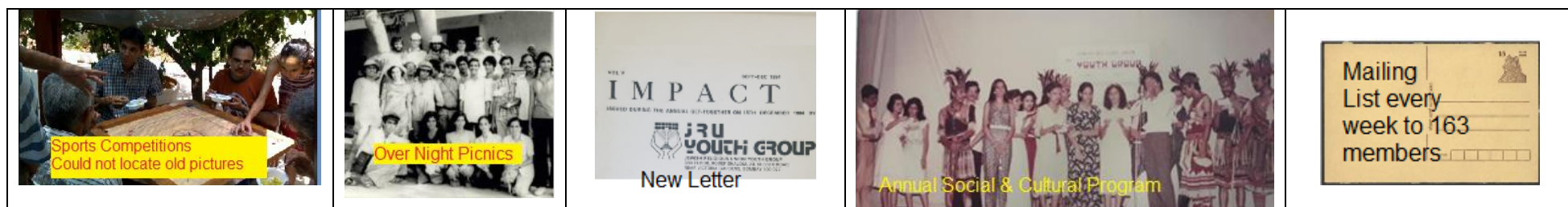
The Synagogue had always encouraged its' Youth Wing - which across the generations developed an identity of its' own. It came to be known as the Jewish Religious Union Youth Group or JRUYG for short. Members of the JRU YG were not always children of Rodef Shalom members but came from all sections of the then Bombay Jewish Community. Youth Groups rose, thrived and then withered through a few generations. The first of the youth groups started in the 1950's. A few of the parents of the JRUYG members of the 80's, actually met each other in the JRUYG of the 1960's!



In 1979, two young men **Solomon Percy Elijah (Walwatkar)** and **Elijah (Leo) Daniels (Walwatkar)** (unrelated to each other), took it upon themselves to revive the JRUYG. They were supported by another young man who had been a part of the JRU since childhood – **Elijah Samson Jacob (Ashtmkar)**. Together, they went to the homes of Jewish families all over Bombay, talking to parents and the youth, encouraging them to become members of the JRUYG and join weekly meetings on Saturday evenings. In India's conservative environment of the 70's parents (especially of girls) were apprehensive of their daughters travelling home late and alone. The young men promised reluctant parents that they would ensure that the girls were escorted safely and honourably to their homes.

Shortly after, **Mabel Satkiel Bhastekar** became the first young lady member of the group in 1979. At one of their early meetings, Mabel suggested that the JRUYG hold a Social and invite entire families to the event. Youth and parents would enjoy the evening and the parents would be convinced their children would enjoy a safe and Jewish social environment at the YG. That first social was held in March 1980 with music, dancing, and fun n games. It was a huge success with over 200 people attending the event. The rest as they say is history. To date, the JRUYG of the 80's was the most successful of all, reaching more than 150 members at its peak organizing community events, socials and dances, entertainment shows and both intellectual and athletic competitions.

The first President of the JRU YG (of the 1980's) was Solomon Percy Elijah (1980/81) followed by Elijah (Leo) Daniels (1982-84), Dr. Ms. Shulmith Solomon, Mr. Elijah Jacob, Robin Samuel, Dr. Hannaniel Solomon, Dr. Johannes Corley, Romiel Moses and Menashe Ashtamkar were some of the past Presidents. All posts in the Managing Committee, **including that of President was always elected during an annual election.**



In 1982, while still in school, I attended their first cultural event held at the Sir Eli Kadoorie School hall. A memorable dance performance that I recall is the one by Bension Reuben (Dutkar), brother of Shamira and the late Shirley Reuben. He recreated the famous dance by Rishi Kapoor from the Bollywood movie, Karz. I wonder how many people remember this event.

All of us looked forward to the YG Meetings which were held every Saturday evening. Interesting and diverse events were held. ***We organized Elocution competitions, Topical and Biblical Quizzes, Essay writing contests, Singing competitions, Dance competitions, Cooking competition, Sports events etc..*** We also held ***“pound parties”***. Everyone brought one dish to share with the entire group. These were so much fun. We went on **hikes and treks and even biked in** the Konkan villages during our overnight excursions lasting 2-3 days. We organized **New Year Parties at Members’ homes, and boat cruises** off Bombay’s harbour after Tashlich. I remember once at the end of Passover, we celebrated Ishru Chag by going to **Girgaum chowpatty** for **pani puri** and **Breach Candy for Icecream**. We got together for **movie nights**, attended **plays and musical performances**. We laughed together and also cried together. Those were the best of times. The energy of all Bene-Israel youth’s together gave us great feeling of self-assurance and buoyancy.

As a bi-product of the JRU YG there were marriages between members;



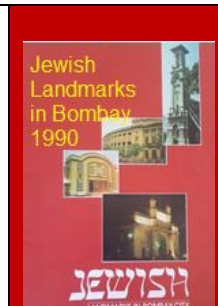
What was so interesting about this YG, is that we were a mixed group of Jewish youth. We included youth barely past their Bar/Bat Mitzvahs, those in junior college like myself and university students to all the way up to folks in their late 20’s. The age difference made absolutely NO DIFFERENCE at all. We were very thankful to some of our older colleagues who mentored us and provided all of us a safe and secure environment to socialize with other Jewish youth. We had amongst us Academics, Chartered Accountants, Doctors, Lawyers, Teachers, Secretaries, and Beauticians et al. These professionals advised and guided us young’uns through our careers.

In the year 1981/82 **Johannes Corley and Elijah Jacob** came up with the idea of starting a publication. That is how **“IMPACT”**(name suggested by Leo) - the JRU YG Newsletter was born. Johannes was the first editor. **Dr. Hananiel Solomon** designed the winning logo, not just for Impact but also for the JRUYG letterhead and all our events.

I was introduced to the JRUYG by my **cousin Johannes Corley**. He convinced my parents to send me to the youth group. He offered to come out of his way to collect me and drop me off home till I became comfortable travelling on my own. My mom consented as she realized that **it was** here that I would meet and make Jewish friends. Like many others, I joined the YG after S.S.C. (10th grade). In fact I happily stepped into the JRUYG even before stepping into college. I can vividly recall **the joy I felt** on receiving the first postcard addressed to me from then **Secretary of the YG, Mr. Jacob Elijah (Walwatkar)**, informing me of

events to be held that month. After the first meeting, there was no looking back. Not only did I make many Jewish friends, and enjoyed our time together, but also, learned so much more about our Jewish heritage and culture. It helped strengthen my Jewish identity and strongly influenced who I am today. As a group we organized annual cultural shows for the entire Jewish Community of Bombay and our friends and performed in them. We sang, danced, acted in plays, and thoroughly entertained the audience in the auditorium. It was a great experience and loads of fun. We organized **Personality development workshops**, invited world renowned speakers like the late **Professor Nissim Ezekiel**, India's foremost English poet and a Bene Israel. Prof. Ezekiel spoke to us on creative writing and read us a few of his poems. Mr. Nissim Samuel donated **a Table Tennis table to the group. It became so popular amongst the members** that during the sports competitions, we included a TT tournament too under YG sports directors Ella Joseph and Raphael Jhirad during 1981-82.

In 1985, **Rabbi Hugo Gryn** visited the JRU and suggested the YG should document local Jewish history and try to publish their works into a book. That idea gave birth to an interesting project resulting in the publication of **The Jewish Landmarks in Bombay**. The seed money for its publication, **US\$ 500**, came from Rabbi Gryn. **Elijah Jacob** led the team that worked on this project and I was one of them. **Reuben Samuel, Johannes Corley, Elijah Moses and Daniel David** were other members of the team. **Mrs. Rizpah Corley** was on the Advisory Board. We worked hard to bring it to fruition. We went to libraries, visited the various landmarks, took pictures and put the material together. The book was published in January 1990. It was released at a special event held at the Sir Jacob Sassoon School Hall. We even hired a special musical group called the **"The Amazing Two"** (one of whom was Jewish) to make the evening even more enjoyable.



The JRU YG was a **major influence** in my life. It was my world during my teens and twenties. I made friends for life. A more fitting testimony to the power of its influence on our lives is the fact that former members of this Youth Group, although spread all over the world, are still in touch with one another. We have maintained our friendship over the years.

Today, many of them live in Israel and regularly meet during the year, now with their families. If any of us from the Diaspora visit Israel, they always try to meet us. The group in Israel is so closely knit, that at major events like weddings, JRUYG friends sit together at a especially reserved table. At the suggestion of **Dr. Hananiel Solomon, Elijah (Leo) Daniels** created a Whatsapp group of the JRUYG members. Initially the list comprised of only those living in Israel. Later on others living in the Diaspora were added. It has brought together YG friends from all corners of the world, living in different time zones. Thanks to technology, we regularly engage in chats and even calls!

You know what they say - the decisions you take and the choices you make define the outcome of your path in life. For me, joining the JRUYG was a path defining moment and many of my YG friends attest to that. The YG actually enriched our lives. The friendships we made then hold even stronger today. We were truly blessed to have had such a wonderful experience in our lives. I am thankful to HASHEM for this most wonderful phase of my youth

Information:

1. You can find all the old pictures at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/228880454197942>
(this link is created and managed by JRU YG member: Shamira Reuben (now Fielding))
2. If you were a member of this group, please contact me (Leora - leoraezekiel@yahoo.com)
3. The YG information above is above 40 years old. We lost most of the records in the fire at JRU building in 90's. There may be few mistakes in the records. Please do excuse us.

Members of JRU YG of 1980 living in Israel meet from time to time since 2009.



Meeting In Ashdod



Meeting at Dr.H.Solomo's home for Yoel



Ella's place for Elijah



Shamira's visit from USA



Twice YG of 80's met at Bension & Carmeli's place. Could not find pictures



Spending Week End in Eilat



Our Two YG members wel-coming PM of India





The Bene-Israel Synagogue in India

(Reference: "the Synagogues of India" by Jay A. Waronker)

-175 BC to 1767AD	No synagogue	First Synagogue made in USA was only in 1654 https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Congregation_Shearith_Israel
1768	Ner Israel Synagogue	Ambepur, Maharashtra
1843	Shaar Rason Synagogue	Mumbia, Maharashtra
1849	Beth El Synagogue	Panvel, Maharashtra
1860	Shaar Ha-Rahamim Synagogue	Mumbai, Maharashtra
1866	Hessed El Synagogue	Poyand, Maharashtra
1869	Shaar Shalom Synagogue	Borlai, Maharashtra
1876	Kenesseth Israel Synagogue	Tala, Maharashtra
1877	Beth El Synagogue	Revdanda, Maharashtra
1879	Shaar Ha Shamaim Synagogue	Thane, Maharashtra
1882	Beth El Synagogue	Ashtami, Maharashtra
1885	Shaar Ha -Thephilah Synagogue	Mhasla, Maharashtra
1893	Beth Ha-Elohim Synagogue	Pen, Maharashtra
1896	Orle Israel Synagogue	Nandgaon Murad, Maharashtra
1908	Etz Haeem Prayer Hall	Mumbai, Maharashtra
1910	Magen Aboth Synagogue	Alibag, Maharashtra
1921	Succath Shelomo Synagogue	Pune, Maharashtra
1924	Tifereth Israel Synagogue	Mumbai, Maharashtra
1931	Megen Hassidim Synagogue	Mumbai, Maharashtra
1933	Kurla Bene Israel Prayer Hall	Kurla West, Maharashtra
1934	Magen Abraham Synagogue	Ahmedabad, Gujrat
1925	Rodef Shalom Synagogue	Mumbai, Maharashtra
1956	Judah Hyam Synagogue	New Delhi

Bene-Israel Synagogues in Israel

Arad	Ahavat Israel
Ashdod	Eliyahu HaNavi Velnun
	Kehillat Israel
	Magen Hassidim
Beer Ya'akov	Bene-Israel
Beer Sheva	Magen Avraham
	Magen Hassidim
	Sha'Rahamin
Dimona	Tiferet Bene Israel
Eilat	ShaAre Shalom
Haifa	Sha'Are Rahamim
Karmiel	Or Torah
Kiryat Atta	Beit Magen Shalom
Kiryat Bialik	Kelly Yakov Eni
Kiryat Gat	Sha'Are Rahamin
Kiryat Shmona	Sha'Are Ratson
Kiryat Yam	Beth El
Lod	Ole Hodu
	Ole Hodu Shariet
	Sha'Are Shalom, Nave Zayit
Or Yehuda	Tiferet Israel
Petach Tikva	Ole Hodu
	Or Metsion
	Sha'are Achdut
Ramle	Beth El
	Magen Shalom
Rishon Le'tsion	Magen Abraham
Rosh HaAyin	ShaAre Tsedek
Tirat Carmel	I-ekhai Shiomo
Yavne	Magen David
	Bene-Israel
Yerukham	Sha'Are Rahamin

**Did you know that Vada-Pav sells much more than McDonald's
total worldwide Burger sales?
McDonald's= 255 M/Year Vada-Pav=584M/year (just in Mumbai)**



1966 साली जन्माला आला पहिला वडापाव
मुंबईत वडापावचा जन्म अशोक वैद्य यांच्या सुपीक
डोक्यातून झाला. दादर स्टेशनजवळच्या चाळीमध्ये
राहणाऱ्या अशोक वैद्य यांनी वडे, पोहे विकण्याचे दुकान
1960 साली सुरू केले होते. 1966 च्या दरम्यान त्यांनी
एक यत्ती लढवली. एक पाव व त्याच्या मध्यभागी

**McAloo Tikki Is A Staple Of
Indian McDonald's**



McDonald's has been tracking that number since before it was McDonald's, according to Mother Jones. When the first McDonald's opened on April 15, 1955, its sign read: "Hamburgers. We have sold over 15 million." McDonald's claimed in April 1994, when it stopped updating the number; "Over 99 Billion Sold", from 1955 to 1994 (39 years) = 255 million/year (average)
(<https://www.marketplace.org/2017/05/26/how-many-burgers-has-mcdonalds-actually-sold/>)

Total no. of Vada Pav's sold in a ONE day just in Mumbai will be = 1.67 million Vada Pavs! = 584 million/year
(<https://www.quora.com/How-many-vadapavs-are-sold-across-Mumbai-everyday-How-do-we-reach-a-figure-for-questions-like-these-which-is-almost-impossible-to-find-How-accurate-are-these-numbers>)

What is the difference in Mind & Soul

Jenny Samson Bamnolkar

***Soul* is spirit; *Mind* is consciousness, psyche. The mind is what makes a human alive, and the soul is the link between live human and GOD.**

...and into the forest i go,
to lose my mind and find my soul.

The mind includes what differentiates the person from a thing - his conscious attributes, characteristics, tendencies and feelings and subconscious mind. Every created being has a "soul". Animals, plants and even inanimate objects all have souls. There is a soul for every grass stalk and every grain of sand.

As the soul enters the body, the body begins to live: vision and hearing, thinking and speech, intelligence and emotions, will and desire, personality and identity.

It should be noted that the word soul; was spoken in chapters 1 and 2 in the book of Genesis both about humans and animals, although for animals it is a different soul than human being. Animals have a soul of a much lower level (they have no conscience, for example). In humans, the soul is much deeper within us, much more internal than the psyche, and it connects us to GOD.

The essence of the soul cannot be defined because it itself is not perceived in our senses - but we know its function, effects and manifestations within us. Sometimes we feel its existence within us, which means that we feel connected to GOD - for example, in the transcendent moments like Yom Kippur, as well as in times of crisis.

Rabbi Israel Hess RIP compared the soul to a communication device between us and GOD: Thanks to its existence we can turn to GOD in prayer, and by praying GOD sends its light on us.

It can be concluded that the soul gives spiritual meaning to man, making him an elaborate living being created in the image of GOD. A distinction between the psyche and the soul exists in the context of sins. When a person sins his soul is not corrupted, but coverings are formed between the soul and the psyche. The more the psyche gets covered with our sins, the more the psyche gets covered with flaws or will be filled with flaws, so much so that one cannot feel the existence of one's soul at all. However, when a person repents, he removes these covers and of course the soul returns to shine on the person and the wrongdoings are righted. Yet, as deeper the sins are, it will take more effort, time and investment to repair it.

Who Invented the Synagogue?

There's no mention of the synagogue in the Torah. So where and when did it originate? It's hard to imagine "Judaism" (at least as we know it today) without synagogues!

The institution of the synagogue is of Rabbinic origin. The purpose of the synagogue is to provide a venue to facilitate and enhance the Biblical obligation of prayer by adding a communal element. https://www.chabad.org/library/article_cdo/aid/74339/jewish/Who-Invented-the-Synagogue.htm



The First Temple created by King Solomon was a meeting place.

8 Popular Jewish Superstitions

For full details follow the link: https://www.myjewishlearning.com/article/popular-superstitions/?utm_source=mjl_maropost&utm_campaign=MJL&utm_medium=email&mpweb=1161-20276-422123



1. Spitting Three Times

Whether done literally or figuratively (by saying "pooh, pooh, pooh"), spitting three times (a mystical number) is a classic response to something exceptionally evil or good.

2. Chewing on Thread

A popular bubbe meise (old wives' tale) is chewing on a piece of thread whenever one is wearing a garment upon which someone is actively sewing—such as attaching a button or repairing a seam.

3. Pulling or Tugging One's Ears When Sneezing

Especially common among Jews from Galicia and Lithuania. Originally, it was performed if the sneeze occurred when speaking about one who was dead.

4. Sneezing on the Truth

A traditional belief is that when a person sneezes during a conversation, whatever has just been said will occur, based on the concept of "sneezing on the truth."

5. Closing Books That Have Been Left Open

Closing prayer books, Bibles, and talmudic tracts is a common practice in synagogues and study halls. The explanation appears to be related to the medieval fear of the evil power of devils and demons, who would take "holy knowledge" and somehow use it for their own nefarious purposes.

6. Placing Salt in Pockets and Corners of the Room

By placing a small amount of salt in the pockets, the owner of the clothing hoped to drive these beings away and foil their evil designs. Because salt was generally regarded as having superb powers against evil spirits, it was often placed in the corners of a room where these creatures hid.

7. Wearing a Metal Pin on Clothes When Embarking on a Trip

Metal was thought to be a powerful protective substance and thus could successfully attack and repel the evil spirits of a less sophisticated society.

8. Knocking on Wood

Knocking on wood to protect from evil is a non-Jewish practice, even though many Jews do it.

Who are the Prophets?

Jenny Samson Bamnolkar

In Judaism the term "prophecy" is often mentioned. The middle part of the Bible is the "Prophets" (the first part is "Torah" and the third "Scripture" in Hebrew it is: Tanach called Torah, Nevi'im & Ketuvim).

But what is the Prophet? What makes a prophet? And are there any prophets today?

Who is a prophet?

A prophet is a person who receives a message from GOD that he has to pass on to the people. One of the thirteen principal of Judaism according to Maimonides is "all Prophecies were and are true" and that Moshe Rabbeinu's RIP prophecy was real, and that he was the father of the Prophets, the ones who were before and the ones who'll come after him.

The belief that the GOD conveyed divine messages to the people through prophets is a major part of Judaism.

What do these messages contain?

The purpose of the messages given to the prophets is not to reveal the purpose of existence or to establish new commandments. Since the giving of the Torah on Mount Sinai, in which GOD gave us the Torah and the Mitzvah, he has left us with the mission to study the Torah and interpret it. The purpose of the prophecy is to make corrections in the direction of Jewish society or in the direction of society as a whole.

Sometimes a prophet comes to predict the future, when GOD sees it as imperative that we know what is to come to encourage us in fulfilling our mission. At other times, it aims to remind us that we are failing to fulfill his expectations of us, and to warn of the unfortunate consequences we would incur if we were not correct our ways. Sometimes GOD used a prophet to convey private messages to a certain person (especially to an important person of influence, like a king). A prophet may also pass a specific directive that is not included in the Torah, such as a "one-time" commandment above.

How does one become a prophet?

First of all, one must prepare for it. Maimonides has the following criteria: He must be wise man, with a clear mind and clear-minded, who has an impeccable character and is fully in control of his passions and desires.

He must also have a calm and happy temper, reject materialism and the luxury of life, and devote himself completely to the knowledge and work of GOD.

However, these things do not bring the prophecy, but only make the person more deserving of it. Acceptance of the prophecy itself comes from above by divine choice.

Although in ancient Israel there were some kind of "prophecy schools" where young prophets would enhance their

personality in an attempt to receive the prophecy, yet these prophetic flowers could not make the prophecy appear through certain actions. Just like uncontrollable supernatural absorption, the prophecy would come true suddenly, without any warning or preparation from the prophet. What would happen is that GOD would choose a certain person to whom and through whom he would speak - and not the other way around.

How to describe the experience of prophecy?

Like transmitting a high-voltage signal to a low-voltage device, prophecy often overwhelmed the prophet's senses. In the Bible the prophets are described as having experienced when the prophet received uncontrollable fainting or shaking bouts. There were prophets who would see the vision of the prophecy in a dream, through strange events whose meaning they would understand only after waking up. Only Moshe Rabbeinu is said to have spoken to GOD "as speaking to one another" (Exodus 13:11): the vision of prophecy was a routine thing that did not cause him the above phenomena.

What are the main rules related to prophecy?

Some of the Torah commandments relate to prophecy. These commandments include:

- 1) Comply with the Prophet's instructions.
- 2) Do not question the promises of GOD or HIS warnings given by the Prophet nor to put them to the test.

As for the Prophet:

- 3) Personally follow GOD's instructions (i.e., act on your own as you exhort others to act).
- 4) Don't ignore the prophecy they receive (as Jonah tried to do).
- 5) Do not prophesy on behalf of other gods (even if the content is true).

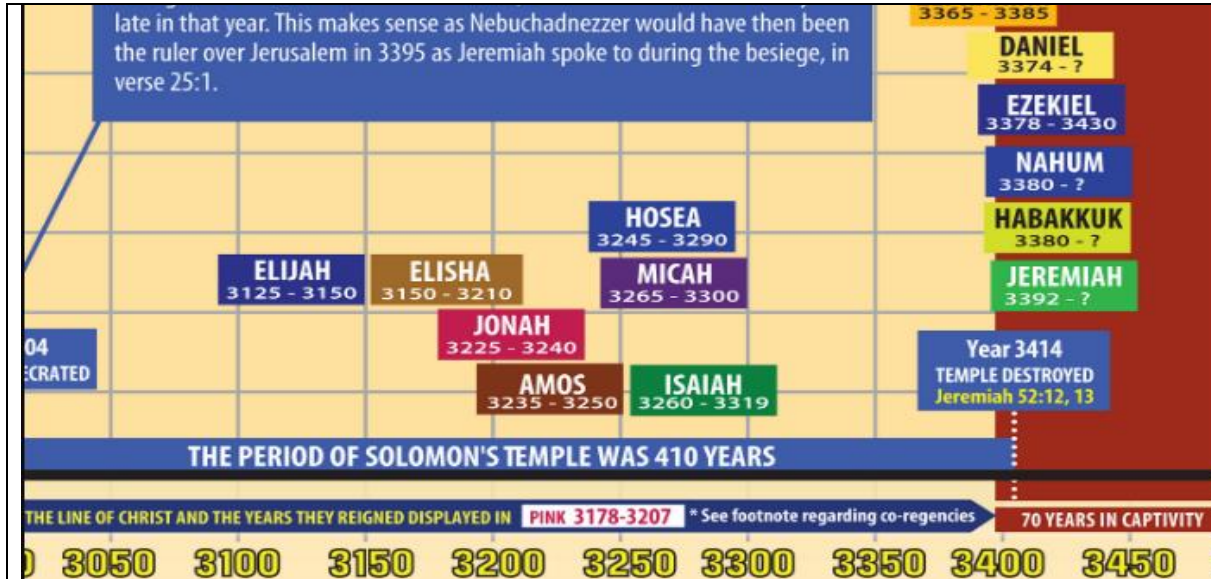
Does the prophecy exist today?

The period of prophecy came to an end 2300 years ago. The last generation of prophets were the ones who began to prophesy before the destruction of the first Temple, in 423 BC, although some of this generation survived the 70-year-old Babylonian exile and saw the Second Temple building in their lives.

The most famous are: Ezekiel who prophesied in Babylon, and three prophets - Hagai, Zechariah and Malachi - who were members of the great group that led the people in the early years to return from Babylon.

Mordechai and Esther were also members of the long-ago generation who mourned the destruction of the First Temple and envisaged the construction of the Second Temple. As this generation sank, the prophecy passed from Israel." Nevertheless, the principle that GOD communicates with mankind through prophecy remains one of the foundations of Jewish faith. A lesser form of prophecy, known as the "Holy Spirit," remains the inheritance of the righteous of all generations. According to tradition, one of the greatest prophets, Elijah the prophet, lives forever, and heralded the coming of Messiah. The Messiah

himself is a prophet (according to Maimonides he is relatively close to the prophecy of Moses), and in Messiah's time, prophecy will become a universal phenomenon.



Marathi musician D.S. Ruben (David Samson Ruben)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PDew1kpPFwk>

D.S. Ruben is a known name in Marathi Music composer.

Now at age 80 years old he lives in Thane.

डी.एस.रुबेन हे मराठी संगीतकाराचे नाव आहे. आता वयाच्या ८० व्या वर्षी ते ठाणे येथे राहतात.

ד. ס. רובן הוא שם ידוע במלחין מוזיקה מאראתי. עכשיו בגיל 80. הוא גר בטאן



Who Runs This World?

Some things that your grandparents tell you, you just cannot forget until your death.

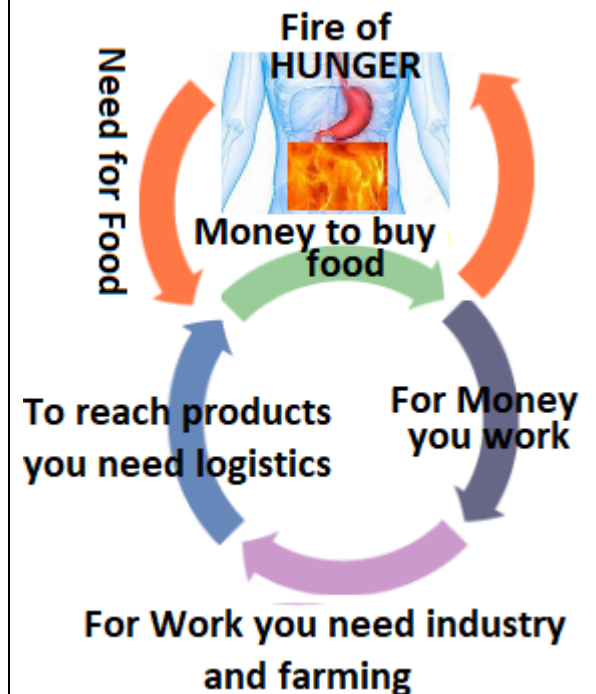
It was in my fifth grade that we were asked to write a 100 words essay on “Who Runs this World” during Diwali holidays. The 34 essays were then read out in the class in front of the class teacher and the Principal of the school. Most wrote God runs this world. Some wrote air, some wrote water, some wrote Christ, some wrote Vishnu, some wrote Buddha and some said Mohammad.

In the end I was the only one whose essay was not read and was called in front of the class. The school teacher asked me to read my essay. As I read, all the children in the class started laughing but not the teacher and the Principal. After I finished reading the Principal asked me who told me to write this about who runs the world. I replied “my grand- mother”. Then he asked me if I understood what I had written, and I said not completely. He then said your answer is of a very experienced person. We needed your answer. What do you think? Who runs this world he asked me. God, I replied.

I forgot of the incident and years later when my Grand-Mother died among her papers I found the rough copy of the same essay that she had preserved in her old notebook. I read it again and at my age of forty first time I understood how correct she was:

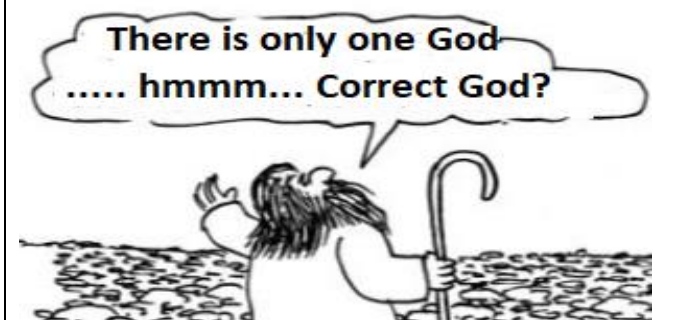
“This world is run by our stomach. All living beings are most afraid of hungry stomach. Hunger is an unbearable fuming fire. For food every hungry living being can go to any extend. Humans work for food, human earn money for food, humans save money for food, humans run business for food, kings go to war for food, countries sell their wealth to get food.

We should thank the creator that he has given us only one small stomach and not two like our eyes, ears, legs and hands. Humans are unable to fill one stomach that is empty in few hours craving for more.”



Why Jewish People are called Chosen People?

According to Jewish belief, Jews are the Chosen People because they were chosen to ***make the idea of one God known to the world***. It all began with Abraham, whose relationship with God has traditionally been interpreted in two ways: either God chose Abraham to spread the concept of monotheism, or Abraham chose God from all the deities that were worshiped in his time. Either way, the idea of “chosenness” meant that Abraham and his descendants were responsible for sharing the word of God with others.



Why Do Jewish People Keep Sabbath?

We learn in the Midrash that each day of creation was partnered.

**Days 1 and 4 are connected to light,
days 2 and 5 with water and the oceans,
days 3 and 6 with earth and vegetation.**

Yet day 7, Shabbat, had no partner.

So God promised Shabbat that it would not be alone and the Jewish people would be its partner. Therefore, as Shabbat begins, we go out to greet our beloved, like a groom would greet his bride.



Why Do you take two Challah's for Friday Prayers?



Two loaves of challah are used in memory of the double portion of manna received by the Israelites in the wilderness. Every day one manna dropped per person but on Friday two portions dropped for Friday and Saturday as Shabbat is day of rest.



Why Do We Light Candles on Shabbat?

Today, the lighting of a special lamp or candles on the eve of the Sabbath is regarded as a religious duty. While the **Hebrew Bible does not explicitly direct the lighting of Sabbath lights**, it does prohibit the kindling of lights on the Sabbath. The inference therefore is to provide light before the onset of the Sabbath.

The practice is often thought to have been **initiated by the Pharisees**, a Jewish sect in the late Second Temple period. The practice is ancient and according to the first century Jewish historian Josephus, its popularity had even spread among non-Jewish communities.

<http://www.articlesfactory.com/articles/religion/why-do-jews-light-candles-on-friday-night.html>



Lecha Dodi — Samuel & Erna Daniels

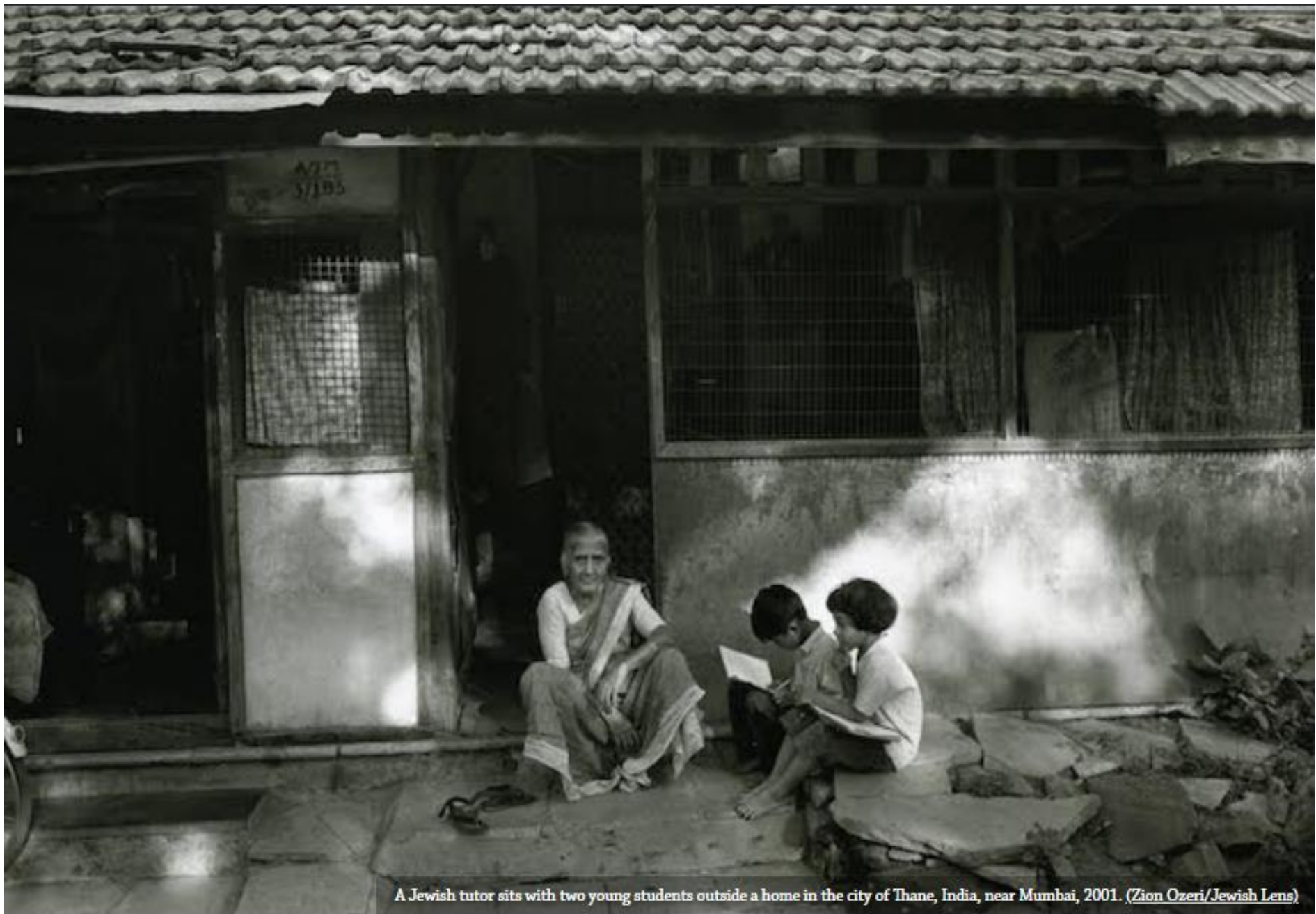


This hymn, sung to welcome the Sabbath, has mystical origins.

One of the most well-known prayers that ushers in Shabbat is Lecha Dodi, a poem written by Rabbi **Shlomo HaLevi Alkabetz**, a great Jewish mystic who lived in the **16th century**. The title translates to **“Come out my Beloved.”** It begins with the words: ***Lecha dodi, likrat kallah, penei Shabbat n’kalah***, which means: ***“Come, beloved to greet the bride! Let us receive the Shabbat.”***

It is known that Rabbi Isaac Luria, known as the Arizal, the foremost teacher of Jewish mysticism, would go out to the fields to greet Shabbat. From this we learn that if we want our beloved to come out (out of their shell, come towards us, be open) we need to make the effort to take the first step and go out and greet them. To connect with someone requires a willingness to work, to trust and to be vulnerable.

Verse 1'א לכה דודי לקראת כלה Come, lover, to welcome the bride פני שבת נקבלה The face of Shabbat we will receive Verse 2'ב שמור וזכור בדבור אחד "Keep" and "remember" in one saying השמיענו אל המיוחד We were caused to listen by the Unified God ה' אחד ושמו אחד Adonai is One, and His Name is One לשם ולתפארת ולתהלה To His name, and to glory and to praise! Verse 3'ג לקראת שבת לכו ונלכה To greet the Sabbath, come and we'll go כי היא מקור הברכה For she is a font of blessing מראש מקדם נסוכה From the first, from of old, she was chosen סוף מעשה במחשבה תחלה Made at the end, and planned from the start Verse 4'ד מקדש מלך עיר מלוכה O Holy Place of the King, city of sovereignty קומי צאי מתוך ההפכה Arise, escape from the midst of the chaos	רב לך שבת בעמק הבכא Long have you sat in the valley of tears Verse 4'ד מקדש מלך עיר מלוכה O Holy Place of the King, city of sovereignty קומי צאי מתוך ההפכה Arise, escape from the midst of the chaos רב לך שבת בעמק הבכא Long have you sat in the valley of tears והוא יחמול עליך חמלה And He will grant mercy, mercy upon you Verse 5'ה התנערי מעפר קומי Shake it off, from the ashes get up! לבשי בגדי תפארתך עמי Put on the clothes of your glory, my people! על יד בן ישי בית הלחמי By the hand of the son of Jesse the Bethlehemite קרבה אל נפשי גאולה Nearer to my soul is its redemption! Verse 6'ו התעוררי התעוררי Awaken yourselves! Awaken yourselves! כי בא אורך קומי אורי For your light has come! Get up, my light! עורי עורי שיר דברי Wake up! Wake up! A song, speak out!	כבוד ה' עליך נגלה The glory of Adonai upon you is revealed! Verse 7'ז לא תבשי ולא תכלמי Don't be ashamed! Don't be abashed! מה תשתוחחי ומה תהמי Why be depressed? Why be upset? בר יחסו עמי In you my poor people will be sheltered ונבנתה עיר על תלה And she shall be rebuilt - the city on her hill! Verse 8'ח והיו למשסה שאסיר And attacked shall be those who attack you ורחקו כל מבלעיר And far distant will be those who devoured you. ישיש עליך אלהיך For you your God will rejoice כמשוש חתן על כלה As a groom rejoices for his bride Verse 9'ט ימין ושמאל תפריצי Right and left you will break out ואת ה' תעריצי And Adonai you will venerate על יד איש בן פרצי By the hand of the man of the line of Peretz ונשמחה ונגילה We will rejoice and we will sing	Verse 10'י באי בשלום עטרת בעלה Come in peace, crown of her husband גם בשמחה ובצהלה As well in joy and in jubilation תוך אמוני עם סגלה The midst of the faithful precious nation בואי כלה בואי כלה Enter, bride! Enter, bride (https://www.sefaria.org.il/Lekha_Dodi.9?lang=bi) Could not find Bene-Israel tunes on youtube for Lekha Dodi. We picked one of the tunes (below): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J5WMPx1o2uM
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A Jewish tutor sits with two young students outside a home in the city of Thane, India, near Mumbai, 2001. ([Zion Ozeri/Jewish Lens](#))

<https://www.myjewishlearning.com/article/the-bene-israel/>

Flood myths in Hinduism & Judaism

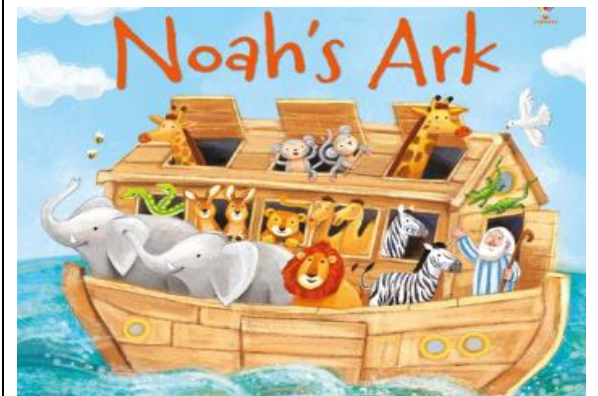
inspired by Nissim Moses's article. See below.

<https://www.ancient-origins.net/human-origins-religions/startling-similarity-between-hindu-flood-legend-manu-and-biblical-020318>

In Hindu mythology, scriptures such as the Satapatha Brahmana (Bible) and the Puranas (Bible) contain the **story of a great flood**, "Pralaya", wherein, the Matsya Avatar of Vishnu warns the first man, **Manu** (Noah, who becomes the first man after floods), of the impending flood, and also advises him to **build a giant boat**. (Manu=Manushya = Human).

The flood myths in Hinduism begin with a creator god named **Manu** who was once washing with water from a jar. A fish in the jar asked for Manu's protection and promised to save him from a great flood that would occur in the future. Manu raised the fish until it was one of the largest fish in the world, and then he released it into the sea. The fish told Manu what year the flood would come and advised him to build a ship. Manu built the ship, and when the flood came, the fish towed it to a mountaintop. Manu alone survived the flood. The fish is generally identified as one form of the God Vishnu.

In India, Hindus bathe in the sacred Ganges River to purify themselves. According to many myths of the great flood, a few virtuous individuals survived the inundation, perhaps with the help or advice of a friendly deity. Those survivors repopulated the world, becoming the parents of the present human race. In this way, flood myths are often myths of human origins as well.



*Both Noah and Manu are
described as virtuous men.
**They both were the same
man!***

To see a long list of amazing simulates between Judaism and Hinduism see Nissim Moses (Talker) unique article on this subject.

Health - Male Prostate Gland / Urine Problems

Message received on Whatapp from **Mr. Aaron Kolet**. Message is important for 40+ Males

After age 40, for reasons that may be hormonal, the prostate gland begins to enlarge. From 20 grams it may grow to almost 100 grams. As it enlarges, it squeezes the urethra and the man begins to notice changes in the way he urinates. His urine stream is weak, cannot travel a long distance and sometimes may come straight down on his legs.

TERMINAL DRIPPLING:

The man begins to notice that after urinating urine still drops on his pants.

HESITANCY

At this point you wait longer for the urine flow to start. There are 2 valves that must open for you to urinate – the internal and external sphincters. Both open but because of obstructions in the urethra, you wait longer for the flow to start.

INCOMPLETE EMPTYING

You have this feeling immediately after urinating that there is still something left.

As all these things happen, the bladder begins to work harder to compensate for the obstruction in the urethra. The frequency of urination goes up. Urgency sets in. Sometimes you have to practically run into the toilet. Nocturia (urinating at night frequently) also becomes common. You wake up more than 2 times at night to urinate.



Stored urine gets infected and there may be give a burning sensation when urinating. Stored urine also forms crystals. Crystals come together to form stone either in the bladder or in the kidney. Stones may block the urethra. Chronic urinary retention sets in. The bladder stores more and more urine. The size of the bladder is 40 - 60cl. A bottle of coke is 50cl. As the bladder stores more urine it can enlarge up to 300cl. An overfilled bladder may leak and this leads to wetting / urinary incontinence. Also the volume may put pressure on the kidney and may lead to kidney damage. What may likely bring the man to hospital is acute urinary retention. He wakes up one day and he is not able to pass urine. Everything I have described above is associated with prostate enlargement, technically called benign prostate hyperplasia.

There are other diseases of the prostate like:

1. Prostatitis – inflammation of the prostate, 2. Prostate cancer – cancer of the prostate.

This discussion is on prostate enlargement. I have bad news and good news.

The good news is that there are life style changes that can help the man after 40 to maintain optimum prostate health.

NUTRITION

Look at what you eat. 33% of all cancers, according to the US National Cancer Institute are related to what we eat.

Red meat everyday triples your chances of prostate disease. Milk everyday doubles your risk. Not taking fruits / vegetables daily quadruples your risk. **Tomatoes are very good for men.** If that is the only thing your wife can present in the evening, eat it with joy. It has loads of lycopene. Lycopene is the most potent natural antioxidant. Foods that are rich in zinc are also good for men. We recommend **pumpkin seeds** (ugbogulu). **Zinc** is about the most essential element for male sexuality and fertility.

ZINC

Men need more zinc than women. Every time a man ejaculates he loses 15mg of zinc. Zinc is also important for alcohol metabolism. Your liver needs zinc to metabolize alcohol.

ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION

As men begin to have urinary symptoms associated with prostate enlargement, it is important they look at alcohol consumption. More fluid in means more fluid out.

EXERCISE

Exercise helps build the muscle tone. Every man should exercise. Men over 40 should avoid high impact exercise like jogging. It puts pressure on the knees. Cycling is bad news for the prostate. We **recommend brisk walking**.

SITTING

When we sit, two-third of our weight rests on the pelvic bones. Men who sit longer are more prone to prostate symptoms. Do not sit for long hours. Walk around as often as you can. Sit on comfortable chairs. We recommend a divided saddle chair if you must sit long hours.

DRESSING

Men should avoid tight underwear. It impacts circulation around the groin and heats it up a bit. While the physiological temperature is 37 degrees, the groin has an optimal temperature of about 33 degrees. Pant is a no - no for men. Wear boxers. Wear breathable clothing.

SMOKING

Avoid smoking. It affects blood vessels and impact circulation around the groin.

SEX

Regular sex is good for the prostate.

Celibates (abstaining from sex) are more prone to prostate illness. While celibacy is a moral decision, it is not a biological adaptation. Your prostate gland is designed to empty its contents regularly.

Thought: when someone shared something of value with you and benefit from it. You have a moral obligation to share it with others because someone in your friends list might be saved.

Forwarded as received

The subject is very important Please post the message on the largest number of your acquaintances:

Prevention/Treatment:

"Pieces of lemon in a glass of hot water can save you for the rest of your life," says Professor Chen Horin, chief executive of the Beijing Military Hospital. Hot lemons can kill cancer cells!

Lemon Water

Cut the lemon into three pieces and place it in a cup, then pour hot water, it will become (alkaline water), drink it every day will certainly benefit everyone .Hot lemons can once again release an anti-cancer drug. Hot lemon juice has an effect on cancerous tumors and has shown treatment for all types of cancer.Treatment with this extract will only destroy the malignant cells and will not affect healthy cells.

Second: The acids and mono-carboxylic acid in lemon juice can regulate hypertension and protect narrow arteries, adjust blood circulation and reduce blood clotting.

Advice:

After reading, tell someone else and pass it on to someone you love and take care of your personal health.

Professor Chen Horin points out that anyone who has received this letter is at least guaranteed to save someone's life ... I have done my part, I hope you will help me to spread it too.

Did you know this about Victoria Garden, Byculla?

John Perry



Veermata Jijabai Bhonsle Udyan, The former 'Rani Baug' of Byculla, Mumbai.

As a child in the 1940s, I remember hearing stories that the main building was originally built to house a synagogue, a Jewish house of worship. However, it seems that its facing was not appropriate to be a synagogue. It is well known that for thousands of years, Jews face towards Jerusalem, where the former Temple of Solomon was situated and was destroyed twice in its long history.

History

The land where Victoria Gardens/Rani Bagh now stands was previously owned by an affluent Jewish businessman, David Sassoon. He instructed the famous London architect to design the Victoria and Albert Museum.

A clock tower was also built along with this, which still exists in the garden, but doesn't tell the time anymore.

The interiors of this museum are quite similar to the Magen David synagogue of Byculla. Later, David Sassoon donated this land to the Municipal Corporation of Mumbai

वीरमाता जिजाबाई भोसले उद्यान, मुंबईतील भायखळ्याची पूर्वीची 'राणी बाग'.

१९४० च्या दशकात मला आठवतंय की मुख्य इमारत मुळात सभास्थान, यहूदी उपासनेचं घर बांधण्यासाठी बांधण्यात आली होती. पण असे दिसते की सभास्थान असणे योग्य नव्हते. हजारो वर्षांपासून यहूद्यांना जेरुसलेमला सामोरे जावे लागते जेथे शलमोनाचे पूर्वीचे मंदिर होते आणि त्याच्या प्रदीर्घ इतिहासात दोनदा नष्ट करण्यात आले.

विरमाता जीजाबाई भोसले ऊद्यान व
भायखळा प्राणी संग्रहालय
Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Udyan &
Byculla Zoo



Statue of Jijamata and Shivaji at Jijamata
Udyan(Byculla Zoo)

Date opened 1861

Location Mumbai, India

इतिहास

व्हिक्टोरिया गार्डन/राणी बाग ज्या देशात उभी आहे ती जमीन पूर्वी डेव्हिड ससून नावाच्या एका श्रीमंत यहूदी व्यावसायिकाच्या मालकीची होती. त्याने प्रसिद्ध लुंडन्स आर्किटेक्टला व्हिक्टोरिया आणि अल्बर्ट म्युझियमची रचना करण्याची सूचना केली.

त्याचबरोबर घड्याळाचा बुरूजही बांधण्यात आला होता, जो अजूनही बागेत अस्तित्वात आहे, पण आता वेळ सांगत नाही.

या संग्रहालयाचे अंतरंग भायखळ्याच्या मॅजेन डेव्हिड सभास्थानासारखे आहे. नंतर डेव्हिड ससून यांनी ही जमीन मुंबई महानगरपालिकेला दान केली.

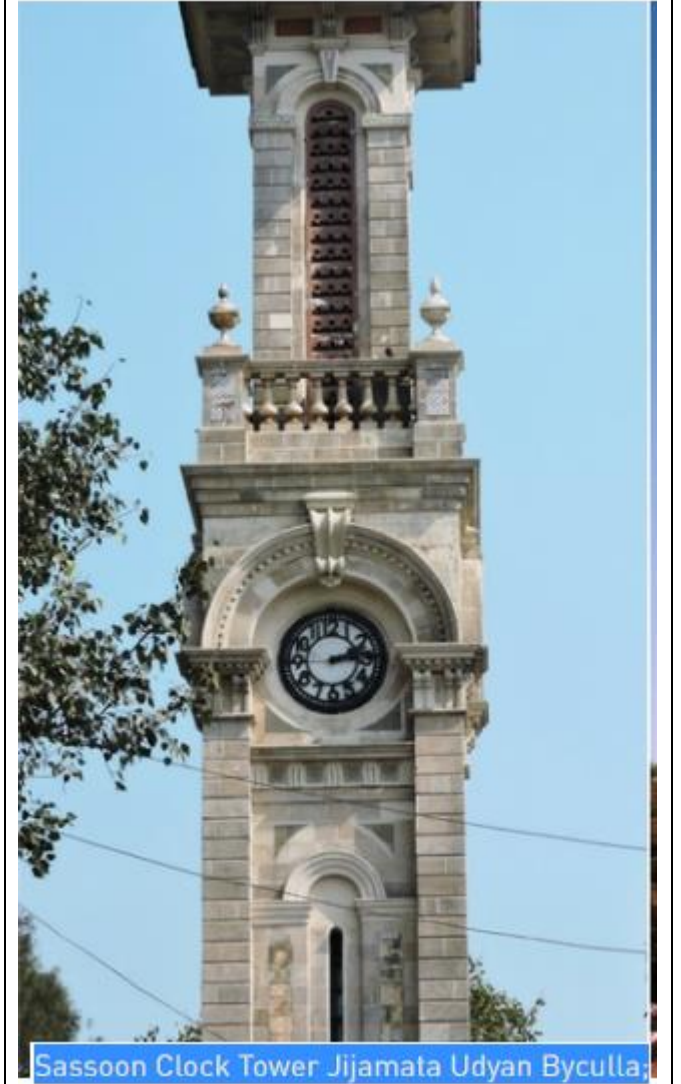
וירמאטה ג'יבאי בהונסלה אודיאן, לשעבר 'רני בוג' של ביקולה, מומבאי.

כילד בשנות ה-40 אני זוכר ששמעתי סיפורים שהבניין הראשי נבנה במקור כדי להאוסן בית כנסת, בית תפילה יהודי. עם זאת, נראה כי מולו לא היה ראוי להיות בית כנסת. ידוע היטב שבמשך אלפי שנים ניצבים יהודים לכיוון ירושלים, שם ממוקם בית המקדש לשעבר של שלמה ונהרס פעמיים בתולדותיו הארוכות.

היסטוריה

האדמה שבה ניצבים כיום גני ויקטוריה/רני באג הייתה בעבר בבעלותו של איש עסקים יהודי אמיד, דוד ששון. הוא הנחה את האדריכל המפורסם לונדונים לעצב את מוזיאון ויקטוריה ואלברט.

מגדל שעון נבנה גם יחד עם זה, שעדיין קיים בגן, אבל לא אומר את השעה יותר. חללי הפנים של מוזיאון זה דומים למדי לבית הכנסת מגן דוד של ביקולה. מאוחר יותר, דייוויד ששון תרם את הקרקע הזו לתאגיד העירוני של מומבאי.



Sassoon Clock Tower Jijamata Udyan Byculla

Joyce Awaskar

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gelOj1EHhx0&feature=youtu.be>



We Bene-Israel are amazing people. From Siona Benjamin who as a mystical artist creates waves in the western world to Joyce Awaskar from Mumbai who is an painting artist and loves to paint the Ganapati images in to an attractive colorful images that creates a spiritual bond between the devotee and the Ganapati they choose to take home. All Ganapati images look the same. What makes them different and mystically attractive to the devotee is the unique talent of Joyce. She has been doing this from her childhood and the owner of the place blindly trusts her work and praises her devotion. Please see the video on Joyce following this link; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gelOj1EHhx0&feature=youtu.be>

आम्ही बेन-इस्रायल अद्भुत लोक आहोत. एक गूढ कलाकार म्हणून पश्चिमेकडील जगात लाटा निर्माण करणाऱ्या सायना बेंजामिन पासून ते मुंबईच्या जॉईस आवस्करपर्यंत, ज्याला चित्रकलेची कलात्मक प्रतिमा आकर्षक रंगीबेरंगी चित्रांमध्ये रंगवायला आवडते (गणपतीच्या मूर्ती रंगवणे). गणपतीच्या सर्व मूर्ती एकच दिसतात. ते भक्ताला वेगळे आणि गूढआकर्षक बनवणारी गोष्ट म्हणजे जॉईसची अद्वितीय प्रतिभा. ती लहानपणापासून हे करत आहे आणि त्या ठिकाणचा मालक आंधळेपणाने आपल्या कामावर विश्वास ठेवतो आणि तिच्या भक्तीची प्रशंसा करतो. कृपया या लिंकनंतर जॉईसवरील व्हिडिओ पाहा:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gelOj1EHhx0&feature=youtu.be>

אנחנו בני ישראל אנשים מדהימים. מסיונה בנימין, שכאמן מיסטי יוצר גלים בעולם המערבי לג אוסקר ממומבאי, שהוא צייר-אמן ואוהב לצייר את התמונות גנפאטי בתמונות צבעוניות אטרקטיביות היוצרות קשר רוחני בין החסיד לבין הגנפאטי שהם בוחרים לקחת הביתה. כל התמונות של גנפאטי נראות אותו דבר. מה שהופך אותם שונים ומושך הוליסטי שלי לחסיד הוא הכישרון הייחודי של ג'ויס. היא עושה את זה מהילדות שלה והבעלים של המקום סומך בצורה עיוורת על עבודתה ומהלל את המסירות שלה. עיין בסרטון הווידאו של ג'ויס בעקבות קישור זה <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gelOj1EHhx0&feature=youtu.be> ;

We Bene-Israel lived 2200 years with the Hindus.

How much do you know about Hinduism?

Consultant : [Raamesh Gowri Raghavan](#)

Unlike popular belief did you know that Hindus DO-NOT worship Cow; but cow is considered as sacred soul. Reason it is considered sacred are many. Cow is considered as a living symbol of Mother Earth that gives us crops, land, water, air, rain, wind and shelter; similarly Cow provides milk, fuel, fertilizer and disinfectants. The major reason cow is considered sacred is the byproduct from milk; ghee, that is used to keep the **Fire-God “Agni”** lit



Hinduism is collection of philosophy over long period of time starting with Aryans who performed ‘Yagna”(sacrifice) for “Agni” (Fire) or “Fire God” upto Mahatma Gandhi’s preaching. Hinduism is considered as an evolving philosophy.

Hinduism divides time in 4 Yuga (period/age); **Satya Yuga** (4800 DY), **Treta Yuga** (3600 DY) **Dvapara Yuga** (2400 DY) & **Kali Yuga** (1200 DY) after which universe will be destroyed (as coming of “**Mashiak**” in Jews) and the world will restart with Satya Yuga. (DY=A divine year equaling 432,000 earthly years)

Hindu cosmology believes the universe is created and destroyed in a cycle of 4.32 billion years which is quite close to the current scientific age of the earth.



Puranic yuga cycle

Yuga	Start	Length
Satya	3,891,102 BCE	1,728,000 (4,800)
Treta	2,163,102 BCE	1,296,000 (3,600)
Dvapara	867,102 BCE	864,000 (2,400)
Kali*	3102 BCE – 428,899 CE ^[a]	432,000 (1,200)
Years: 4,320,000 solar (12,000 divine)		

(*) Current.

Hinduism is not an organized religion and has no single, systematic approach to teaching its value system. Nor do Hindus have a simple set of rules to follow like the Ten Commandments. Local, regional, caste, and community-driven practices influence the interpretation and practice of beliefs throughout the Hindu world. Yet a common thread among all these variations is **belief in a Supreme Being** and adherence to certain concepts such as **Truth, dharma, and karma**. And belief in the authority of the Vedas (sacred scriptures) serves, to a large extent, as the very definition of a Hindu, even though how the Vedas are *interpreted may vary greatly*.

Hinduism is one of the most difficult and complicated philosophies to understand.

We explain its main concepts below

Hindu Philosophy aims at Moksha (mingling of your soul with the creator)

To get Moksha your Karma (way you do your duty) should be as per the rules of Dharma (laws of doing your duty)

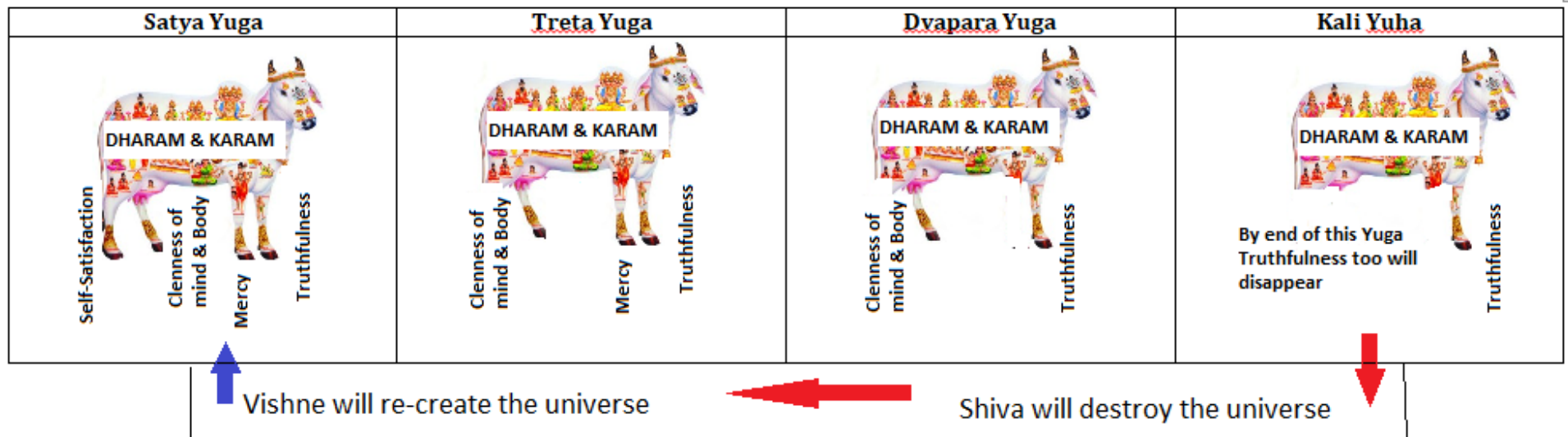
Dharma (Duty) is based on 4 pillars (Self-satisfaction, Cleanness of mind & body, Mercy and Truthfulness). Man will use these 4 gifts to perform his duty (Karma-and one's Karma therefore is based on – was the human's self-satisfied, had clean mind & body, took mercy on needy, was truthful).

Based on your karma (quality of things you did in your past life) you will be reborn as aqua, animal, bird or human.

In Hinduism time is endless and is divided in segments of four Yuga each.

In each Yuga one pillar of **"Dharma& Karma"** will disappear as people will first lose their self-control and become greedy for Maya (Earthly pleasures – Wealth, Sex (Women), Food, Addictions, Power).

This is shown by using image of a cow (4 legs) as 4 pillars of "Dharma& Karma".



Brahama will recreate life

Hindu's too believe in one God (Vishnu) but their God manifestation in different images is based on a person's aim in life.

A Complete List Of Hindu Gods And Goddesses and why they are worshiped is in the link below;

<https://www.insightstate.com/spirituality/list-hindu-gods-goddesses/>

The origin of Gandhi's three monkeys is based on deep Hindu philosophy made simple for the common people to understand.

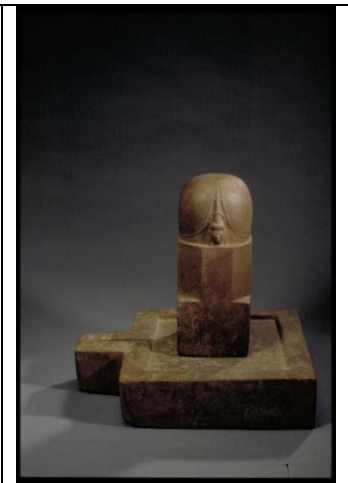
God has given Dharma that you should use to do your Karma so that everyone reaches their Moksha (mingling with the Supreme; no rebirth – ultimate aim of Hinduism).
To gain best Karma one should avoid listening hearing or saying wicked things.



Why do Hindus pray the Shiva Lingam?

The Shiva Lingam is the representation of the three forces of creation (Brahma), preservation (Vishnu) and destruction (Shiva). Brahma is the square base of the lingam, Vishnu the 8-sided middle, and Shiva the cylindrical top.

The lingam is surrounded by the Yoni Pitham, which represents energy (Shakti). It is only when Shiva and Shakti unite in the form of the Yoni-Lingam that the universe begins, exists and dies.



One of the many Hindu Philosophy

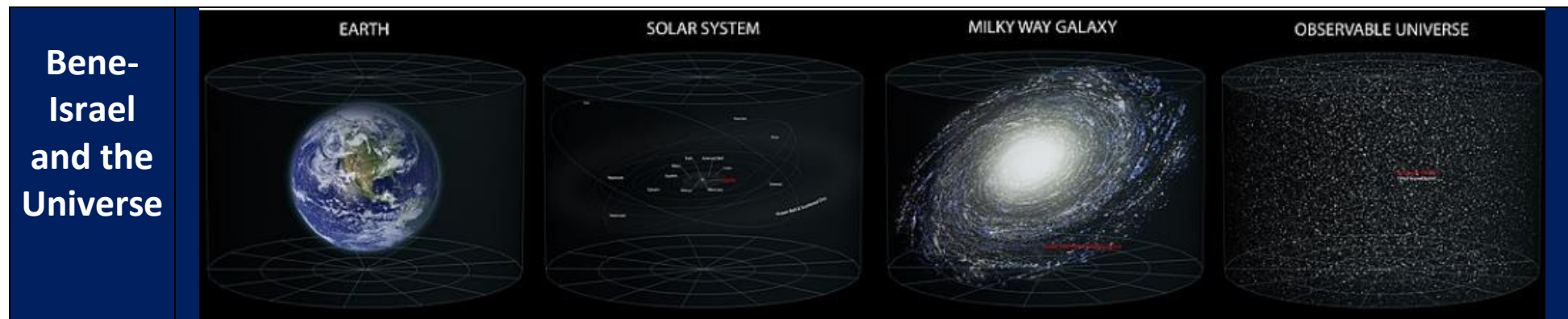
You will always find an image of a mouse next to any image of Ganapati. Mouse is to remind everyone of "Time". Like mouse bites through everything Time too eats everything. Be humble.

Another way to look at the mouse is as Ganapati's messenger as the mouse can go everywhere and therefore keep an eye on anyone. Ganapati punishes evildoers by placing obstacles in their way and rewards good people by removing obstacles from their way.





On one hand God (The Creator) created this un ending universe where no one lives. On the other hand only planet where God created life is Earth. So what was in God's mind while creating this Universe? There is only one explanation. God is getting the entire universe ready to accept his people. People will live and control the entire universe while God will control his people. And God's chosen people, Jews, who have lived all around the Earth like we Bene-Israel came from India, will lead the project.



We would like hear your explanations why do you think God has created this Universe? shaniwarteli@gmail.com

Rare Breed in Bene-Israel; an Entrepreneur

Jews are considered “The Business Men” of the world, but in our Bene-Israel community there are only *few* entrepreneurs. Though Bene-Israel’s excel in all their professions; let it be army, insurance , municipal duties port admiration or education, but as entrepreneur you will find few. Below Shulmith our editor interviews one of the rare Bene-Israel Entrepreneur in Israel.



Energetic & Dynamic Bene-Israel Entrepreneur

By: Shulmith Solomon Charikar



Think of the Latest Video/Redemption Games, Bowling, 3D - 360® Hydraulic/Electric Simulators, 7D Cinemas, Trampoline Parks, Virtual Reality, Pro Billiards Etc., Etc., in short -Complete Family Entertainment - GAME ZONE is one of the first Brand Names that Flashes Your mind. Game Zone had 26 Branches all over Israel in all the Major Cities like Tel Aviv, Herzliya, Kfar Saba, Hedera, Gan Shmuel, Haifa, Nazareth, Ashdod, Eilat, and more. *But who is the person behind this concept?* The mastermind is none other than our Dynamic Entrepreneur whom we all know as **Robin Samuel Nagavkar**. He is the Co-Owner and President of Game Zone Ltd, Israel.



Robin & Shulmith Samuel Nagaoker

His Partners in Game Zone are **Ivan Samuel Navgaokar**, Robins, younger Brother, and his Better Half **Shulamit Samuel**. If you read the JRU Youth Group article of Leora’s Corner in this issue, then Robin too guided the JRU YG as elected president for a year. Robin is the proud son of Late Mr. Raymond Samuel Nagaokar And Late Mrs Yacobeth Samuel (Bhonkar). Mr. Raymond was a Chief Clerk in the Parel Branch of the Central Railway and Mrs. Yacobeth was the Accountant in the Byculla Branch of the Indian Railways. Yacobeth was the Youngest sister of Mr. Joshua Benjamin Bhonkar, the Well-Known Chief Architect of the CPWD, Govt. of India. Both His Parents Represented the Railways in the National Badminton team where they met and finally teamed up for life and were proud Parents of 4 Glittering Jewels. He is brother to Ivan – Mechanical Engineer, and Masters in Marketing Management, Sandra Aviv – Sr. Secretary, Marketing Dept. in Israel Aircraft Industries and Eban Samuel-Aeronautics and Space Engineer from the Technion and an MBA, Projects Manager in the IAI.



He married Shulamit Penkar, a Home Science Graduate from SNTD College, Pune in Sept 1985. Together they are proud Parents of Abel – Mechanical and Robotics Engineer, Sigal – Industrial Management Engineer specializing in Marketing and Nicole now Serving in the Air Force on the Avionics of the F15 in Tel Nof.

He married Shulamit Penkar, a Home Science Graduate from SNTD College, Pune in Sept 1985. Together they are proud Parents of Abel – Mechanical and Robotics Engineer, Sigal – Industrial Management Engineer specializing in Marketing and Nicole now Serving in the Air Force on the Avionics of the F15 in Tel Nof. Robin was Born and brought up in Parel, Mumbai. He studied in one of the reputed schools in Bombay- King George High School in Hindu Colony Dadar. He was one of the bright students in school. He finished his Junior College in Science in 1977 with Distinction and was in the first 10 in Maharashtra University. He was Presented a Gold Medal by the Then Chief Minister of Maharashtra Mr. Vasant Dada Patil.



Robin completed his Electronics and Radio Engineering from St. Xavier's College of Engineering, Mahim. (University of Bombay). He then went on to pursue his higher degree in Electronics and Communication Engineering at AMIETE, from the University of Delhi. Robin Started his Professional Career as an R&D Engineer in the field of Electronics Automation in a Small Industrial Company as he chose to work on his own merit with Humble Beginnings rather than work in large and Reputed companies which his Father could have very easily placed him with his contacts. In a short span of a year he was instrumental in Designing an Automated Beam Dyeing Process System which was sold to tens of Textile mills in Bombay and the whole of India. This was an invention which went on to make the Dyeing Process more accurate and efficient replacing 90 percent of Labor costs in the decades to come.

In 1981 Sony, Japan was Planning to enter the Indian market and planned to get the best Electronics Engineers to start their venture in Andheri, Mumbai. Robin was the first Choice Design Engineer in over 3000 Engineers who were interviewed and Scrutinized from all over India. He was finally trained in Sony in Osaka, Japan and subsequently installed the Sony Factory in MIDC, Andheri. He then was instrumental in Setting up the Seepz Mass Video Recording Unit recording over 1500 Cassettes in One Recording. Here too he indigenously transformed the optic Film Signals to Magnetic Media Automatically with no interruptions to fit in the full 3 hours of the Indian Films – A First in the world and was Felicitated by the Bollywood Fraternity and of course by Sony for his Efforts.

After Setting up the 2 Sony Ventures Successfully, Robin decided to take up a new Challenge. He Eyed into the new Craze of the 80's – Video Games. While in Japan Robin was exposed to the latest technology and with the Sony Success story, this was a super Assignment for him. With the owners of Bush India Ltd,

Robin became part of a new Venture Electro Games Pvt. Ltd in Lower Parel in 1983. In just 4 Years Dizzyland Amusement Parlors were all over Bombay, Ahmedabad, Calcutta, Bangalore, Madras and Delhi. The company had nearly 5000 staff working including Engineers, Production workers, Operators, Administration, etc. running nearly 100 Arcades in India. In these 4 years with Robin's wit, Planning, Strategy and Entrepreneurship, the competition was reduced to Zero in the whole of India. He was responsible for Innovating, Designing, Producing and operating the best of the games in the Dizzyland Parlors.

After the Dizzyland Success Story, Robin and Shulamit decided to Migrate to the Holy Land. Now this was a Gamble, being on the Top of his career Robin could have well Capitalized on his success and could have been well off in India. One of the thoughts he had were that he wanted to raise his children in Jewish surroundings. Robin 27, Shulamit 24 and the new Born son Abel was 4 Months, thinking that they can make a fresh beginning after the Success story in India. He Knew that if he did not migrate to Israel now, it would be only a few decades away. So, he did not wait for the Jewish Agency to Sponsor all the expenses including the Ulpan, but came on his own Resources. He does not recommend to any immigrant to do the same mistake and to come only via the Jewish Agency. Unfortunately, the timing was not correct, as there were countless number of Engineers Jobless due to the Scrapping of the Lavi Project at the time of Robin and Shulamit's Immigration to Israel. They were in The Absorption Center in Kiryat Yam.

So back to Square One, Robin was at crossroads – Either go back to India or Start afresh in a completely alien country with a new culture, a new Language, new way of living, etc., etc. But as we Know the Fighter in Robin, He stayed on and became a successful Business Man and the Numero Uno in his Field. He is Respected for his Command over the Entertainment Industry by Friend and Competitors as well. After Completing his Ulpan in Kiryat Yam and doing some petty Jobs in the Haifa Bay Area, Robin took Refuge in what he Knew the Best – “Entertainment”. With the Help from a Cousin, Joshua Reuben who was in the country maybe 4 years prior, Robin was introduced to Oz Sagie Ltd, An established Company operating Video Arcades with a few branches in Israel. Robin started as a Technician but soon rose to the Post of Chief Engineer of the Company. Amongst his achievements were:

- A) Designing new Games and making them more Challenging for the Players.
- B) Designing Gaming Machines and adapting them to local Conditions.
- C) Converting a Passenger Ship to a Casino Cruise Ship with all the Table Games, Slot Machines, Entertainment and security. The Ship was operated on the Shores of Eilat and 10KMS away from the Boundaries of Israel, making it completely legal. The ship, staff, Dealers and all the equipment were designed to operate in the highest of Standards to match the International Casino Almanac.

But then Robin had a Plan. He wanted to be a Big Fish in a Big Pond. He Started Game Zone in 1998. His Brother Ivan Samuel Joined Him in 2000 and Headed the Marketing and Administration of the Game Zone Empire. Game Zone Had nearly 400 workers in different levels spread out in 26 Branches. To complete the Family Business, Shulamit joined the Business and was Responsible for the Accounts and Finance Administration.

Over the years, Robin has developed skills and expertise in Business Development, Strategic and Marketing Planning, Entrepreneurship, Project and Event Management. He has demonstrated his skills successfully in his business and the World of the Entertainment industry.

Robin also has a passion for Nature photography and and loves to Shoot animals and birds in their Natural Habitat. He is a regular visitor to the National Parks and Tiger Reserves in India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Kenya, Etc. He also loves to paint during his free time.

Robin's new Passion is to build an Authentic Ayurvedic Treatment Centre in the South of Israel along with a Garden to grow various herbs and plants for medicinal purposes. His wife is an ardent believer of Ayurvedic medicines, meditation and spirituality. He is the co-founder and the President of the Indian Jewish Heritage Center (IJHC). At this Centre, he Dreams to build an Indian Heritage Centre for all the Communities -Bene Israel, Cochini, Baghdadi and the Bene Ephraim. Along with the Regular Artifacts from the actual Villages, he wants to use the Latest Technologies of showing in Virtual Reality the Living of Jews in Konkan India, the Synagogues, Businesses, etc. instead of getting the real Artifacts but not compromising on the Real Experience of the Museum.

Joseph Ezekiel Rajpurkar (1834-1905)

Credit to: David Yehezkel

Below is a summary of an article that was printed in the magazine "Jewish World" London July 26th 1901.

י באב 5661

For original article please contact Shaniwar Teli and we will forward you the original article.

Joseph Ezekiel Rajpurkar spent years translating several Hebrew books and Hebrew **Prayer books** into **Marathi** for the benefit of the Bene Israel community. In recognition of his work he was granted the title of Rabbi by the Chief Rabbi of Britain.

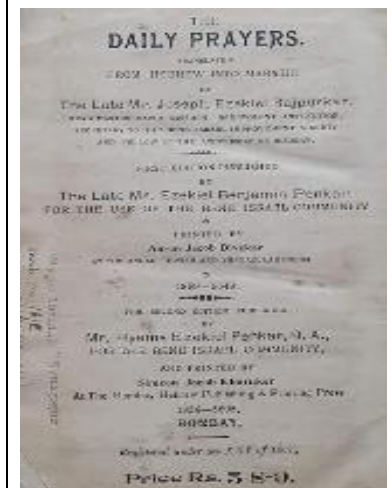
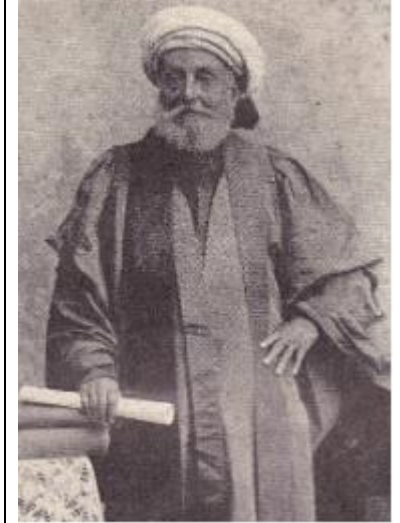
These are the books that Joseph Rajpurkar wrote in his lifetime. Today most of these books are collector's items and worth between \$400 – 2500

- Joseph Ezekiel Rajpurkar, The Confession of Sins on the Jewish Day of Atonement, 1858
- Joseph Ezekiel Rajpurkar, The Jewish Marriage Ceremony, 1862
- Joseph Ezekiel Rajpurkar, The Jewish New Year's Day , 1862
- Joseph Ezekiel Rajpurkar, Remission of Vows and Prayer offered on the Sea-shore, 1864
- Joseph Ezekiel Rajpurkar, History of Antiochus Epiphanes on the institution of the Feast of Dedication, 1866
- Joseph Ezekiel Rajpurkar, The Prayers of the Day of Atonement Volume-I, 1867
- Joseph Ezekiel Rajpurkar, The Prayers of the Day of Atonement Volume-II, 1868
- Joseph Ezekiel Rajpurkar, The Ethics of the Fathers, 1870
- Joseph Ezekiel Rajpurkar, Scripture Proofs of Jewish Doctrines, 1876
- Joseph Ezekiel Rajpurkar, The True aspect of Judaism, 1879
- Joseph Ezekiel Rajpurkar, A Chronological outline of Ancient Jewish History, 1880
- Joseph Ezekiel Rajpurkar, Hebrew Primer 3rd Edition, 1881
- Joseph Ezekiel Rajpurkar, An Elementary Hebrew Grammar, 1882
- Joseph Ezekiel Rajpurkar, A handbook of Hebrew Abbreviations-Hebrew and English, 1887
- Joseph Ezekiel Rajpurkar, The Jewish propitiatory prayer, 1889
- Joseph Ezekiel Rajpurkar, The Daily Prayers-Hebrew with Marathi Translation, 1889
- Joseph Ezekiel Rajpurkar, The Five Jewish Fasts, 1890
- Joseph Ezekiel Rajpurkar, Child's Hebrew First Book-3rd Edition, 1893
- Joseph Ezekiel Rajpurkar, The three great Jewish Festivals, 1901
- Joseph Ezekiel Rajpurkar, Special Prayers on Special Occasions

Joseph Ezekiel Rajpurkar was born in Bombay in 1834 and began his career in 1860 as an assistant teacher in the David Sassoon Benevolent Institute and within five years rose to become the Head-Master - a post he held for over 40 years.

He was a self-taught Hebraist; was very religious and served as a lay-minister. In 1871, he was the first Bene Israel to be appointed Examiner in Hebrew Language at the Bombay University for the Matriculation examination, as well as for graduate and post-graduate levels. Later, he was appointed Examiner in Arts. He was the first Bene Israel to be made a Fellow of the Bombay University in 1879. In 1890, he was the first Bene Israel to be appointed Justice of the Peace. Joseph maintained a record of events in the community that are used by researchers to this day.

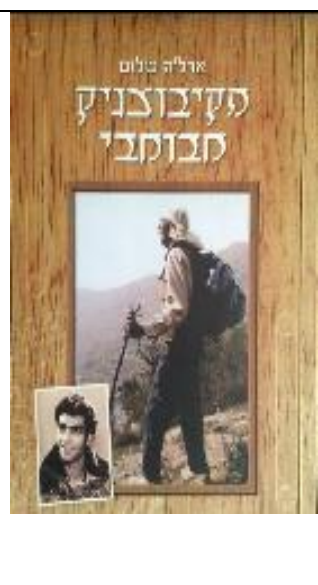
In 1880 he was appointed Justice of the Peace for the city of Bombay. He was senior Warden of the gate Of Mercy synagogue and was the recognized head of the Bene-Israelite community. His advice is invariably sought by Government officials on matters concerning the Jewish community and Bene-Israelite cases are often referred from the Law Courts to Mr. Ezekiel. His decisions in a large number of cases been accepted by both parties and commended by the judges. He is also Vice-President of the Umerkhadi Committee, a member of the grievance Committee. For his services he has received the thanks of the Government.

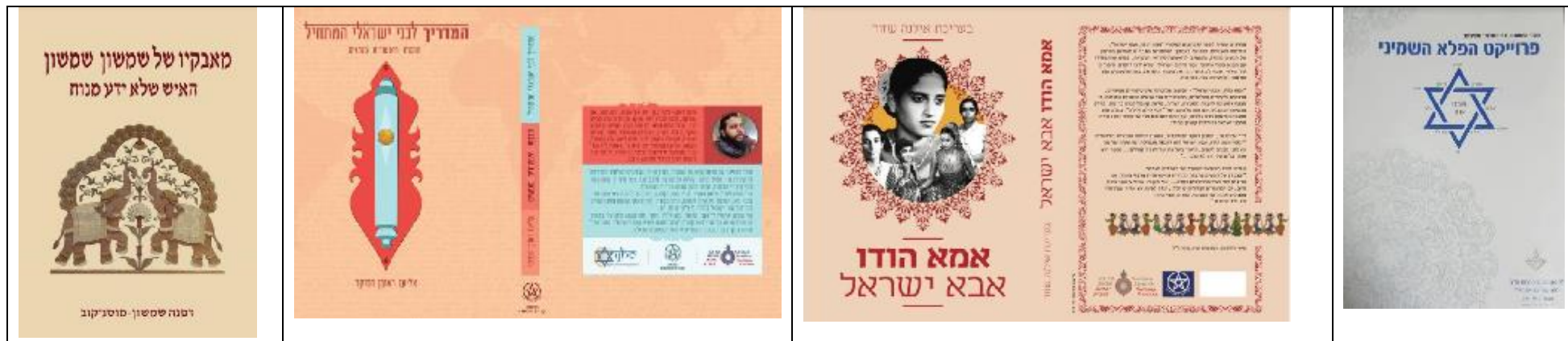


It is the wish of those who live among and know his work that he will be spared to continue his labors for very many years.

Kammodan Mocadem Publishing House

Eliaz Reuben-Dandeker | 050-9566098

	We publish books for Bene-Israel writers. So far we have published 13 books. All books were published in Hebrew and some have also an English version.		
	The names of the authors are: 1.Meir Reuben (Penkar) 2.Sophie Judah (Ashtamkar) 3.Eliaz Reuben-Dandeker (myself) 4.Ilana Shazor (Sogavkar) 5.Aaron Shallom (Agarwarkar) 6.Ari-El Lavi (Dandekar) 7.Dafna Samson-Mosnikov (Killekar) 8.Reuben Raymond (Malekar) 9.Shimeon Kollet (Koletkar) 10.Tsur Israel (Awaskar from his mother's side)	1-מאיר ראובן (פנקר) 2-סופי יהודה (אשטמקר) 3-אליעז ראובן-דנדקר 4-אילנה שזור (סוגבקר) 5-אהרון שלום (אגרוורקר) 6-ארי-אל לביא (דנדקר) 7-דפנה שמשון-מוסניקוב (קילקר) 8-ראובן ריימונד (מלקר) 9-שמעון קולט (קוליטקר) 10-צור ישראל (אווסקר מצד אמו)	



Learn Marathi language free of cost as 31-year-old Dombivli resident launches unique online course



**NOTES
FROM THE
SUBURBS**

VISHWAS WAGHMODE
MUMBAI, FEBRUARY 15

IN ORDER to teach Marathi language to the non-Maharashtrians, 31-year-old Dombivli resident Kaushik Lele has launched a unique online course — a free of cost service that has started to steadily gain popularity.

Kaushik has started two blogs, which offer information pertaining to basic grammar, sentence constructions, daily conversations, usage of short forms and others. Talking about what prompted him to start such a platform, Kaushik, a software engineer in a multinational company, said, "As a hobby, I learned



Kaushik Lele (left) with Jonathan Galton from London at the recently held 90th Marathi literary festival in Dombivli.

Tamil and Gujarati with the help of some books. When some of my colleagues were trying to learn Marathi a few years back, I tried to find out the available options. While I found a few books, I thought they were not sufficient for learning the language. On the internet too, the same problems existed, as very few options were available. This made me uneasy — we insist others learn Marathi, but we haven't created enough options for them to do so."

He said he decided to use the online medium which can be accessed by a large number of people. "Since I like learning and

teaching languages, I decided to take it on myself to start the task of teaching Marathi to non-Marathis. So, I prepared two blogs — learn Marathi from English and learn Marathi from Hindi. With the lessons that I prepared, I have also created more than 200 sound clips of the conversations to make the learner understand the language fast and to help them in pronunciation," he said terming the course a 'one-stop-shop' for those who wish to learn Marathi.

"I am keeping it free as then people will prefer to learn it. Also, I will be always happy to see others learning my mother

tongue," he said.

Besides, Kaushik has created a forum on social media to answer the queries related to the language. "The YouTube channel and forum on social media is being used by the students, who are from outside Maharashtra and studying in the cities like Mumbai and Pune. Also, many foreigners and NRIs too are learning the language," he added.

To Kaushik's credit, Jonathan Galton from London, his student, came to attend the 90th Marathi literary festival held in Dombivli recently. "Jonathan had come to see the literary festival. Though he is not fluent in Marathi, he is able to converse with people," Kaushik said, adding many other foreigner students, including from China, are learning the language.

Kaushik has also started a similar course for the Gujarati language, which also includes blog, among others.

Have a comment or suggestion for
Notes From The Suburbs?
Write to mumbai.newsline@expressindia.com
with subjectline:
Notes From The Suburbs

Epaper link:

<http://epaper.indianexpress.com/1106958/Indian-Express-Mumbai/February-16,-2017#page/3/1>

Online read:

<http://indianexpress.com/article/cities/mumbai/mumbai-learn-marathi-language-free-of-cost-as-31-year-old-dombivli-resident-launches-unique-online-course-4527133/>

Letter written by Abie Moses Kolet who had received information of learning Matathi on-line from us to review.

Thank you for sending me the details. I wonder what is the advantage for a Bene-Israel in Israel to learn Marathi. Most of the business done in India is in English and Hindi. Learning Hindi does give a lot of advantages.

The Marathi born parents living abroad would want their children to know Marathi as it is their Mother Tongue and there this on-line learning of Marathi can be useful. However in Israel there are no Marathi families.
Sincerely,

कौहिकबरोबर मराठी
शिका

Learn Marathi With
Kauhik On-Line

ללמוד מאראהי עם קאויק



Write – Kaushik Lele (learnmarathifast@gmail.com)

We all cherish Marathi language and culture. We actively try to pass on this treasure to next generation. Now our endeavor has got a helping hand from India. Kaushik Lele from India has developed online tutorials that teach Marathi from English and Hindi. Not only Indians, even people outside India are learning Marathi successfully through it. **It's a unique online course — a free of cost service** that has started to steadily gain popularity.

Website link is <http://learnmarathiwithkaushik.com>

YouTube channel link is <https://www.youtube.com/c/KaushikLele> Learn Marathi

It has **100+ lessons which teach Marathi** (Devanagari) script, pronunciation, basic grammar rules, sentence constructions, daily conversations, usage of short forms and others.

Talking about what prompted him to start such a platform, Kaushik, a software engineer in a multinational company, said, “As a hobby, I learned Tamil with the help of some books. I learned Gujarati by directly reading newspaper, books. When some of my colleagues were trying to learn Marathi a few years back, I tried to find out the available options. While I found a few books, I thought they were not sufficient for learning the language. They gave few readymade sentences and a list of words. But one cannot learn language by simply mugging up readymade sentences. One has to learn sentence structure and basic grammar rules. On the internet too, the same problems existed, as very few options were available compared to foreign languages. This made me uneasy. Since I like learning and teaching languages, I decided to take it on myself to start the task of teaching Marathi to non-Marathis by following the grammar based way I used to learn Tamil and Gujarati”



Kaushik's website also includes tools to help learners practice and verify their understanding. In the “Verb form tool” a student can select verb, phrases and tense and generate the sample sentences.

In Marathi each noun has gender and different forms. This information is needed to create even basic sentences. Yet these details are missing in usual online dictionaries. Kaushik's “Noun dictionary” answers this pain point.

The “transliteration tool” will help learners by converting Marathi text into Roman(English) script and speed up reading.

The website also has a similar tutorial for Gujarati language.

Kaushik continues, “With the lessons that I prepared, I have also created more than 200+ sound clips which helps learning pronunciation. Thus, this website is a ‘one-stop-shop’ for those who wish to learn Marathi. I am keeping it free so that more people will prefer to learn it. The pleasure of seeing others learn my mother tongue through my lessons is unparalleled”.

You can have a glimpse of success story by watching these YouTube videos. Watch Matthew from USA speaking Marathi confidently who has learned Marathi from these tutorials

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WwaFEuguPBs>

Watch this Marathi conversation between of John from UK and Kaushik

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iTtNnmtmhK8>

Kaushik is also active on the “Learn Marathi” Facebook group. He answers the questions from students on the group and on the email id LearnMarathiFast@gmail.com. He conducts weekly practice session for overseas students. Foreigners learning Marathi are generally language lovers or lovers of Marathi persons. They want to learn Marathi because it will help jell well with their partner’s family.

Kaushik said, “I have always been amazed by the history of the Bene Israel community; your passion for Israel and yet unquestionable love for India, Maharashtra and Marathi. In my childhood I came to know about your community because of my grandmother. She was from “Roha” in Konkan and knew Manik Ashtamkar aka Flora Samuel. So connecting with you through these tutorials and helping you actively will be an emotional journey for me. I am looking forward for many people from Israel using this website”.

You Tube Bene-Israel Videos – Samuel & Erna Daniel

<https://video.search.yahoo.com/search/video?fr=ipad&p=jewish.+usic#id=27&vid=c50b06bb5a41c70fa440a83e7964f925&action=view>

Very Special People

Fridederike Irina Bruning “Shelter for stranded bulls”

<https://www.facebook.com/100045863439716/videos/191296845742429/>

Hospital For Elephants

<https://youtu.be/vSqJzcbP4oM>

Buy a Burial Plot In Israel at Great Prices

Curtesy: Samuel & Erna Daniel

We at Land of Israel Burials have been established in order to provide those, who have to deal with the Jewish burial in Israel of a loved one, some peace of mind during this difficult time. We are here to help Jewish families from all over the world, who want the Holy Land of Israel to be their loved ones' final resting spot. We Arrange and take care of everything for you – from A to Z! We'll help you achieve burial in Israel from abroad!

For prices & more details see the link:

<http://www.landofisraelburials.com/>



Our Bene-Israel Rabbi's get pat on their back for the height Religious authority



Watch video:

<https://www.facebook.com/100045863439716/videos/pcb.196186201920160/196186181920162/>

The Sephardi **Chief Rabbi of Israel** Yitzhak Yosef, while appreciating the work done by Bene-Israel Rabbi Shmuel Ben-Shalom Diveker had the following to say in the social media (link provided);

Quote:

He's saying that blessed are those who translate the lessons and sermons to Indian language. Also the book Yalkut Yossef has been translated into Indian language. And it's a great virtue for the acquittal of many who make the effort of distributing Torah and bring them closer to the Torah by translating the language.

Unquote

We thank our Hebrew Editor Jenny for the translation from Hebrew to English.



Rabbi Samuel Diveker
(<http://www.indianjudaica.com/wp/>)

Bene-Israel Artist Daniel David Talegaonkar

One-Line Art Expert

<http://danieltalegaonkar.com/index.html>



During July 2020 we lost Mr. Talegaonkar. He was an artist who drew using one-line drawing technique inksapes and brush techniques using black ink. Between 2007 to 2019 he displayed his work at several exhibitions and was awarded the **"Best Drawing Award"** by the *Bombay Art Society* and **'Judges Choice Award'** by *"The Indian Art Society"*.

Please visit his website to see the few of his of his unsold paintings

:

<http://danieltalegaonkar.com/index.html>

Cell : +91 98200 13812

Email : gonlidesigns@yahoo.co.in



2011

The Bombay Art Society
Best Drawing



2011

The Art Society of India
Judges Choice



On what does your IQ depend?

Evidence suggests that the correlation between long-term memory and IQ (**intelligence quotient**) is one-way in terms of causal relationship: People with high IQs generally tend to have good long-term memory (i.e. they can demonstrate impressive general knowledge and powers of recall), but not all people with good long-term memories have high IQs.

But all high IQ's have a good long-term memory.

So if you want your child to be brilliant, work on their memory.

Memory (↑) ∞ IQ (↑)

Memory (↓) ∞ IQ (↓)

Medical Definition of IQ: It is a number used to express the apparent relative intelligence of a person based on the results of standardized testing;

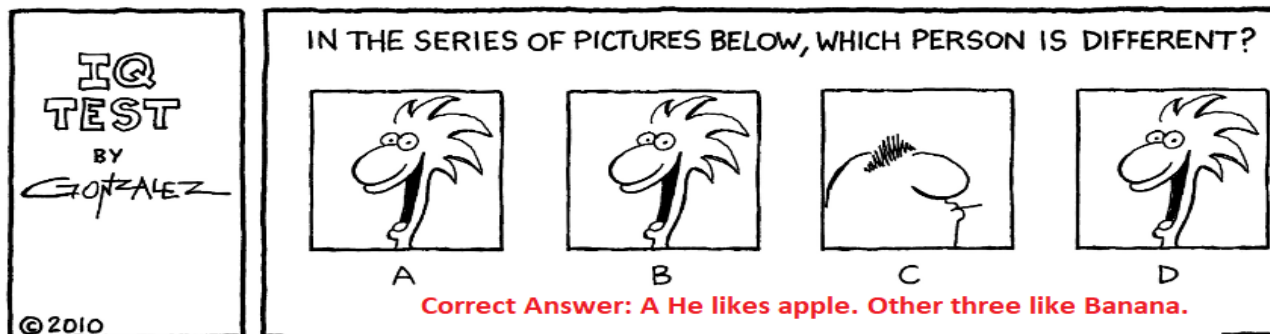
- a: the ratio of the **mental age*** (as reported on a standardized test) to the **chronological age** multiplied by **100**.
- b: a score determined by one's performance on a standardized intelligence test relative to the average performance of others of the same age.

* **Medical Definition of mental age:** a measure used in psychological testing that expresses an individual's mental attainment in terms of the number of years it takes an average child to reach the same level.

Check your own IQ in 20 minutes:

https://www.test-iq.org/?gclid=Cj0KCQjw0rr4BRCtARIsAB0_48Onx5wSK-FUzbi6PtLIHvCdfDLGeRTAiQIScJ3h5aYszl_LsNayRNgaAhwJEALw_wcB

Oddbox by Gonzalez, Bob



Museum of Bene-Israel Prayer books

बेन-इस्त्राएल प्रार्थना पुस्तकांचे संग्रहालय

מוזיאון לספרי תפילה של בני ישראל

Phone/ Whatapp: 0543046072/+972543046072



I Avichai Bahastaker live in “Kiryat Arba” with my wife Leora Bahastakar and four children. There’s a diverse population here. Russians, Bene-Menashe of Manipur, Sephardi and Ashkenazi along with secular and religious population. We all get along with lots of love and respect. We have contact with the Arab population in the region, and with some we are in good relations and work together in gardening and construction. A place not far from Jerusalem and Be'er Sheva and half hour away from Kiryat Gat.

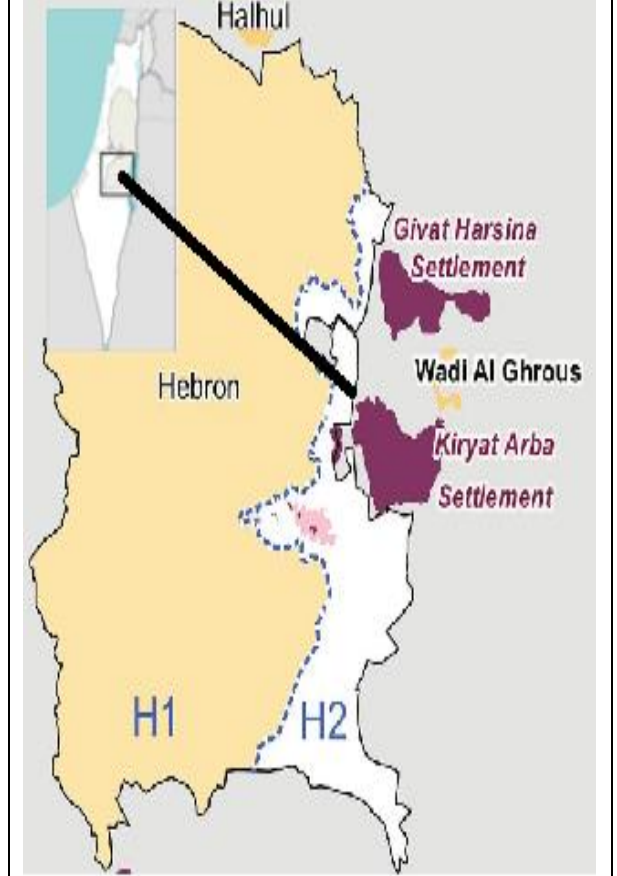
We (Avachai & Leora) collect Bene-Israel Prayer books and religious material. We already have around 400 books. We are planning to create an on-line Museum of PDF or these books for the benefit for the future generations of Bene-Israel Heritage

Small History of Kiryat Arba:

Kiryat Arba is mentioned in the [Hebrew Bible](#) as the former name of Hebron and as the place where [Abraham's](#) wife, [Sarah](#), has died: "And Sarah died at Kiriath-arba (that is, Hebron)" ([Genesis 23:2](#)). The [Book of Joshua](#) says: "Now the name of Hebron formerly was Kiriath-arba; this Arba was the greatest man among the Anakim." ([Joshua 14:15](#)).^[4] It is also a place listed as [Nehemiah](#) as where some of the people of Judah are living. There is no reference to Hebron in Nehemiah.^[5] (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kiryat_Arba)

If you have old Marathi prayer and religious books , please send it to the following address:

Avihay Bastekar, 137/3, Harav Zvi Yehuda Kook street., Mailbox 2044, Kiryat Arba 9010000, Israel



मी अविचाई बहास्तेकर माझी पत्नी लिओरा बहास्तकर आणि चार मुलांसह 'किरीयत अरबा' मध्ये राहतो. इथे वैविध्यपूर्ण लोकसंख्या आहे. धर्मनिरपेक्ष आणि धार्मिक लोकसंख्येसह मणिपूरचे बेन-मेनाशे, सेफर्डि आणि अशकेनाझी. आपण सर्वजण भरपूर प्रेम आणि आदरासोबत जातो.

आमचा या भागातील अरब जनतेशी संपर्क आहे आणि काहीशी आमचे चांगले संबंध आहेत आणि बागकाम आणि बांधकामक्षेत्रात एकत्र काम करत आहोत. जेरुसलेम आणि बीअर शेवा पासून काही अंतरावर आणि किरयत गॅटपासून अर्धा तास अंतरावर आहे.

आपण बेन-इस्राएल प्रार्थना पुस्तके आणि धार्मिक साहित्य गोळा करतो. आमच्याकडे आधीच सुमारे ४०० पुस्तकं आहेत. बेन-इस्रायल हेरिटेजच्या भावी पिढ्यांच्या फायद्यासाठी पीडीएफचे ऑनलाइन संग्रहालय किंवा ही पुस्तके तयार करण्याचा आमचा विचार आहे.

कृपया तुमच्याकडे असलेली सर्व जुनी पुस्तके आम्हाला पाठवा. आमचा पत्ता:

Avihay Bastekar, 137/3, Harav Zvi Yehuda Kook street., Mailbox 2044, Kiryat Arba 9010000, Israel

किरयत अरबाचा इतिहास:

किरयत अरबा: इब्री बायबलमध्ये किरयत अरबाचा उल्लेख हेब्रॉनचे पूर्वीचे नाव आणि अब्राहामाची पत्नी सारा हिचा मृत्यू झाला आहे.

אני אביחי בהסטקר מתגורר בקריית ארבע עם אשתי ליאורה באהסטקאר וארבעה ילדים. . יש כאן אוכלוסייה מגוונת רוסים, בני מנשה ממניפור, ספרדים ואשכנזים יחד עם אוכלוסייה חילונית ודתית. כולנו מסתדרים. עם הרבה אהבה וכבוד יש לנו קשר עם האוכלוסייה הערבית באזור, ועם כמה אנחנו ביחסים טובים ועובדים יחד בגינון ובבנייה. מקום לא רחוק מירושלים ומבאר שבע וחצי שעה מקריית גת. בפרוייקט החל לפני 4 שנים. פתחנו שתי קבוצה בוואטצאפ

1.קבוצה ללימוד פיוטים ושירים במראטי או בעברית שעברו במשפחות וללמד ולתעד בדורות הבאים. יש בקבוצה כ250 איש מהודו מקנדה ומהארץ מהצפון עד הדרום. ומתכתבים בה באנגלית ובעברית. כבר פרסמנו כ3000 שירים במסורת בני ישראל במראטי ובעברית. ונשמרים בספרייה הלאומית ובמכון יד בן צבי.

2.קבוצה ללימוד מנהגים של הקהילה הודו בני ישראל. בקבוצה ישנם חזנים מכל הארץ וחוקרים. ושואלים שאלה ומקבלים תשובות מהחזנים והחוקרים. כבר פרסמנו עלון אחד והשני כרגע בעריכה.

1.אנחנו מחפשים אנשים שיש להם ספרים ישנים וחוברות במראטי מהודו. מזוזות מסמכים פנקסים מבתי הכנסת שבהודו וכתבי יד של המשפחה שלכם. קלטות וסלילים כדי לשמר את שם ההורים שלכם. וכדי לחקור את מנהגינו.

2. אנשים שידועים חזנות או שירים במסורת בני ישראל במראטי או מנגינות שלמדתם מההורים ושעוברים בהמשפחה שלכם לצורך תיעוד ושימור לדורות הבאים.

אפשר לדבר: ב0543046072

אימייל: Bastekeer@gmail.com		
A project of the cantorial and the Jewish customs of India, the Bene Israel. A name for the purpose of issuing and publishing:	भारतातील छत्री आणि यहूदी प्रथांचा प्रकल्प, बेन इस्रायल. जारी करण्याच्या आणि प्रकाशित करण्याच्या उद्देशासाठी नाव:	פרוייקט תיעוד חזנות ומנהגים יהדות הודו בני ישראל שברשות אביחי בסטקר. שם למטרה להוציא ולפרסם:
A. The Jewish prayer recordings of India, the Bene Israel Holidays, and the holy days.	उत्तर: भारताचे यहूदी प्रार्थना रेकॉर्डिंग्ज, बेन इस्राएल सुट्ट्या आणि पवित्र दिवस.	א. הקלטות תפילות יהדות הודו בני ישראל חגים ימים נוראים שבת וכו'.
B. Recorded in the India tradition, the Bene Israel dirges.	भारतीय परंपरेत नोंदवलेले बी. बेन इस्रायल चे दबदबा आहे.	ב. הקלטת קינות ט באב במסורת הודו בני ישראל.
C. To publish the recordings in the Marrati, the Jews of the India tradition.	सी. भारतीय परंपरेतील ज्यू मराठी मध्ये रेकॉर्डिंग्ज प्रकाशित करण्यासाठी.	ג. לפרסם הקלטות במראטי שירת נשים במסורת הודו בני ישראל.
4. The elder recordings and the committee graduates are stories and traditions and songs in the Marathi and Hebrew to preserve and investigate so that it is not too late.	४. वडील रेकॉर्डिंग्ज आणि समितीचे पदवीधर हे मराठी आणि हिब्रू भाषेतील कथा, परंपरा आणि गाणी आहेत जेणेकरून फार उशीर होणार नाही.	ד. הקלטות זקני ומבוגרי העדה סיפורים ומנהגים ושירים במראטי ובעברית כדי לשמר ולחקור כדי שלא יהיה מאוחר מדי.
E. Publication of the weekly Parshat Hashavua in the Israel-India Mangini, the Israelites, in preparation for bar Mitzvah.	ई. बार मित्त्ववाहच्या तयारीसाठी इस्रायल-भारत मांगिनी येथील परशात हाशवुआ या साप्ताहिकाचे प्रकाशन.	ה. פרסום הקלטות פרשת השבוע במנגינת הודו בני ישראל כהכנה לבר מצווה.
F. Publishing books and brochures and customs and history.	एफ. पुस्तके, माहितीपत्रके, चालीरीती आणि इतिहास प्रकाशित करणे.	ו. פרסום ספרים וחברות ומנהגים והיסטוריה.



The contribution of Indian Jews to Israel

By Nissim Moses

LITTLE DO the people of Israel and world Jewry know that the Jews of India, known as Bene Israel, were actively involved with fructifying their dream of a return to Zion way back from about 1830.

The Bene Israel played an important role in the creation and development of modern Israel from before the establishment of the state in 1948. They participated in activities in support of Jews suffering during the pogroms in Czarist Russia. They were also the first to revive the teaching of spoken Hebrew as a second language at the matriculation and collegiate level in India, way before Eliezer Ben-Yehuda, who started in only 1880.

Bene Israel community members visited Jerusalem and Israel from the late 1800s and early 1900s. They donated money toward building a well and plaque at Rachel's Tomb and they served in Indian contingents during World War I in Palestine.

of their tact and pleasantness – lived unharmed among all communities in total harmony with their neighbors as Jews and rose to the highest rank in India in every field – never being harmed or persecuted by antisemites.

Indian Jewish communities have produced distinguished person in every field. Our doctors, teachers, engineers, architects, lawyers and military officers were the leading personnel in their fields.

In the early part of the 20th century, many Bene Israel became active in the new film industry, as actors, producers and directors. After Israel was established, most Bene Israel moved to the Jewish state. Today there are an estimated 5,000 members of Bene Israel left in India, while the community in Israel numbers more than 60,000.

They were the only community that returned to Israel of their own free will, and not because of a need for survival. ■



Lt. Ellis Ashton (known as 'Hodi') was killed while fighting for the Hagana

After World War II, Lt. Ellis Ashton of the 3rd Maratha Light Infantry Regiment became a prominent fighter in the Hagana and given the code-name "Hodi" (meaning Indian in Hebrew). He smuggled in Polish Jewish refugees to Israel through Iraq, issuing them false documents and raiding British arms and weapons depots. He made the "ultimate sacrifice" and was killed in action when he was betrayed by a spy in the Hagana to the British, and was posthumously honored with a medal for gallantry and service to the State of Israel.

His story is one of many other unpublicized stories of assistance given in the past to Israel by Indian Jews. Two brothers, Col. Gabriel Ashton and Maj. Jacky Ashton, rose to senior positions in the IDF just after Israel's independence. Today, more than seven senior well-known retired officers of the Indian Armed Forces who were from various Indian Jewish communities live in Israel. In addition, some 135 Indian Jewish youth made the ultimate sacrifice in the defense of Israel. Many Bene Israel have risen to senior ranks in the Israeli army and other fields in spite of rampant discrimination. In India, the Bene Israel community and people – because

The writer is a historian and genealogist of the Bene Israel community of India

Original Photo



Enhanced & Colorized



WISDOM AND GEMS

The visit of the Kamarlekar family to Jerusalem in about 1902 (photograph enhanced and colored by the author)

Indian Jewish Federation

Advt. DAVID MOSES TALEGAONKAR



I am giving a short introduction of the Indian Jewish Federation.

"The Indian Jewish Federation" with the aim to give effective expression to the views and aspirations of the Indian Jews and strive for their social, educational, economic and political elevation and advancement in all spheres of life. One of its objects was to provide co-ordination and communications network between Jews and Jewish Institutions in India and outside India, including Israel.

We, the Indian Jews have shown to the world that even though we were isolated for centuries, we kept our faith in our religion alive (Shaniwar Teli). Now most of us are in Israel and other countries of the world. Our aim is to not allow our Institutions in India for which our forefathers have toiled to become extinct and to do our best to preserve and strengthen them so that our descendants can visit them and be inspired by our rich heritage.

As first step the Indian Jewish Federation took up the issue of declaring and to notify "Jews" as a minority. This issue has been raised by numerous institutions and associations since 1950 onwards, but we pursued it and by an order dt. 2nd July, 2016, passed under Section 2(d) of the Maharashtra State Minorities Commission Act, 2004, the Jews of Maharashtra was declared as a minority community in Maharashtra, and a notification was issued accordingly by the State Government of Maharashtra. Similarly, the First International Bene Israel Festival which was held in Mumbai in Sir Elly Kadoorie School premises on 15th January, 2015, due to the efforts and commitment of the Indian Jewish Federation, towards preserving and strengthening the rich and unique heritage of Indian Jews, for generations to come.

The Indian Jewish Federation has for the last three years felicitated the scholars amongst the Jewish Community in India, and especially the students who have passed the S.S.C. exams scoring more than 90% Mark's. This is with a view to encourage the students to excel in their academic studies.

In the next column I will cover the "I vision conference" and the first Tu Bish community Malida held in Mumbai and the other activities of Indian Jewish Federation.

Advocate DAVID MOSES TALEGAONKAR, Hon. SECRETARY of Indian Jewish Federation

AJDC - Bayiti -

Bayiti (In Hebrew My Home) is the *Jewish Home for the aged* situated in Navi Mumbai-Panvel.

Elijah Jacob



Bayiti is presently located on the third floor of Hari Om Vruddhashram ,Plot no:16, Sector 13,Khanda Colony, New Panvel. Pincode : 400206.Tel no: 022-27481575.

It is presently supported by the AJDC, India and the Indian Joint Trust.

The present premises is 2200sq. feet and has 6 living rooms for elderly residents, a medical room ,a spacious hall and an attached balcony / terrace which is converted into a make shift pantry and dining hall.

Prior to its establishment, the elderly were housed in a run-down building at the Beth Israel Home at Agripada. In November 1996, the AJDC under the leadership of Mr.Elijah Jacob started a Jewish Old Age Home at Thane. It was a 2 storey row house (No. 46) with a garage on the ground floor which was also converted and made a part of the home. It was looked after by a resident manager along with 3 other caretakers / attendants. Due to budget cuts in the year 2008 the Bayiti old age home was relocated to Panvel in order to cut down on the rental costs.



Residents with the Volunteers during the arts and craft activity on Mitzvah Day

Currently we have 11 residents
(9 ladies and 2 gents.)

Do visit Bayiti when you visit Beth El Synagogue
The elderly residents will be delighted to meet you and your family's

15 Minutes

Panvel



We are able to recover part of the expenses from some residents for their upkeep through the pensions they receive. We also solicit donations towards the upkeep of our elderly destitute residing in Bayiti. The local youth through JYP make a yearly contribution to Bayiti from the fundraising event –Khai Fest they hold every year during Hannukah festival.



Dr. Ruby Ezekiel taking Physio-therapy session with the residents.

IOBI

We have asked the IOBI management to send us details of their activity over the last three months. Until this issue was sent out, no information was sent, while all others did send details of their activities.

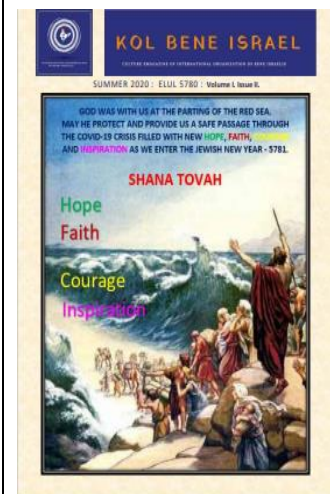
From the Bene-Israel community social networks following were the activities of IOBI over last 3 months.

1. Essay Completion Results
2. Diet Zoom meeting
3. Issuing their second e-newsletter Kol Bene Israel
4. IOBI has launched its internet site.

The questions of the community still remain un-replied by IOBI

1. Please disclose to the community the registration documents of IOBI as NGO/Amuta in Israel?
2. Who are the 14 people who signed on behalf of the Bene-Israel Community?
3. What is the name of the NGO on registered documents?
4. Who is the lawyer?
5. Who is the accountant?
6. How is IOBI paying for the Internet site and its daily/monthly maintenance? From what funds?

Few of the Bene-Israel would like to ask why a **Passover image** is used for **New Year** on newsletter.



BJP's Jewish Minority Leader in Maharashtra

Sassoon Phanspurkar
Shiffron Pezarkar (for Pune)



BJP Team has been very busy during these last three months in many activates;

1. The team helped the immigrants who were stuck in India to leave for Israel in one of the Rescue flights.
2. The team has be helping AJDC in finding genuine cases of needy Bene-Israel families for help.
3. The team helped in Shaniwar Teli project of "Adopt a needy family " where needy families is receiving help for few months from families outside India. This project was initiated by "Shaniwar Teli" Mr. Sassoon Phanspurkar's post on need for helping BI people who have lost jobs for over four months and have no source of income.
4. BJP's Pune representative Shiffron Pezarkar has been speaking about not having a local kosher butcher in Pune.
5. The team has been arranging Sliichot prayer zoom meetings.
6. This team has its finger on the pulse of the community from helping needy family to arranging kosher meat.

Post of Sassoon Phanspurkar of 5 Aug. 2020 that initiated Shaniwar Teli's project of 'Adopt a Needy family in India" (within 1 month some 90 families were helped by this project for 4 to 6 months)

Dear Respected Community Members, Shalom / Namastey,I just need your attention towards some Burning issues of our Middle class people. During this Covid Pandemic situation many people have lost their jobs or their small businesses and many families are facing financial problems. Middle class are very sensitive people and they don't shows their problems in public. During this difficult time I have seen only AJDC came forward for supporting such people. It's really appreciating work done by the AJDC. Even then there are still many people, young as well as senior citizens who are short of financial support. So it is my sincere request to All Synagogues and Jewish trust, Institutions, etc. to come forward and help the genuine needy people. We can provide you with their names, mobile number address, Bank details etc for verification and genuinity. Please think generously and try to help in this critical situation. This initiative can also help your religious trust or institutions in saving tax liabilities. This is my personal request to you all. Sassoon Samson E. Phanspurkar 🕊️🕊️🕊️🕊️🕊️

☐ 🌸🌸🌸 Thanks & God Bless .

Post of Sassoon Phanspurkar of Sep. 9, 2020

Good news for the people of our Jewish community of Pune.

After having talks and arrangements made by Mr Sassoon Phansapurkar from Mumbai and myself Shiffron Pezarkar from Pune for getting Kosher goat meat and kosher Chicken for us all in Pune for our coming New Year, Hajjan David Pezarkar from Mumbai will be coming to Pune on 13th September 2020 morning along with Mr Sassoon Phansapurkar to cut and provide us with Kosher meat and chicken. The venue of the shop where it will be cut and provided will be informed to you in advance. Please contact me - Shiffron Pezarkar on my mob no 9890611982.

Sept. 14, 2020 – In Pune Haijan Pezarkar (with kitchen wear) with Sassoon Phansapurkar (Middle) and Shiffron Pezarkar (last on right).



ORT India
(Organization for Rehabilitation through Training)
Johnny Jhiradkar



In addition to the scholarships given by ORT for classrooms (face to face), extra-curricular activities, professional courses-entrance exams, on-line studies and skills development courses during the year 2020-21; ORT India has new plans to sponsor **Laptop**, **Tabletop**, and **Tablet** computers for students.

Rules are as follows

Notice for Ort Educational Scholarships for academic year 2020-2021

- The Grants will be given at actuals but up to a maximum limit for totality of classroom and online Education costs during the year
- For Online Education 50% of the receipt amount will be paid by Ort. When verified true copy of Certificate is produced the complete remaining 50% amount will be paid by Ort.
- ORT will support only online education course that is of core nature for a student's studies/working people to enhance/change their careers.
- Students should enroll in quality institutions.
- Students requiring **Laptops**, **Tabletops** or **Tablets** as a requirement for study, as per the specification by the Institution, will be eligible to get laptop cost, separately at cost, but up to a limit, once in three years, on returnable basis. Maximum one laptop will be given per family. The specification given by the college as well as the receipt of purchase has to be submitted.
- The students needing support having free ship in Jacob Sasoon school will be paid Rs.15,000/- each without asking for receipts.
- The scholarships are applicable for Indian nationality students but Indian students studying abroad can also apply. The same rules and limits will be applicable.
- Up to two cultural or sports or leadership extra-curricular activity can be supported within the overall limit, at actuals.
- Scholarships are also applicable within overall limit towards training for entrance exams and entrance exams themselves for admission to professional courses like engineering, medical etc.

For applying, visit : <http://ortindia.org/>



Australia Solomon Erulkar

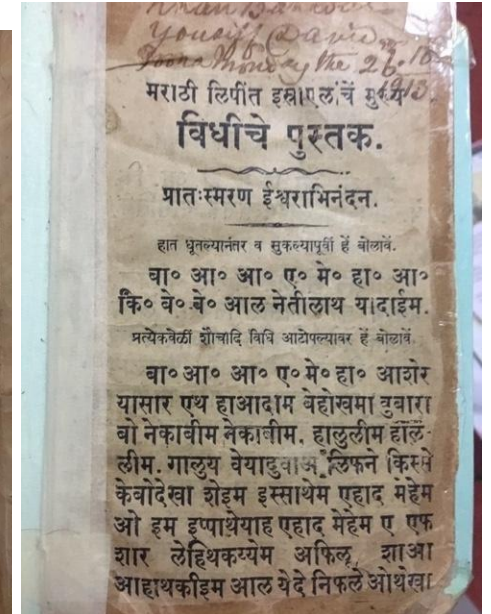
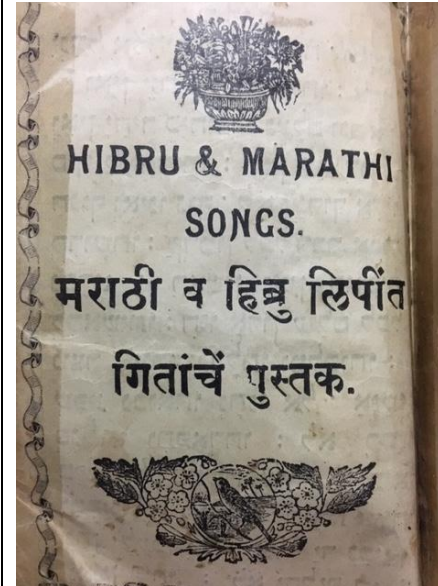


Last few months that has gone by in Melbourne, it's been a difficult time with the current lockdown and curfew restrictions.

With Rosh Hashanah, just around the corner things are going to be very different. We are currently focusing on ensuring that everyone in our families are healthy and getting the help they need. We have been keeping in touch over the phone or via the internet. We all hope that the coming year will be a better one.

With more time being spent at home I have been looking into our family history, photographs and documents. My family has been helping me put together our family tree. I was lucky to find documents that go back 8 or 9 generations. Also tracked down some old religious books and documents of our Bene Israel families from Bombay, Ahmedabad and Poona. It's a very intriguing and fascinating situation as last few months have freed up my time to look into my Bene Israel family history.

We all here in Melbourne wish you Shana Tov and all the best in the future.



Raigad District

Advocate Herzl Bhonkar



During Tishab Ab this year I tried to investigate what was the connection between Birda (Bidda for BI) and “Bidda Cha Roza” and how did it got connected to the Tishab Ab?

I found a few very interesting explanation;

1. This explanation was given by a BI speaker during my visit to Israel;

The word Birda/Bidda is the twisted / slang of the Hebrew term; בִּירִידָה (going down). This term is used when you leave Israel. When you immigrate to Israel it is termed as עֲלִיָּה (going up).

2. This explanation was Mr. Saul Aptaker (on Face Book /Whatapp)

“According to the Bene Israel's own oral tradition, we are descendants from “seven couples” the sole survivors of a shipwreck off the Navagaon coast Raigad, south of Mumbai, Maharashtra, India. They headed to the jungle for food, knowing that they were far from inhabited. After a brief search, they found Sprouted Wal means birda. That day was 9th of Av. So important was this humble reminder of survival that we even named the day after it, in Marathi. “Birda Cha Roza” (Roza= Fast) means Sprouted Val's Fast. From that year, till today we have been eating birda at the end of the 9th of Av fast, as a reminder of a miracle and rescue from the sea surges. With Puri that reminds us of roundness, the shape that appeals to our ideas about the shape of the year. It goes, and returns to where it started. I will conclude with the famous quote: “People without a past, it has no future.”

3. This explanation was given Mrs. Sinhora Sassoon / Moses

As per my knowledge the Konkan local people fed our ancestors their first meal which consisted of the birda.

So I was not able to establish answers with certainty for both my question.

1. I could not establish why Birda become part of our tradition as “Bidda Cha Roza”
2. I could not establish what is the connection between “Bidda Cha Roza” and Fast of Tishab Ab?

If someone can help explain, please write to me at; shaniwarteli@gmail.com





Oren
Benjamin

Aliyah to Israel

(The printed part of this message is printed as received. No changes are made)

*Jewish Agency Official representatives Shirley Palkar & Oren Benjamin
via WhatsApp +972-54-760-9799.*



Shirley Palkar



**Thinking about Aliyah to Israel? Looking to find
information on life opportunities in Israel?**

**Our official representatives Shirley Palkar & Oren
Benjamin will be happy to help and guide you through
Aliyah process.**

You may contact Oren using WhatsApp +972-54-760-9799.

**The Jewish Agency's Global Service Center is also here to
help.**

The Global Service Center operates Sunday through Thursday

08:00-21:00 Israel time, and Friday's from 08:00-13:30 Israel time.

Please contact us using our toll-free number: 0-00127 Code 2096.

You can also reach the Global Service Center via email by writing to

gci-en@jafi.org

General Aliyah process:

Contact Oren and Shirley - WhatsApp +972-54-760-9799.

1. Set up an Aliyah file with the Global Service Center {as listed above}
 - Fill out an online questionnaire.
 - Submit copies of required documentation,
2. Personal Aliyah interview with one of our official representatives
3. Application review by our professional department.
4. Aliyah approval.
 5. Arrange your Aliyah visa.
 6. Arrange your free Aliyah flight ticket to Israel.
 7. Arrive in Israel and become an oleh [new immigrant]

**** the listed information in the General Aliyah process section may change
according to personal circumstances and background. For more information
please reach out to our official representatives Shirley Palkar & Oren Benjamin
via WhatsApp +972-54-760-9799.**

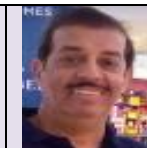
העסקן 3, קרית מוריה, ירושלים 9378010 | ט 972 2 620 4292 | jewishagency.org | 3 Haaskan Street Kiryat Moriya, Jerusalem 9378010

הסוכנות היהודית ממומנת על ידי הפדרציות היהודיות - צפון אמריקה/המגבית המאוחדת לישראל, קרן היסוד, קרנות ותורמים פרטיים מישראל ומרחבי העולם.

The Jewish Agency is funded by the Jewish Federations of North America/UIA, Keren Hayesod as well as foundations and individual donors from Israel and around the world.

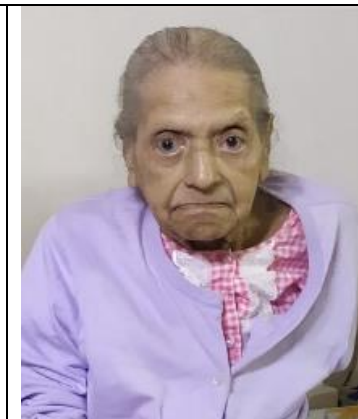
Pune

Reuben Daniel



Dr. Diana Reuben Nowgaokar, 96 years old.

The Jewish community of Pune have been fortunate enough to have Dr. (Miss) Diana Reuben Nowgaokar, MBBS, in their midst who was a practicing doctor, family physician and gynaecologist. She has treated the Jewish community of Pune free of cost for more than 60 years. She was very soft spoken and used to solve health related problems faced by countless patients including many Jewish families with empathy and understanding. For her relentless services she was felicitated by Magen Hassidim Synagogue, Mumbai. She was born on 6th March 1924, the second of 10 siblings, the eldest was Judah Reuben Nowgaokar a renowned test cricket umpire who umpired matches between India and other cricketing nations like Australia, England, West Indies, Shri Lanka etc., her Father was inspector in the police department during the British regime. She completed her MBBS in the year 1950, from BJ Medical College, the only medical College in Pune at that time.



After completing her internship from Saason Hospital in Pune. She had three clinics in various places in Pune. Finally the Jewish community decided to give one of its property which was very close to the synagogue on rent to her to be used as clinic for Jewish people. She continued her practice till the age of 80- 85 years of age, after which she started consultation from home free of cost.

On the 11 of May 2020 (17 Iyar 5780) she left for her heavenly abode and was interred on 18 Iyar 5780 (Bar Yo-Hai Day) at the Jewish cemetery at Koregaon Park, Pune in the presence of Rabbi Kupchick, his wife and son, Secretary of the Succath Shelomo Synagogue, Mr. Yosef Daniel Nowgaokar and his family, including the younger brother of Dr. Diana, Capt. Aaron Reuben Nowgaokar, a retired soldier from the Indian Army, who fought the 1965 war against Pakistan along with his wife Mrs. Aaron Reuben Nowgaokar. Many other reputed personalities were present to pay their last respects to the departed soul. She leaves behind three brothers and two sisters and countless nephews and nieces.

On behalf of the Jewish community from all over the world let us pray for this noble soul to rest in peace in the Garden of Eden. Barukh Dayan Ha Amet. Amen.

She leaves behind three brothers and two sisters and countless nephews and nieces.

On behalf of the Jewish community from all over the world let us pray for this noble soul to rest in peace in the Garden of Eden.

Barukh Dayan Ha Amet. Amen.



LOOKING FORWARD TO A CENTURY

Aditya Waikeul



The small congregation at the 98-year-old Succath Shelomo Synagogue in Rasta Peth has remained active, and the synagogue continues to operate with regular prayer services. It stands on land owned by Subedar Major Solomon Balaji Jhiradkar. Work began on the building on December 28, 1919, and it was dedicated on May 21, 1921 and named Succath Shelomo, Hebrew for temporary structure or booth for peace

Get Ready to Meet in Pune in 2021

Canada

Abraham Samson Mabgaokar



On September 13, 2020 Mr. Joshua Daniel (Shriwardhankar) , gave us Bene-Israel Indian Jews all over the world , a live classic rendition of Selichot services, complete with our traditional vibrant ancient Indian tunes, un-matched by any other Jewish community (I have attended services in various congregations, so I can vouch). Please click the recording at You-tube link below. I sincerely pray such rich traditions of Indian Jewish heritage will not die down.

The melodious tunes sung, reminds you of the good old days of the synagogue services in Mumbai. For old-timers it is definitely - a trip to Nostalgia !

YouTube Link: https://youtu.be/T-zbSz_zGCQ



Mr. Joshua Daniel (Shriwardhankar)

Joshua, 67, lives in Thornhill Ontario, is someone who many in Israel may know, with a melodious cantorial voice, led the Beit-El Synagogue in Kiryat Yam, , in songful prayers as a Chazan and a Baal Koreh (Laining Torah) from 1973 to 1991. He immigrated to Canada in 1992, is married to Miriam (daughter of Elijah and Erusha Hyams, Z"L (Kehimkar) – one of the founders of Congregation BINA IN 1978. We have another Congregation called B.I.C – Bene Israel Congregation founded in 2012). Joshua has continued his tradition and has been leading the annual High Holy Day services in a rented premises for last 27 years, while on a regular basis he lains Torah every Shabbat at another Sephardic Synagogue.

BENE ISRAEL CONGREGATION, 2012 – A BRIEF HISTORY

8 years ago, an Orthodox Indian B.I. Congregation was successfully formed, "Bene Israel Congregation" (BIC) with initiative taken by Mr. Benny Judah (Kasukar) and his wife, Shula. High holy days Services were held in rented premises for the first 5 years. 3 years ago, Mr Snir Yair ben Noel Ghosalkar, (who belonged to an existing orthodox Ashkenazi Shul), floated an idea with his Rabbi there (Yossi Michalowicz) – to create a Sephardic branch. Benny Judah was contacted, he liked the idea, the community liked the idea – it was a dream come true! Result was that we B.Is got our very own Synagogue, 3 years ago – Westmount Sefardic Shul, located just a bit north of Toronto, in Thornhill. Without the unflinching, untiring support and generosity from Rabbi Michalowicz, this would not have been possible.

Next :- Magnificent Sefer Torahs, Siddurim (as per B.I. Minhag), Kisse Eliyahu/Brit-Milah chair and all other infrastructure needed were acquired, with generous donations from our community. We also have our own Sephardic Rabbi and spiritual leader (Mordechai Sevy) who is always present to guide the community, present at every prayer services and community functions and give serious thought provoking Divrei Torah every Shabbat (laced with his typical humor) Shabbat services are held in this synagogue every week , so also Yom Tov , Selichot services during Elul (begins every morning at 5 am, followed by Shaharit) and the most elaborate High Holy day services. All services in typical Indian traditions. Westmount Sefardic Shul, 10 Disera Dr., Thornhill, ON L4J0A7. Tel : Benny Judah (Kasukar) +1 416 878 8914

Indian Jewish Heritage Center- IJHC



We had asked for information but we did not receive any response.

These groups, as you all know deals with all Indian origin Jewish Heritages while we at Shainwar Teli are interested only in Bene-Israel activities.

You will find their activities at their website at <https://www.facebook.com/indianjews>

Congregation BINA , A Community of Jews from India

<https://www.congregationbina.ca/binaliveevents/>



We are delighted to announce that our High Holidays this year will be streamed on YouTube Live. Please join us by clicking the button below at the specified time. Congregation BINA High Holiday Schedule.

Event	Day and Date	Time
<u>Erev</u> Rosh Hashanah	Friday, September 18, 2020	7:00 pm (approximately 1 hour)
Rosh Hashanah (1st Day)	Saturday, September 19, 2020	9:00 am (approximately 2-3 hours)
Rosh Hashanah (2nd Day)	Sunday, September 20, 2020	9:00 am (approximately 2-3 hours)
<u>Erev</u> Yom Kippur	Sunday, September 27, 2020	6:00 pm (approximately 3 hours)
Yom Kippur (<u>Shacharith</u> and <u>Musaf</u>)	Monday, September 28, 2020	8:30 am (approximately 4 hours)
Yom Kippur (<u>Arbith</u>)	Monday, September 28, 2020	6:00 pm (approximately 3 hours)

It will be nice if you can attend the services in a synagogue. If not you can join these services to be held in Toronto, Canada.

Please forward the information to other Bene Israeli families that you may know in the US. Thanks.

I am pleased to forward the details of the upcoming Congregation BINA High Holiday Prayers (Toronto, Canada) to be streamed live on YouTube for those in the Eastern TimeZone or close to it. (all times are in EST)

Please note that Congregation BINA is now an Egalitarian Conservative Congregation and as such women will be reading as well as being counted in the Minyan.

Thank you,

Steve Charkar
scharikar@gmail.com

Canada



Oren Benjamin

Aliyah to Israel

(The printed part of this message is printed as received. No changes are made)

*Jewish Agency Official representatives Shirley Palkar & Oren Benjamin
via WhatsApp +972-54-760-9799.*



Shirley Palkar

We are pleased that finally Oren and Shirley have taken the initiative to let Bene-Israel community members know what they are doing for the community. We have been insisting with them that they have to be more vocal but Oren & Shirley normally preferred to keep quite as they kept saying we don't need any publicity. But we all know how their efforts were taken advantage of, by others taking credit of their work. Here below see the history of their work with the Bene-Israel community. In fact we too were surprised to read some of the wonderful work they have done for the community. These things can not be kept on quite. The community has to know. It is their right. Shaniwar -Teli e-newsletter.

Dear friends and community members,

Oren Benjamin and myself Shirley Palkar Waskar, started officially volunteering for Jewish Agency from June 2019, and below you will find summary of our volunteering working with the Jewish Agency of one and half year.

Since the first day we started organizing things for aliyah from India. We studied and worked on each individual who wanted to immigrant. Within four months of hard work we were able to get almost twenty four files ready for interviews; some files were pending for almost a year before we took over this work.

Today, out of those twenty four families/individuals fourteen are already in Israel. Many have almost completed their Ulpan studies of six months, some have also started working, few are ready to take next step and waiting for military services. From twenty four applicants fourteen came to Israel remaining eight applicants choose to delay their Aliyah due to their personal reasons and are soon coming to Israel. Remaining two families have not submitted the required documents.

Other than these twenty four files, one Jewish family file was pending due to documents which they were unable to submit. We still did get this file approved from the Jewish agency. Within short time the family was given tickets and all the arrangements were completed. However four days before their Aliyah to Israel we get a call early morning at 5:30 am from

the family son who gave us the sad news that's his mother had passed away. It was just few days ago that Oren and me spoke to this lady on video and she had blessed us for getting their aliyah file approved.

The son expressed his desire to ***bury his mom in Israel***. This situation was different as now we had to get the lifeless body to Israel. It was Thursday with only one last flight in the evening to Israel that week. With lots of communication with Jewish Agency, we were able to get the family and also the body to fly to Israel. Upon arrival to Israel the family had no problems at the Israeli airport as all was well pre-organized, including services of Havrat & Kaddish and they were able to do the last rights in Israel on Friday morning the day they landed in Israel.

A complete lockdown in Israel started on 19/ 20 March 2020 and was eased on 25th May 2020. Even in the Covid19 situation we both were personally in contact with each and every applicant and also with the official authorities and we were finding ways to get those who were already ready to fly. We along with Jewish Agency, had also discussed with Indian govt. authorities for rescue flights. With proper planning, coordination and communication between us and official authorities, airlines and the applicants seven olims were able to come to Israel during July 2020.

You can find an article on official face book page of Jewish Agency

During the lockdown period in Israel we were continuously in touch with the Jewish Agency. After the lock down ended eased by May 2020 we had a meeting with Jewish Agency official authorities to discuss the topic of Zoom Interviews and other open issues. After several meetings and telephone conversations we got green signal for taking Zoom Interviews of ready files from current year. Within one month we have already completed five families/individual Zoom interviews and the summary is already given to the concerned person, among five already three have received their approval and proceeding with the next steps. And soon more official interviews will be conducted by us on Zoom.

Rabbi's Letter- a necessary document for the aliyah file

On one hand Rabbi Benjamin Mehendrekhar had expressed his desire to us to retire from his responsibility of issuing a Judaism proof letter to the aliyah family members (a requirement). On the other hand we came to know from elderly community members that it was very difficult for them to travel all way from a different city to meet Rabbi Benjamin to acquire the Rabbi letter.

We understood this problem from both sides very well, and so after many discussions with the Jewish Agency officials we were able to ***remove this clause of Rabbi Certificate***. Now Jewish documents like (**letter from Synagogue, Ketuba Jewish**

marriage certificate, Circumcision certificate, Bar Mitzvah letter, Bat Mitzvah Letter, Birta (naming of a girl child) **documents** can be used. These documents are thoroughly checked by the Jewish Agency authorities.

Apostille Certificate: (-a legal certification that makes a document from one country valid in another -provided that both are signatories to the 1961 Hague Convention Abolishing the Requirement for Legalization for Foreign Public Documents).

When we came to know the difficulties faced by many Bene-Israel on apostille, Oren got information from Israel of few agencies that will do Apostille without any trouble. There after many of our community members did their Apostille through this contact and have submitted their documents within few days. Please note that Apostille is necessary and compulsory on all civil documents.

Birth Certificate: Another major issue is about Birth Certificate for elderly people who do not have them. We have discussed this with Government authorities in India and hoping to find a solution, and also we are trying our best to remove this requirement which is needed to proceed with the aliyah.

This issue is with Aliyah officials and hope soon it will be solved.

Due to the Current covid 19 situation, the government of India has a new requirement for a person travelling abroad from India. We and Jewish Agency are working together to solve this issue, we are personally in contact with the Aviation ministry of India along with the Israeli Embassy in Delhi. We believe this issue too will be solved soon.

We are getting several phone calls for opening new aliyah file not just from India, but also from Israel, America and Canada. New files have been opened by us, we have given our guarantee on many files opened by children who are in Israel for their parents in India.

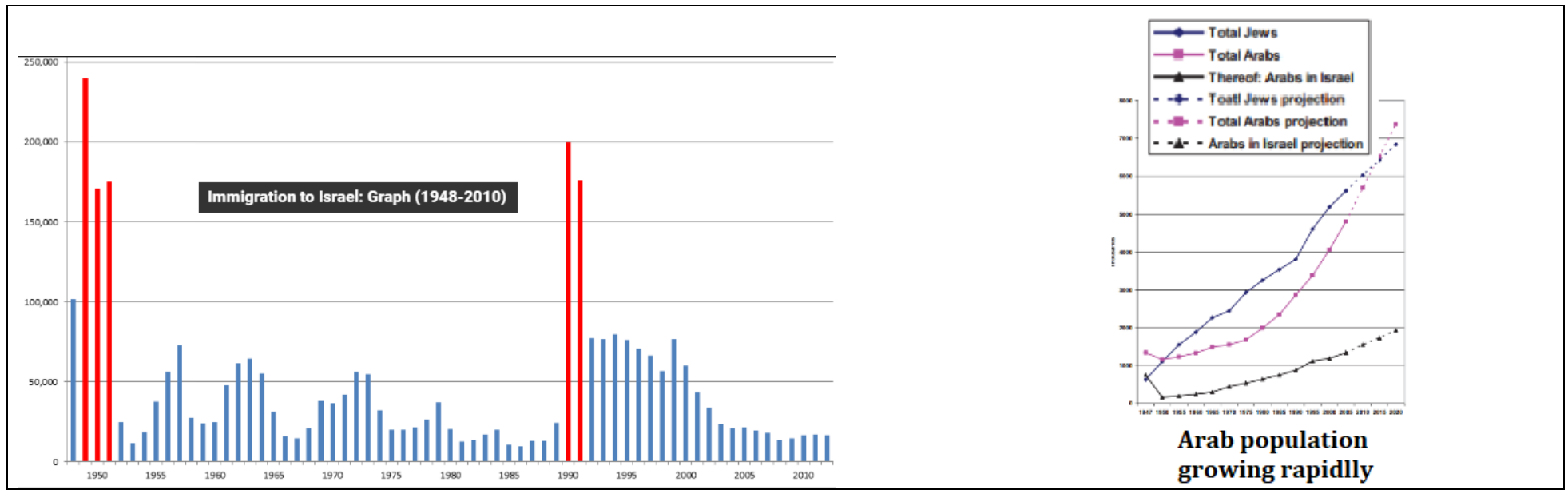
This is possible only because we are able to build a very successful relation with the Jewish Agency. Several families came to Israel within two months after completing their interviews officially with us in Thane. We had also invited all the community members for a discussion regarding aliyah with us in Thane Synagogue and more than 70 to 80 people had attended. We both are always available on WhatsApp email and also on our phones for anyone who needs us, including on Fridays or

Saturdays we providing assistance to the applicants and to the Jewish Agency. We have also helped Bene Israel applicants who already arrived to Israel as tourist or Military program, to complete their aliyah process from Israel itself.

The community members and the applicant needs to understand that **approval rights are only with the Jewish Agency**. It's not us or the local office in Mumbai who **approves** the aliyah. Aliyah approval rights remains **only** with the Jewish Agency. Waiting immigrants need to understand that immigration is a legal process; there are many rules and regulations that need to be followed by everyone. We have not made any rules, we are just following the rules of Jewish Agency. These rules can be changed with no notice. All rights are reserved with Jewish Agency. We were accused by one family for not approving their Aliyah on time, but it is not our fault.

We both work voluntarily with full delicacy, loyalty and transparency. We have invested our time and energy in this without complains. All the information of the Aliyah applicants are confidential and safe, even our family members are unaware of anything on anyone.

We look forward in serving our Bene-Israel Jewish community. **Wishing All A Happy Jewish New Year 5781 from Oren Benjamin and Shirley Waskar Palkar.** Be Safe Be Healthy.



Ashdod

Kolbo Ofra



COVID19 has affected many Bene-Israel families in Ashdod.

Kolbo Ofra is a small Indian Grocery shop run by Ofra and her husband Elizar in the religious area (Ezor Gemmel) in Ashdod.

The first Indian synagogue in Ashdod was built in this area; Magen Haddisim synagogue. The Rabbi of this synagogue is our Bene-Israel; Rabbi Simson Mordechai along with Kolbo Ofra has started a "Help A Needy Family in Ashdod". Every Thursday Rabbi. Mordechai distributes groceries donated by the customers who visit the shop for purchases. When Ofra and Elizer explain to the customer about the donation service, they will donate some items for the needy families; rice, oil, daal, chavali, moong and other food products.

08-8560242, 054-2102717, 057-7432719



COVID19 השפיע קשות על משפחות רבות של בני ישראל באשדוד.

קולבו עפרה היא חנות מכולת הודית קטנה המנוהלת על ידי עפרה ובעלה אליעזר באזור הדתי (עזרגמל) באשדוד. בית הכנסת ההודי הראשון באשדוד נבנה באזור זה; בית הכנסת מגן חדדים. רב בית הכנסת הזה הוא בני ישראל שלנו; הרב סימסון מרדכי יחד עם קולבועפרה הקימו "עזרה למשפחה נעונית באשדוד". כל יום חמישי, רבי. מרדכי מחלק מצרכים שנתרמו על ידי הלקוחות מבקרים בחנות לרכישות. כשאגורה ואליזר יסבירו ללקוח על שירות התרומות, הן יתרמו כמה פריטים למשפחות הנדיות; אורז, שמן, daal, chavali, moong ומוצרי מזון אחרים.

08-8560242, 054-2102717, 057-7432719

(Google Translation)

COVID19 मुळे अशदोडमधील अनेक बेन-इस्राएल कुटुंबांवर वाईट परिणाम झाला आहे.

कोल्बो ओफ्रा हे अशदोडमधील धार्मिक क्षेत्रात (एझोर गॅमेल) ओफ्रा आणि तिचा पती एलिझार यांनी चालवलेले एक छोटेसे भारतीय किराणा दुकान आहे.

अशदोडमधील पहिले भारतीय सभास्थान या भागात बांधण्यात आले; मॅजेन हॅडिसिम सभास्थान. या सभास्थानाचा रब्बी आपला बेन-इस्रायल आहे; कोल्बो ओफ्रासह रब्बी सिमसन मर्दचाई यांनी 'अशदोडमध्ये गरजू कुटुंबाला मदत करा' हा मोर्चा सुरू केला आहे. दर गुरुवारी रब्बी. मर्दखाई खरेदीसाठी दुकानात येणाऱ्या ग्राहकांनी दान केलेल्या किराणा मालाचे वितरण करते. जेव्हा ऑफ्रा आणि एलिझार ग्राहकाला दान सेवेबद्दल समजावून सांगतात तेव्हा ते गरजू कुटुंबांसाठी काही वस्तू दान करतील; तांदूळ, तेल, डाळ, चावली, मूग आणि इतर अन्नपदार्थ. **08-8560242, 054-2102717, 057-7432719**

(Google Translation)

Eliat
Moshe Digodkar



There are no more gathering in the BI community..even for the coming high festivals. There will also be no prayers. Now my dad said that from 1900 PM till 0500 am everything is closed until after festivals. So really I don't know what to send you for the newsletter.

Thane
Samson David Awasker



No information received from Mr. Awasker. Perhaps nothing happened in Thane.

New Zealand,
Yoel Reuben Samson Killeker



No information received from Mr. Killeker.

Shaniwar Teli - Cooking

Ronith Allon Kandlekar



Pudding Halwa

- ✓ You will need: 1 ltr milk, 1.5 cups of sugar, 100gm of Vanilla or any flavor of your choice pudding that can be cooked on heat, 1/4th tsp cardamom powder, 50gms of butter.
- ✓ For Garnishing: Blanched and thinly sliced almonds, Pistachios and some Poppy seeds.
***You can also use raisins and cashew or any other dry fruits as per you choice.
- ❖ Directions: In a pot that you will cook in, add the milk, pudding and sugar. Mix well till there are no lumps. Place the pot on the gas and cook on medium flame while stirring continuously from the bottom. Make sure it does not stick to the pot. Once it starts to thicken, add in the cardamom powder and butter and stir vigorously. Now need to be very fast while stirring to make sure it's not sticking to the bottom. At this point, you can also add in some of the dry fruits and any food color if you wish to. To check if it's ready, take out some of the batter onto a plate and if after some time it's not sticking to the plate and can be lifted easily as whole, then it's ready. If not, then cook for another 5 mins or so and check again. Once ready, pour it onto a wide flat platter and tap the platter to bring it to even layer and garnish with your desired garnishing as mentioned above. Let it cool on room temperature for at least 1 hour. Then cut it into desired shape and size and serve. Enjoy!

Shanah Tova & Chag Sameach to everyone!



Classified

Matrimonial	BI 30 5'2" girl Graduate Working. Grew up in India, now living in Israel looking for suitable for marriage. Only serious. Call/Whatapp: +972 50-261-3111	BI 34 5'2" girl Graduate Working. Grew up and living in Pune, looking for suitable for marriage. Only serious. Contact: shaniwarteli@gmail.com	BI 34, tall, fair, slim working in IT Canada looking for below 38, 5'8" educated from good family. Only serious. Contact: shaniwarteli@gmail.com
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Matrimonial	BI 60 5'5" man from Israel never married looking for Marathi speaking BI women for live-in / friendship and share live together. Whatapp: +972544940985	BI man 38, 1.72 cm from Israel working with Electronic keeps Sabbath working, looking for religious girl for marriage. Contact Diana: 055-6888672	BI 32 with slightly dyslexia 1.70 cm is looking for girl with small disability. Boy has his apartment and gets monthly national support. Contact: Shaniwarteli@gmail.com
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Business	Kolbo Ophra in Ashdod 08-8560242, 054-2102717, 057-7432719	Beautiful Cotton Housecoats and Night dresses in Israel. Contact Danny on Whatapp: 054-4940985/08540945	Travel to & from Lod Airport call me, Yona Dhokarkar: 050-8511550/+972508511550 Malida at Cave of Elijah, Western Wall, Eilat, Both Small and large cars/vans
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We are looking for a Bene-Israel voluntary representative from

Gujarat, Bombay, Thane, Dimona, Yehucham, Beer-Sheva, Ramle-Lod, Petak-Tiqva and other places where there is a concentration of Bene-Israel community.

Please contact us: shaniwarteli@gmail.com

We are also looking for Bene-Israel voluntary representatives for

Creating & Managing Shaniwar Teli Website

Managing our FACEBOOK

Contact us at: shaniwarteli@gmail.com

We are looking for help in Hebrew and Marathi articles. More writers are also welcome.

Thank you to all who sent us the matter to make this issue possible

To Our Readers

1. Please send us your letters and articles to email: shaniwartali@gmail.com
2. Write to us about any BI business you run and would like to advertise free
3. Please send us matrimonial to add to the classified poems and stories (Marathi English Hebrew)
4. All your suggestions are welcome
5. Not every letter or articles or other items received by us can be printed.
6. We are BI Family e-newsletters. No criticism please. We only appreciate work of all BI.
7. No disputes. If there are differences of opinion, that will always remain and respected.
8. Please excuse us if you find any mistakes. We tried our best.

Disclaimer

No one of us who are offering this voluntary service in creating this Bene-Israel Family Newsletter is responsible for any wrong or misleading information. All has been done only with good intention. No money is involved. This is only for private circulation. Only purpose of creating this newsletter is to increase communications between Bene-Israel's in the world.

**Coming Dead Line to submit matter for next issue:
15th Dec. Tuesday 2020**