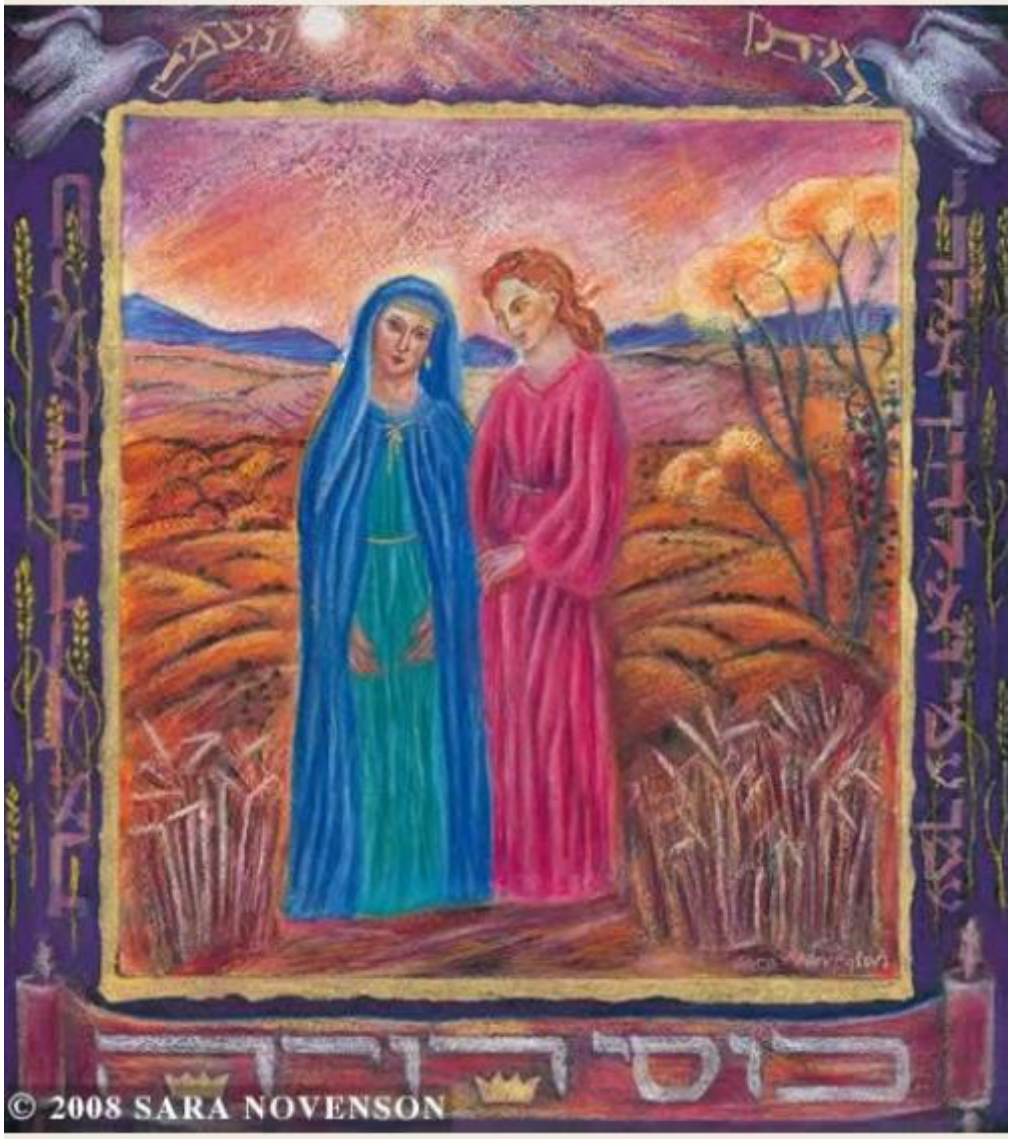

Ruth and Naomi

From the City of Ashdod, Israel Photo credit: Yamit Daniels

SHANIWAR TELI

מסחטות שמן שאינן עובדות בשבת

e-Newsletter

shaniwarteli@gmail.com

July 1 , 2022

Vol: 11

Be our friend at: https://www.facebook.com/wbwo.daniels.1

Binding all Bene-Israel Community Worldwide

מסחטות שמן שאינן עובדות בשבת

(for private circulation only)

Shaniwar Teli e-Newsletter lost a close friend on 10th May 2022 afternoon.

Do not stand at my grave and weep.
I am not there, I do not sleep.
Do not stand at my grave and cry.
I am not there,
I did not die,
I live
In your memories!

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Cover:

Sara Novenson,
Judaic Art, Contemporary Jewish Artist,
Santa Fe

Sara M. Novenson is a Contemporary Jewish Artist, specializing in Judiac art and colorful New Mexico landscapes. Her studio and gallery is located on historic Canyon Road in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Her book, Illuminated Visions, "Women of the Bible", now in its Third edition, is available here on her website.

Welcome to Sara M. Novenson, Contemporary Artist and Author - Sara M. Novenson, Contemporary Artist

Shaniwar-Teli was looking for Bene-Israel artists who paints on Bible, but could not find any one. If you know of any one, please let us know.

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Bhagti Sings /भागते गीत /שירי בהקטי

The seed of bhakti – even if drying up from years of neglect – will flourish by cherishing songs of bhakti.

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Israel Cricket by Moshe Aaron

Letters

Dear Friends & colleagues,
It Gives me great Pleasure in forwarding to you an exceptional Newsletter of the Bene Israel Community all Published and Edited from The Holy-land of Israel.

The Credit has to Go to The Unique Team Created by Mr. Elijah (Leon) Daniel Walwatkar and the Editor Dr. Shulmith Solomon Charikar.

I have noticed that every issue turns out better and better- I say "Kol Ha Cavod to the Shaniwarteli Team. Keep it Up and God Bless You for your Great Contribution to a better understanding of our People and Community as such".

For Once we have a Truly successful Team Who are Doing such a wonderful Job. Spanning the Globe to Address & give an insight into such a wide spectrum of Bene Israel Communities, Life and Activities in all its forms in the world. I say Thank You To this Wonderful and Unique Team.
Nissim Moses

Dear Leo brother,
Very systematic volume 10. Very very informative magazine. Blessings to all Editors of Saniwar Teli Israel magazine, from BETH EL SYNAGOGUE Panvel. Our committee members will help anyone, who desires to perform MALIDA in the Synagogue.
Sir, your group of editors are taking so much troubles to collect information.
Moses Korlekar

Hi Shulmit,
I hope you are archiving your issues as it has so much valuable information on Bene-Israel community. Your research is incredible.
Hope this information could be available also in Hebrew.
Nancy Killekar

April 9, 2022

Good evening to you Lior Danias Good and blessed week I know that you and Kolatker are childhood friends (Legottia Dost). Everything we post about Kolatker you try to cover up Korleker's act, obviously you're naïve because you're his friend. I'm telling you about guy Funker's letter of apology all the information is yours to the relevant parties. He was then called to the police and warned by police in India that no more information would be given to any party.

Externally and not to Samson Digulkar but he can write a text message and gave him false information to journalists and press journalists do not publish without looking into the matter. You don't want to believe the truth. Graves destroyed?

A cemetery space sold has a contract. A decision of the Korlecker court may not be the director of the synagogue anymore who it asked the judge to transfer a document at the expense of a synagogue to this day nothing has been done.? I don't believe anyone's okay but photography of the destruction of a cemetery came from what a journalist bunker. You seem to me wearing black glasses who pretty much you write in Schneuer Tali it's a community newspaper and criminal stuff you're not supposed to publish.

Another bar I want you to know. This public bias you are exposed to a lawsuit Another thing the public the Israelites are not retarded they know everything and in a few days the truth will come out and then we will see what will be published in Shinwar Tali.I am publishing a complaint by a Pankar journalist.

Moshe Sogogkar Google Translation

Shaniwar Teli: I have never met Mr. Moses Korlekar. My relationship with him is only for Shaniwar-Teli. We only forward information we receive from both sides, from you Mr. Sogoakar and from Mr. Korlekar.
Leo Daniels

ערב טוב לך ליאור דניאס שבוע טוב ומבורך אני יודע שאתה וקורלקר חברים ילדות(לגוטי דוסט) כל מה שנפרסם על קורלקר אתה מנסה לחפות על המעשה של קורלקר ברור שאתה מיתמם כי אתה חבר שלו .אני אומר לך בקשר למכתב התנצלות של הבחור פאנקר כל המידע הוא שלך לגורמים הרלוונטיים. לאחר מכן זומן למשטרה הוזהר על ידי משטרה בהודו יותר לא ימסור מידע לאף גורם.
חיצוני ולא לסמסון דיגולקר אך הוא יכול לכתוב סמסומן מסר לו מידע שקרי לעיתונאי עיתונות לא מפרסמים בלי לבדוק את העניין. אתה לא רוצה להאמין לאמת. קברים השמידו ?
שטח בית עלמין נימכר יש חוזה.? החלטה של בית המשפט קורלקר לא יכול להיות מנהל בית הכנסת יותר מי זה ביקש השופט להעביר מסמך על חשבון של בית כנסת עד היום לא נעשה דבר.?אני לא מאמין לאף אחד בסדר אבל צילום הרס בית עלמין הגיע מה פאנקר עיתונאי. אתה ניראה לי מרכיב משקפיים שחורות מי די אתה כותב בשניואר טלי זה עיתון קהילתי דברים קרמינלים אתה לא אמור לפרסם .
דבר נוסף אני רוצה שתדע. הטיית ציבור זה אתה חשוף לתביעה משפטית עוד דבר הציבור קהילה בני ישראל לא מפגרים הם יודעים הכול ועוד כמה ימים האמת תיצא לאור ואז ניראה מה תפרסם בשניואר טלי.אני מפרסם תלונה של עיתונאי פאנקר משה סוגוגקר
איחוד קהילתי יצוגי ארצי

שניוואר טלי:
מעולם לא פגשתי את מר משה קורלקר. מערכת היחסים שלי איתו היא רק בשביל שניוואר-טלי. אנחנו מעבירים רק מידע שאנחנו מקבלים משני הצדדים, ממך מר סוגוקר וממר קורלקאר.
ליאו דניאלס

तुमच्यासाठी गुड इव्हिनिंग लिऑर डॅनियास गुड इव्हिनिंग आणि हॅडिश्ड वीक मला माहित आहे की तुम्ही आणि कॉरुलकर हे बालपणीचे मित्र आहात (लेगोटी ड्यूसेट) आम्ही कॉर्लेकरबद्दल जे काही पोस्ट करतो ते सर्व तुम्ही कॉर्लेकरच्या कृत्यावर पांघरूण घालण्याचा प्रयत्न करता, अर्थातच तुम्ही भोळा आहात कारण तुम्ही त्याचे मित्र आहात. मी तुम्हाला मुलगा फंकरच्या माफीच्या पत्राबद्दल सांगत आहे. सर्व माहिती संबंधित पक्षांना तुमची आहे. त्यानंतर त्याला पोलिसांना बोलावून भारतातील पोलिसांनी यापुढे कोणत्याही पक्षाला माहिती दिली जाणार नाही, असा इशारा दिला. बाहेरून आणि सॅमसन डिगुलकर यांना नव्हे तर तो मजकूर संदेश लिहू शकतो आणि त्याला खोटी माहिती पत्रकारांना देऊ शकतो आणि पत्रकार या प्रकरणात लक्ष घातल्याशिवाय पत्रकार प्रसिद्ध करत नाहीत. तुम्हाला सत्यावर विश्वास ठेवायचा नाहीये. कबरी नष्ट?

सत्यावर विश्वास ठेवणे. कबरी नष्ट?

विकल्या गेलेल्या स्मशानभूमीच्या जागेचा करार असतो. कॉर्लेकर कोर्टाचा निर्णय कदाचित आता सभास्थानाचा संचालक नसेल, तर न्यायाधीशांना सभास्थानाच्या खर्चाने एक कागदपत्र हस्तांतरित करण्यास सांगितले, असे आजवर काहीही झाले नाही.? माझा विश्वास नाही की कोणीही ठीक आहे परंतु स्मशानभूमीच्या विनाशाची छायाचित्रण एका पत्रकाराने बंकरच्या बंकरमधून केली आहे. तू मला काळा चष्मा घातलेला दिसतोस जो तू श्न्यूअर तालीमध्ये लिहितोस, हे एक सामुदायिक वर्तमानपत्र आहे आणि गुन्हेगारी गोष्टी आहेत ज्या तुम्ही प्रकाशित करू नयेत.

अजून एक गोष्ट तुम्हाला कळावी अशी माझी इच्छा आहे. हा सार्वजनिक पूर्वग्रह तुम्हाला खटल्याच्या संपर्कात आणला गेला आहे आणखी एक गोष्ट जी लोक इस्राएली लोकांना कमी लेखली जात नाहीत त्यांना सर्व काही माहित आहे आणि काही दिवसांतच सत्य बाहेर येईल आणि मग आपण शिनवार तालीमध्ये काय प्रकाशित होईल ते पाहू. मी एका पंकर पत्रकाराची तक्रार प्रकाशित करत आहे

मोशे सुगागकर

राष्ट्रीय प्रतिनिधी समुदाय संघ

Google भाषांतर

शनिवार तेली :
मी श्री. मोझेस कोर्लेकर यांना कधीच भेटलो नाही. त्याच्याशी माझं नातं फक्त शनिवार-तेलीपुरतंच आहे. आम्ही फक्त दोन्ही बाजूंकडून मिळालेली माहिती पुढे पाठवतो, श्री. सोगोकर आणि श्री. कोर्लेकर यांच्याकडून.
लिओ डॅनियल्स

It is really surprising. One Mrs. Gupte is the Chairman of International Organization of Bene-Israel that is Jewish. Please confirm what is this comedy show? Next Mrs. Mohammad will lead the Jews.

(We know who sent this message to us but we don't want to mention it for every one's benefit.)

Shaniwar Teli:
We passed on this message to our seniors as to, how should we reply it.
No one of the seniors wanted to make a public reply but wanted to reply the writer personally. We did not allow that as the letter was sent to ST.

Wonder if there are Jews leading a Muslim groups or Christians leading a Hindu group. World is changing and anything is possible.

Hi Shulmith,
Can you tell the Bene-Israel which are the registered NGO for Indians in Israel and how much annual donation they get from the Jewish Distribution Funds (JDF). How do these NGO's spend this money on our people. Who checks them.
Samuel Killaker

There are two groups who claim that they have registered themselves as NGO for benefit of Indian people; IJFC and IOBI.

These groups get 2 million NIS each year to do the social service they have mentioned the do.

A representative of JDF explained that they are so busy distributing money that they have no time to see what everyone is doing with it. As per JDF 2M NIS are peanuts while they are heavily busy to see how to distribute trillions of dollars. They rather prefer organizations that ask for 100 million and more.

What each NGO does with the money is controlled by lawyers and income tax offices. As far as an authorized chartered account certifies the NGO's accounts, no one really checks them. Normally these small NGO will spend 500 NIS and show a bill of 50,000 NIS (as per some experienced people who are in NGO's operations and come from genuine NGO like Diabetes, Blindness and other serious NGO's)

Hi Shulmith,
First, complements for bringing out dedicated issues for only Bene-Israel. If you see other issues from the past or present, they will say it is a Bene-Israel magazine but it includes all information on Baghdadi-Jews.

In the article written by Dr. Reuben Daniel from Pune about the financial frauds in our community, mainly done by our own community members, Dr. Daniel has been humble and not listing so many other frauds done by our own people cheating their own people.

Sales of cemeteries lands in villages. Sale of not just the Ashatami synagogue but many more. There were 300 villages (as many Kar's). Every village had a synagogue / prayer hall and cemetery. Today we can count on fingers what is left. What happened to all the others?

Mazgao cemetery and Kelly family is claiming it is their own property. The Charikar family who is now cleaning the Worli cemetery and has taken over the maintenance could be beginning of them claiming it is their property. Attempt to sell Eli Kadooor school was the height of this shameful conduct of our leaders.
Joshua Joseph

From the Editorial's desk

We regret and are deeply sorry for the hurt suffered by the individuals in our earlier issues. In our last issue we stated that Etz Haeem Prayer was in Khadak. Etz Haeem Prayer Hall is situated in Umerkhadi -Sandhurust Road. In the coming days we will take concrete steps to resolve the various issues and make amends for the damage it must have caused.

We would like to wish the trustees and committee members of the Beth -El Synagogue Panvel for the 173 years celebrations.
It was a great pride for the Indian Jewish congregation of Delhi to have among their midst the Honorable Defense Minister of Israel.

Our condolences to Erna and the family on the death of Mr. Samuel Daniel of New-York on 10th May 2022. Ruby Michael Daniel sister of Late Sam Daniel from U.S.A aged 100 years died on 14th June 2022. She was the resident of Bayiti (Old Age Home in Panvel).

The Birthright (Taglit) group from India is on a visit of Israel. We hope each one of them will carry with them awesome memories of the Holy Land.
We have had wonderful response for the essay in all the languages Marathi English & Hebrew.

Our next issue will be after the festivals so we take this opportunity to wish all our readers and face book friends very happy festivals.

Shulmith Charikar

From the Newsletter creator's Desk

Many things keep happening in our community and we are happy that Bene-Israel community shares with us these activities to be posted on Shaniwar Teli face book page. If you are not our friend please become our friend at Shaniwar-Teli at:

https://www.facebook.com/wbwo.daniels.1

Sion Charikar's family have done a unique service to the Bene-Israel community by beautifying the Worli cemetery that everyone of us felt had no hope. Words are not enough to express our gratitude to the Charikar family.

First Bene-Israel community center will be opened in Israel in Ramle. First time a carrom board playing competition was held in Israel. Bene-Israel community is very closely working with Indian Embassy and their Community Center is offered for many joint activities that have together. They have also jointly started a weekly yoga training center in Ashdod that is well attended.

We have very good response for the essay competition. It has been decided that Judges will receives the essays with out the name of the writer so that there is fair process.

Elijah (Leo) Daniels

"Living Legend Crown" for members the Bene-Israel Community

Dr. Hananel Solomon (Chincholkar) is one of two Bene-Israel orthopedic surgeons working in Israel. He qualified as MBBS, M.S.(Orthopedics) from KEM Hospital and is the deputy head the orthopedics, for more than the last 20 years, at the Laniado Hospital – Sanz Medical Center in Netanya, Israel.

Dr. Solomon's areas of practice includes treatment of orthopedic problems, diagnosis of orthopedic and other related disease, providing solutions to a variety of problems. One can get advice with regard to advanced institutes referral for providing a solution to a variety of problems. Dr. Solomon Hananel is highly competent with extensive knowledge and experience in fracture and knee surgery especially, Arthroscopy and Knee Replacements, including the latest Robotic Knee Replacements, a rapid diagnosis and prompt treatment at a public hospital as well as private medicine at reasonable prices.

Orthopedics is a discipline in demand, with pains and ailments of the bones and joints. Bene-Israel population rightly prefer to consult our own Indian doctor as they have the maximum practical training in India before they win their degree. Hananel being the deputy head of the department, you get 80% refund from your Health Insurance when you consult him.

We are proud to give our "Living Legend Crown for Bene-Israel" to Orthopedic Specialist **Dr. Hananel Solomon (Chincholkar).**
Hananel has been very closely involved with the Bene-Israel community since his teen age. He was the member of the JRU Youth Group and also led the group as its President. After immigration to Israel Hananel re-qualified as an orthopedic surgeon to practice in Israel. Today, besides being deputy head of the Orthopedic department in a major Israeli hospital he offers consultancy to general public in Israel. It must be said that being so busy he always finds time to be present at the re-unions of JRU Youth Group in Israel whenever it takes place in different parts of the country. ***We are very proud of Hananel!!***

The contribution of Indian (Bene-Israel) Jews to Israel

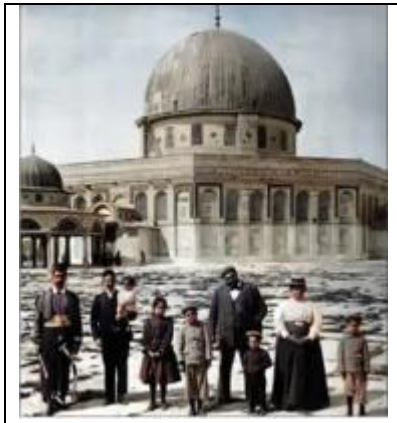
Nissim Moses - **Historian and genealogist of the Bene Israel community of India**

The contribution of Indian Jews to Israel - The Jerusalem Post (jpost.com)

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.

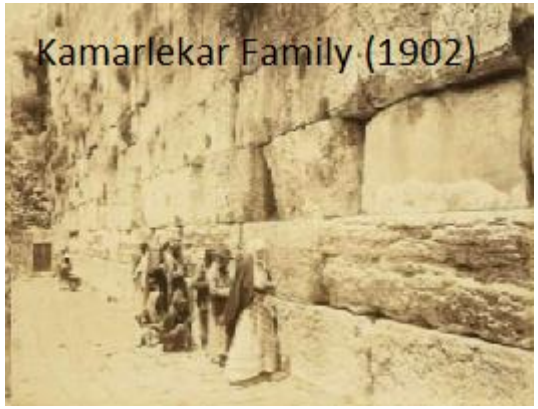
The Bene Israel played an important role in the creation and development of modern Israel from before the establishment of the state in 1948. They participated in activities in support of Jews suffering during the pogroms in Czarist Russia. They were also the first to revive the teaching of spoken Hebrew 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.



Kamarlekar Family (1902)

Bene-Israel sent money in 1850 for building Rachel's Tomb



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 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 anti-Semites.

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.

צילום: משה יוסף־דיווקר

כשנציג העולים התלונן בפני שרת העבודה גולדה מאיר על "הסבל שאנו עוברים בארץ, לילדים אין בית ספר מתאים, לא נותנים לנו עבודה לפי הכשרתנו", השרה השיבה, "הכי חשוב זה להשתנות ולהשאיר את הגולה מאחור", אך כשירדה מהבמה פלטה: "ממזרים לא צריכים להתלונן. מי צריך אותם?"

English multi-billionaire entrepreneur Richard Branson, has arrived in Israel for his companies investment meetings in the State of Israel. After getting off the plane, he kissed the soil of Israel and said, "I would have nothing without Ha'Shem."

May the Eternal bless you!! For having recognized such a thing as billionaires usually attribute their success to themselves

Richard Branson - Wikipedia

estimated net worth of **$5.6 billion** as of April 2016

Why footwear is forbidden in holy placed?

"Footwear is strictly prohibited"

Respect and Hygiene, while entering any Hindu holy places in India is a must. Removing foot wear before entering any temple is a Hindu tradition followed perhaps since the Temples were invented. We Bene-Israel also adapted this virtue and never entered the synagogues with footwear on. With time most of the synagogues changed this habit but not Beth-El synagogue in Panvel. You have to remove your footwear before you step into the synagogue. The picture on right is from 12th June 2022 when the synagogue celebrated its 173rd anniversary where you see the visitors bare feet.
It is also a tradition not to enter Hindu home with any footwear. Some more open minded families allow the footwear at home but strictly not in the kitchen. Muslim mosques too in India follow this tradition.

Why did Missionaries failed to convert Shaniwar-Teli to Christianity in the 19th century

India's Bene Israel Jews | My Jewish Learning

The Reverend John Wilson of the Church of Scotland arrived in India in 1829 and worked with the Indians of Bombay and Kolaba District until his death in 1875 (25 Years). His Missionaries converted mass Hindu & Muslim population in to Christianity but they could not convert a single Shaniwar Teli. He wrote at the end of 25 years:

"… the labours of the Bombay Missions have <u>not</u> yet been blessed to the conversion of any of their number."

The secret is that it was the work of Wilson himself that went against his missionaries aims.
He introduced Hebrew to the Shaniwar-Teli / Bene-Israel!

India's Bene Israel are unique among Diaspora communities because it was a Christian missionary who created — albeit unintentionally — a firm basis for the Bene Israel community's entry into mainstream Jewry.

The British did not allow missionaries into British territories in India until 1813, but soon thereafter European and American Christian missions were established with headquarters in Bombay. The Reverend John Wilson of the Church of Scotland (later of the Free Church of Scotland) arrived in India in 1829 and worked with the Indians of Bombay and Kolaba District until his death in 1875. He was a scholar, an erudite writer, and one of the founders of Bombay University (1857).

Wilson introduced Hebrew as a subject for matriculation and for higher education. He saw in the Bene Israel the biblical "remnant of Israel." It was Wilson who wrote, in 1838, the first serious account of the Bene Israel and their customs. Already in 1832, he wrote and published in Bombay **The Rudiments of Hebrew Grammar in Marathi, "intended for the benefit of the Native Israelites."**

Using Wilson's book of Hebrew-Marathi grammar as a first step, some pupils became very proficient in Hebrew. In due course, they themselves became teachers of Hebrew, not only in Wilson's schools but also at the college and university level. These Bene Israel scholars published Marathi translations of classic Hebrew texts, Jewish prayer books, rabbinical commentaries, and sermons. Each Hebrew text was accompanied by a parallel translation into Marathi, for the first time giving the Bene Israel access to a wide range of Jewish texts.

In addition, Bene Israel studied the English language and secular subjects in Wilson's schools, which opened up a whole new world of knowledge. Most important, their literacy in Hebrew and in English enabled them to communicate and maintain contact with mainstream Jewry.

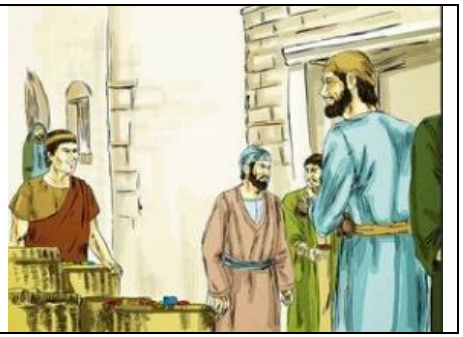
It is remarkable that during a century of concentrated efforts to convert Bene Israel to Christianity, the various missions met with almost no success at all. In 1854, after Rev. Wilson had been in India for 25 years, he wrote "… the labours of the Bombay Missions have not yet been blessed to the conversion of any of their number."

Common thing between the two is that they both love their countries

Bible Wisdom: The King and Palkar

Palkar worked in kingdom of King David. King David asked him one day, Palkar, are you happy. Palkar replied, yes I am happy but my wife is always worried. That makes me sad. She thinks we don't have money and so we cannot be happy.

King David looked at Palkar and said, that is very simple, come to me tomorrow and I will give you a sack of 100 gold coins. Then you will be rich and your wife will be always happy.



Next day King asked Palker, what his wife said. Was she happy? Palkar replied that she was first very happy but then she wondered why you not gave the gold coins on the same day and why next day. May be when you go to the King he may have changed his mind. So now she is worried what will happen today.

King David laughed and ask his treasurer to give Palkar a bag of 100 coins. Palkar took the bag and thanked the King. He then went home and gave the bag to his wife. The wife was very happy until she counted the coins. There were on 99 coins!

Next morning when King David asked Palkar if his wife was happy now. Palker replied, no king as there were only 99 gold coins in the bag. One coin was missing. So she was very sad.

King David laughed and said; Palkar, instead of being happy that she has gained 99 gold coins she was worried about one missing coin. Happiness is in your attitude and not in your wealth.

Saddest Day in Jewish Calendar

What is Tisha B'Av (9 Av)?

Tisha B'Av, the 9th day of the month of Av is the saddest day on the Jewish calendar, on which we fast, deprive ourselves and pray. It is the culmination of the Three Weeks, a period of time during which we mark the destruction of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem.

What happened on Tisha B'Av (9 Av)?

1. 1313 BCE: The **spies returned from the Promised Land** with frightening reports that they would wander in the desert for 40 year.
2. Both **Holy Temples in Jerusalem were destroyed** on this date. The First Temple was burned by the Babylonians in 423 BCE and the Second Temple fell to the Romans in 70 CE unleashing a period of suffering from which our nation has never fully recovered.
3. The **Bar Kochba revolt** against the Romans in 133 CE ended in defeat: The Jews of Betar were butchered on the 9th of Av and the Temple Mount was plowed one year later on the same date..
4. Later on in our history, many more tragedies happened on this day, including the 1290 **expulsion of England's Jews** and the 1492 **banishment of all Jews from Spain**.

How 9 Av Is Observed?

Jews fast. The fast begins at sunset of the 8th of Av and concludes at nightfall the following night (delayed by one day when 9 Av is on Shabbat

How do Bene-Israel Jews observe 9 AV?

For reasons not so clear Bene-Israel observe 9 AV fast as all other Jews, but they end the fast eating Val cha Birda (sprouted val).

Only explanation that our research team could find last year was that when the ships sank in 175 BCE, the surviving Jews could only find Val to eat to survive or the locals served them sprouted val. If anyone knows of any other reason, please share with us.

Courtesy Sam & Erna Daniel from New Jersey

Friday, March 25, 2022 • The Jewish Press •

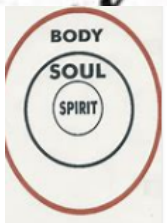
• Page 59

Halachic Positions of

Rabbi J. B. Soloveitchik, zt"l

By Rabbi Aharon Ziegler

Kedushah And *Chol* Not Mutually Exclusive



The prevalent attitude in most faith communities is that the pathway to sanctity is achieved by separation from the physical world. Escaping from the body is a prerequisite for spiritual striving, and suppressing the body's desires is the only way the soul can soar.

Not so, according to Rav Soloveitchik. The approach of Judaism is that the body is neither denigrated nor glorified. Every human activity has the potential of being sanctified. Our religion strives to apply Jewish Law to every aspect of life, ennobling and sanctifying our every endeavor.

There are those, even within Judaism, who espouse the notion that disciplines that are not pure Torah are simply profane (*chol*), and that the secular is only useful when it helps us to better understand that which is holy (*kodesh*). For example, biology helps a physician to better understand the healing process and bring about a cure (*refuah*), and chemistry enables a rabbi to evaluate the *kashrut* of food products.

The Rav saw it differently. Any discipline, be it language, chemistry, biology or others, is a potential aspect of Torah. Engaging in Torah study in an intensive manner will offer us new meaning, new direction and new purpose. In the end, it will sanctify *chol*, which is not a permanent status, and transform it into *kodesh*.

Kedushah meaning Holiness

Ultimate *kedusha* by living in conformity with Torah

In communities of other faiths, the movement is generally from this world, the mundane world of body and soul, to the next world, the world of pure soul. Death is a release from the imprisonment of the body. For Torah Judaism, on the other hand, the movement is the reverse – from the other world to this world. The purpose is to take the teachings of the Torah – from the world beyond, in essence – and apply them to this world, sanctifying every aspect of human life.

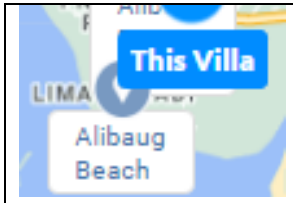
Ultimate *kedusha* is achieved by living every moment in this world in conformity with Torah ethics. *Kedusha* and *chol* are thus not mutually exclusive but can be integrated and blended. That is the responsibility every Jew is charged with during the years *Hashem* grants us in this world.

All seven volumes of "Halakhic Positions of Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik" are available, $25 each (+$3 postage). Checks should be made to Kollel Agudath Achim and addressed to 1430 E. 7th St., Brooklyn, NY 11230.

Shalom Inn, in Alibaug...run by Bene-Israel family.

Wbwo Daniels - Shalom Inn, in Alibaug...run by Bene-Israel family.... | Facebook

https://www.makemytrip.com/hotels/shalom_inn-details-alibaug.html



Guests can get a wholesome experience with their family at Shalom Inn, which is in close proximity to the beaches.

- Stay comfortably in affordable yet luxurious accommodations with all modern amenities.
- Experience a comfortable stay as the property features lush green lawns available for morning/evening snacks.
- Spend a fun-filled day exploring famous tourist attractions like the Alibaug Beach and Kulaba Fort, located within 2 km.

Abraham is all set to welcome you. He has been hosting since 2019.

Abraham

Courtesy Sam & Erna Daniel from New Jersey

Mordechai Wolff Haffkine

The Forgotten Jew Who Developed the Cholera and Bubonic Plague Vaccines - aish.com

When Our Bene-Israel immigrants returned to India in 1952

Courtesy: Noah Massil

Mordechai Wolff Haffkine, a Ukrainian Jew is credited with the development and use of vaccines against cholera and bubonic plague.

He was barred from a professorship because he refused to convert to the Russian Orthodox Church, and the fact that he had always been openly proud of his Judaism.

Haffkine vaccinating children

Determined to prove the efficacy of his vaccine, he decided that the best place to do so was in India, where hundreds of thousands of people were dying from cholera.

Working almost entirely by himself, he succeeded in developing a vaccine for the bubonic plague that was ready for testing only three months later. He first tested it on himself.

He established the Haffkine Foundation to foster Jewish education in Eastern Europe with a focus on reaching “enlightened” secular Jews, which still exists and still supports various religious institutions.

In 1925, the Indian government renamed his Parel lab as “The Haffkine Institute,” which today serves as a respected teaching institution in the field of biological sciences, undertakes specialized testing for pharmaceutical and other health-related products, and is a leader in offering basic and applied biomedical science services.

This month of April 2022, 70 years again 1952 the Bene-Israel immigrants to Israel returned to India due to the discrimination from the main **rabbi** of Israel.

After they protested with hunger strike, visited the Prime Minister of Israel and members of the Knesset with no use, they finally appealed to the Prime Minister of India Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru for help.

Mr. Nehru responded to their request and made sure they returned all 120 of them to India by sending Air India flight to take them back to their mother land.

מעריב

השבוע לפני 35 שנה

115 עולי הודו יורדים הלילה

ראיון שרת האפיפיור ארך 15 דקה

טרומאן מודיע על הסתלקותו

השעות האחרונות בישראל

חוקרים גרמנים יצאו להאג

הגב' עניזה

תבכר בירושלים

„מספר עולים מתורו שהוחזרו לשם לאחר שערכו בארץ שביתות־שבת. שוב ערכו שביתת־שבת לפני משרדי הסוכנות בבומבי בתביעה להחזירם לישראל". (בעתונות)

תורת־יגנדי בעזיה ובריריה

When two Bene-Israel leaders met!

Recently Nissim Moses met with the young Bene-Israel leader Moshe Soagokar who heads the National Community Union for Indian Jews in Israel (איחוד קהילתי יצוגי ארצי). Nissim as a Historian and genealogist of the Bene Israel community of India, is perhaps the oldest leader and is a managing member of almost all the Bene-Israel groups in Israel.

Moshe is keen to take up different matters that are open in India like situations of cemeteries, synagogues and other related matters. Nissim is not in favors of interfering with the matters in India. He feels that there still is an able community of Bene-Israel in Indian to handle their own matters.

Why do the Jews of India call Passover

‘The holiday of the covered clay pot with the sour liquid’?

Shulie Madnick

Image by Yawar Nazir/Getty Images Fpllow the link: What do the Jews of India call Passover? – The Forward March 25, 2021

The Bene Israel, India’s largest Jewish community, doesn’t call Passover Passover. The word in their language, Marathi, is “Anashi Dhakaicha San,” which means “The Holiday of the Closing of the Anas.”

San is the word for holiday, and anas refers to a sour liquid in a pot.

It makes sense that the Marathi word for Yom Kippur is “Darfalnicha San, or “The Holiday of the Closing Doors,” since Bene Israel fast in their homes behind shut doors — the first Bene Israeli synagogue wasn’t built in Mumbai until 1796.

But the mystery behind The Holiday of the Closing of the Sour Liquid in a Pot takes a bit more explanation.

The first mention of Anashi Dhakaicha San appears in “The History of the Bene Israel of India,” a book in English by the renowned Bene Israeli community leader and historian Haeem Samuel Kehimkar, who lived from 1830 - 1909. This first historical manuscript about the Indian Jewish community living in Mumbai and its surrounding villages on the Konkan coast was written in the nineteenth century. It was kept hidden in the family’s possession for 40 years after Kehimkar’s death. The manuscript was given to Dr. Immanuel Olswangner, a researcher of the Indian Jewish communities, and was published in 1937 in Tel Aviv.

Notes from Shaniwar Teli Team

“Anashi Dhakaicha San,”

The Marathi experts could not find the word Anashi. They thin they mean Ana (wheat and other grains)

अन्न धाकाने चा सण as during regular food is covered and not used during Passover.

“Darfalnicha San”

As on Yom Kippur one is expected to remain in the synagogue the whole day or at home; you should not use the door to leave the place. So it should be;

दर फाळणी चा सण

ओलांडणं चा सण is another name for Yom Kippur as curse bypassed the Jewish homes.

In “The History of the Bene Israel of India,” Kehimkar writes, “From the 14th of Nissan they observed for eight days a holiday called Anasi Dhakacha San i.e. ‘the holiday of the closing of the A n a s (an earthen chatty, containing sour liquid used as a sauce). They abstained from using the sour liquid, as well as any leaven, during the period of the feast. On the 23rd of the month they uncovered the chatty, and used leaven as before.”

Earthen chatty is a clay pot. That is how Dr. Olswangner referred to Passover as “The Holiday of the Covered Pot” in “Travel Impressions,” his India travel diary notes published in 1936 in Hebrew by now-defunct Israeli publication Davar.

The Bene Israel remove all wheat and leaven from their homes, and similar to other Jewish communities, consume rice, legumes, and beans on Passover. “Biblical Rituals and Passover Traditions of the Bene Israel, India’s Largest Jewish Community,” published in Haaretz newspaper in 2016, explores further the community’s over 2000-year history in India and its unique Passover traditions.

By some accounts, the sour liquid, or the leaven, or both in the clay pot were then buried underground or nestled in coves in a mud wall outdoors.

Perhaps it was a pickle or a natural yeast starter in the pot? Or a toddy used in making alcohol and sandan, an idli-like slightly sweetened, fermented, and steamed semolina, or a rice cake with coconut milk.

In an email exchange Rabbi Romiel Daniel, a Bene Israeli, and the Rabbi at Rego Park Jewish Center, an Ashkenazi Conservative synagogue in Queens, NY, he stated that it was “a special clay pot for containing a sour liquid, a kind of yoghurt culture.” Noreen, the Rabbi’s wife, relayed that the pot with the yogurt culture was tied and suspended from the ceiling on the porch.

Yogurt was avoided by the Jewish communities across the globe due to fermentation until Kosher for Passover became available. In an article “Don’t pass over a Persian Passover,” published in The Jerusalem Post in 2019, Jacqueline Super writes: “Persian Jews mark the end of Passover, known as Shab-e Sal, with a meal composed of dairy products featuring a variety of yogurt and herb dishes.”

Suppose the Bene Israelis had a similar tradition? Each family possibly kept any leaven they had in their homes in the clay pots. The yogurt culture was surely long expired at the end of the Passover. Its removal into the pot, in the first place, might have been

a symbolic hametz removal ritual.

However, Kehimkar specifically wrote that it was a sour liquid used as a sauce.

The one sauce or sour condiment Indians use with many foods is a tamarind chutney. It is usually thinned out with water to extract its essence.

Another souring agent typical in the Konkani coastal cuisine in the villages south of Mumbai is kokum, similar to mangosteen, usually used in fish curries. A Konkani Hindu woman shared on Instagram that her mom combined kokum with sugar for sweet and sour syrup. It was “canned” in a clay pot or a glass jar for a month and used in sherbet and kept in the kitchen, out of the direct sun. It’s the Indian kombucha.

A sweet, salty, and sour tamarind soda is also an extremely popular refreshing beverage in the Konkan region, where seven Bene Israeli men and seven women first washed ashore after fleeing persecution in the Galilee just before the miracle of Chanukah.

Some scholarly works written in the 19th century, yet to be translated from the Marathi, might shed more light on this nearly extinct and, for the most part, forgotten tradition of the covered pot. Revisiting the small remaining Bene Israel community members in the villages south of Mumbai might also take the guesswork out if any are still practicing this ritual.

So what’s in the clay pot at the center of the Marathi word for Passover, sour chutney or yoghurt? Just when this anthropological detective work has hit a wall, I found a reference to the sour liquid in Shirley Berry Isenberg’s “India’s Bene Israel; A Comprehensive Inquiry and Sourcebook,” published in 1989.

In it, she wrote: “A special clay pot for containing a sour liquid a kind of yoghurt culture. The Bene Israel abstained from using this substance, as well as from using all other forms of leaven, during the eight days of this holiday.

The power of deduction pointed to the tamarind sauce, but the passage in Shirley Berry Isenbeg’s book supported Rabbi Daniel’s yogurt culture account. Mystery solved.

You can find the author on Instagram at @foodwanderings.

20th Century Bene-Israel and why did they leave behind for Israel?

India's Bene Israel Jews | My Jewish Learning

Over the course of the 19th century, Bene Israel were confronted for the first time with the simultaneous influences of Jewish orthodoxy, secular education, and Western ideas. The choices they made then–and continued to make in the 20th century–depended upon such variables as proximity to other Jews and to a synagogue, finances, and degree of actual contact and familiarity with various expressions of Jewish observance.

In the 20th century, the Bene Israel Conference (1917-37) and the All India Israelite League (1918-25) became foci of Bene Israel communal development. Both organizations deliberated upon social, religious, educational, and economic matters affecting the community.

At the end of the 1940s, with India's total population at 350 million, the Bene Israel population in India peaked at an estimated 24,000 to 25,000.

At the end of the 1940s, with India's total population at 350 million, the Bene Israel population in India peaked at an estimated 24,000 to 25,000.

After 1948, many members of the community began emigrating, mainly from the cities, to the new State of Israel. They were motivated by a combination of three equally compelling factors: a sense of Jewish identity, Zionist idealism, and concern over Bene Israel economic prospects in the newly-independent India.

A minority of Bene Israel emigrated to England, the United States, Canada, or Australia. Large-scale emigration from the Villages did not occur until the early 1970s. Since then, the total number of Bene Israel remaining in India–almost all in urban centers–remains fairly stable at around 5,000.

In Israel, the Bene Israel population (i.e., persons with at least one Bene Israel parent) was estimated as of 1994 at 40,000, almost all of whom have settled in cities or in development towns.

When members of the community first arrived in Israel, very little was known about the history or cultural background of the Bene Israel, which exacerbated their problems of absorption. Although the years that followed their immigration were therefore made unnecessarily difficult, the community's situation has greatly improved.

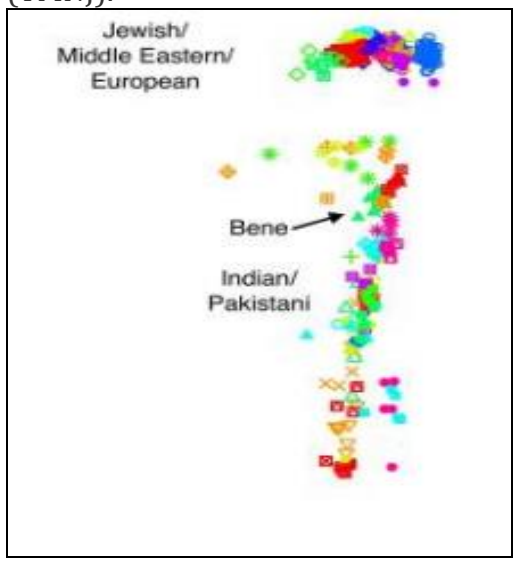
The Bene Israel in Israel have established several social and cultural organizations, which serve as foci of community identity. At times these organizations present information about the Bene Israel to Israeli society at large. Mainly, however, they help both the young and the older members of the community maintain a link with their heritage and with India, the country that provided a friendly home for generations of Bene Israel.

The Genetics of Bene Israel from India Reveals Both Substantial Jewish and Indian Ancestry

Abstract : The Bene Israel Jewish community from West India is a unique population whose history before the 18th century remains largely unknown. Bene Israel members consider themselves as descendants of Jews, yet the identity of Jewish ancestors and their arrival time to India are unknown, with speculations on arrival time varying between the 8th century BCE and the 6th century CE. Here, we characterize the genetic history of Bene Israel by collecting and genotyping 18 Bene Israel individuals. Combining with 486 individuals from 41 other Jewish, Indian and Pakistani populations, and additional individuals from worldwide populations, we conducted comprehensive genome-wide analyses based on FST, principal component analysis, ADMIXTURE, identity-by-descent sharing, admixture linkage disequilibrium decay, haplotype sharing and allele sharing autocorrelation decay, as well as contrasted patterns between the X chromosome and the autosomes. The genetics of Bene Israel individuals resemble local Indian populations, while at the same time constituting a clearly separated and unique population in India. They are unique among Indian and Pakistani populations we analyzed in sharing considerable genetic ancestry with other Jewish populations. Putting together the results from all analyses point to Bene Israel being an admixed population with both Jewish and Indian ancestry, with the genetic contribution of each of these ancestral populations being substantial. The admixture took place in the last millennium, about 19-33 generations ago. It involved Middle-Eastern Jews and was sex-biased, with more male Jewish and local female contribution. It was followed by a population bottleneck and high endogamy, which can lead to increased prevalence of recessive diseases in this population. This study provides an example of how genetic analysis advances our knowledge of human history in cases where other disciplines lack the relevant data to do so

Principal Component Analysis of Jewish, Indian and worldwide populations.

Each panel presents the top two principal components for a set of populations that include Bene Israel together with: (A) Jewish, Indian, Pakistani, Middle Eastern and four worldwide HapMap populations (CEU, CHB, JPT and YRI); (B) Jewish, Middle-Eastern, Pakistani and Indian populations; (C) Indian and Pakistani populations; (D) Jewish, Middle-Eastern and Pakistani populations. Abbreviations of Jewish populations: Bene Israel (Bene), Algerian Jews (ALGJ), Ashkenazi Jews (ASHJ), Djerban Jews (DJEJ), Georgian Jews (GEOJ), Greek Jews (GRKJ), Iranian Jews (IRNJ), Iraqi Jews (IRQJ), Italian Jews (ITAJ), Libyan Jews (LIBJ), Moroccan Jews (MORJ), Syrian Jews (SYRJ), Tunisian Jews (TUNJ), Yemenite Jews (YMNJ).



To understand the date completely please read the original article and its graphs at:

[The Genetics of Bene Israel from India Reveals Both Substantial Jewish and Indian Ancestry - PubMed (nih.gov)]

Is our DNA our Soul?

This is new information that DNA comes with its pre - impressions from our ancestors. These impressions change from one life to another.

I also saw a short movie that proves in mouse fear trauma attack that a DNA has suffered in previous lives, it affects the DNA that is transferred to make the new born mice.

So it is really possible that our 50% happiness level is pre-set through our previous modifications in DNA.

That is why I think our DNA is our Soul. There is nothing like soul. No proof of soul. But DNA has a proof.

Kosher Cannabises Cake sold in Amsterdam

In most of the shops in Amsterdam, you find cannabis energy drinks, cannabis cakes, cookies, lollipops. They don't contain any THC or CBD and you won't get high by consuming them. They are just a form of souvenir or a tourist trap for less informed people.
This is a bit weird but Marijuana is illegal in the Netherlands, however, the government has decided a couple of decades ago to instruct the police to not follow up on this law as marijuana is not addictive and not that dangerous.

As a result space cake and basic marijuana is allowed, in small amounts for personal use. For larger amounts (like in a coffee-shop), you need to have a permit to sell. Besides this, low THC products like marijuana-lolly pops are available at pretty much every tourist shop in Amsterdam.

"कढीपत्ता मोफत कां?"

त्यानंतरचा व्हिडिओ मी सहज उघडून बघितला, तर तिथे वेगवेगळ्या प्रकारच्या भाज्या विकत घेणारा एक माणूस, अखेरीला भाजी विक्रेत्याला हिशोब विचारतो आणि त्यामध्ये शेवटची गोष्ट कढीपत्ता अशी असते की, जिथे तो किंमत लावत नाही. उलट कढीपत्ता फुकट देत असतो. तेव्हा प्रश्न असा की, कढीपत्ता सगळेच भाजीवाले वर्षानुवर्ष फुकट कां देतात?

हा प्रश्न विचारल्यावर तो भाजी विक्रेता एक छानशी जुनी गोष्ट सांगतो आणि त्यातून कढीपत्ता ही पार्वतीमातेने लाखो वर्षापूर्वी मानवतेला दिलेली
देणगी आहे. म्हणूनच, ही कढीपत्त्यासारखी अत्यंत उपयोगी आणि अनेक रोगांवर उपाय असलेली चीज, सगळयांना देवाची परमेश्वराची-पार्वती मातेची देणगी असे समजून कोणीही भाजी विक्रेता सहसा कढीपत्त्याची काहीही किंमत लावत नाही, उलट खुल्या दिलाने तो फुकट देतो. आपणही नेहमी आतापर्यंत ते फुकटच घेत आलो आहोत. व्हिडिओतून ही नवीन माहिती आली.

कढीपत्ता हा पूर्वापार पुराणापासून आपल्यापर्यंत आलेला असा औषधी वस्तूचा ठेवा आहे आणि सहाजिकच माणुसकी आणि समाजाला मदत वृत्तीतून भाजीविक्रेते कढीपत्ता फुकट देतात, त्याचे रहस्य कळले, जे कधीही आत्तापर्यंत माहीत नव्हते. तर अशी गम्मत सोशल मिडियाची आहे की तुम्हाला काहीतरी नवीन जाणीव, नवीन माहिती त्यामधून मिळते.

पुस्तक : श्रद्धा
लेखक : एफ्राइम एन.एस.

श्रेष्ठ कौन!

श्रेष्ठ कोण ?

जग निर्माण होण्यापूर्वी पृथ्वीही नव्हती. फक्त सर्वत्र अंधार आणि पाणी होते.

परमेश्वरी आत्मा पाण्यावर होता.

परमेश्वराने प्रथम उजेड निर्माण केला. त्यामुळे दिवस आणि रात्र आली.

पाण्याचे दोन भाग केले. वरचा थर वर नेताच आकाश बनले. व पाण्याच्या खालच्या थराचे दोन विभाग केले. एक समुद्र बनला व दुसरी जमीन बनली. आशा पध्दतीने पृथ्वी निर्माण झाली. जमिनीवर हिरवळ उगवली आणि सबीज फळांची लहानमोठी झाडे उत्पन्न झाली.

रात्र आणि दिवस हयाकरिता दोन दीप आकाशात निर्माण केले. चंद्र व सूर्य.

समुद्रात मासे उत्पन्न केले व हवेत उडणारे सर्व प्रकारचे पक्षी निर्माण केले.

पृथ्वीवर जिवंत प्राणी, जनावरे, सरपटणारे प्राणी निर्माण केले. सर्व प्राण्यांवर ताबा करावा म्हणून पुरुष व स्त्री उत्पन्न केली.

नुकतेच निर्माण झालेले जग व त्यातील परमेश्वराने निर्माण केलेले सर्व समान होते.

ना कोणी श्रेष्ठ ना कोणी कनिष्ठ. त्यावेळची ही गोष्ट.....

गर्वाने फुगून मोठ्या डौलात, पर्वत तटस्थ उभा होता. तो मोठ्याने गडाडून आजूबाजूच्या सृष्टीला म्हणाला, "मी सर्वात श्रेष्ठ आहे, हे माझ्या गगनचुंबी उंचीवरुन व भरदार शरीर विस्तारावरुन सिध्द होत आहे....."

तोच खण्ऽऽ.. घण्ण्ऽऽ.. खण्ऽऽ.. घण्ण्.. असा खण्खणाट ऐकू आला. तसे पर्वताने गर्विष्ठ स्वरांत विचारले,
"कोण आहे? मी बोलत असता, मध्येच व्यत्यय आणणारा क्षुल्लक प्राणी कोण आहेस तू ?

घण् घण्न् शब्द उमटले.

"परंतु तू आहेस तरी कोण ? माझ्या सोबत धाडसाने संवाद करणारा !" पर्वत आपला स्वर मंद करीत उद्गारला!

"मी लोखंड आहे! लोखंड!! माझ्या तडाख्याने तुझे राई राई इतके तुकडे करण्यांत येतील" घण्... घण्ण्... आवाज करणाऱ्याने उत्तर दिले.

पर्वताचा नूर बदलला व तो मान खाली घालून डोळे मिटून निपचीत पडून राहिला लोखंड घमेंडीत उडया मारीत पुढे चालू लागले. खण्ऽऽ... घण्ण्... खण्ऽऽ. घण्ण्ऽ

इतक्यात कड्ड्... फड्ड्... कड्... फड्... असा आवाज

ऐकू येताच, लोखंड थांबला व त्याने आपल्या मार्गात आडवा येणाऱ्यास उद्धटपणे विचारले.

"माझ्या मार्गात अडथळा आणणारा तू मूर्ख कोण आहेस? तू मला ओळखत नाहीस? मी लोखंड आहे. सर्व श्रेष्ठ लोखंड आहे. तू माझा अपमान केला आहेस. आणि त्याबद्दल तुला योग्य शासन मिळेल!"

कड्ड्.. फड्ड्.. कड्.. फड्.. असा आवाज निघून शब्द उमटले, "उगाच गर्वाने अंध होऊन, मला शासन देण्याविषयी मूर्खासारखे बरळू नकोस! मी अग्नि आहे तुझ्या कणखर शरीराचे क्षणांत पाणी पाणीच करुन टाकीन!"

गर्वाने अंध झालेल्या लोखंडास संताप आला आणि त्याने अग्निवर हल्ला केला. पण हाय! क्षणांत तो होरपळून बाहेर पडून पळून गेला.

अग्नि मोठ्याने हास्य करीत लोखंडाच्या पाठलागावर निघाला.

बऱ्याच वेळाने त्याला झुळ...झुळ...खळ्ळ...खळ्ळ... असा ध्वनी ऐकू येऊ लागला. तसा अग्नि त्या रोखाने सरसावला. त्याचवेळी शब्द दुमदुमू लागले,

"पुढे पाऊल टाकू नकोस! आल्या पावली माघारी जा!! अग्नि कड्.. फड्.. करीत तड्फडत उद्गारला, "मी लोखंडाचा शोध करीत जात असता तू माझा मार्ग का रोखलास? चल निमूटपणे बाजूला हो आणि माझा मार्ग मोकळा कर पाहू. नाही तर मी तुझे क्षणांत भस्म करीन!"

झुळ..झुळ.. खळ्ळ्.. खळ्ळ्.. असा मोठ्याने आवाज करुन पाणी उसळून अग्निच्या अंगावर धावून आले. अग्निसुद्धा भडकला व त्याने पाण्याशी झुंज दिली.

परंतु या लढ्यांत अग्निचा पराभव झाला. चर्र्.. चर्र्.. करुन अग्नि नष्ट झाला.

आपला विजय झालेला पाहून पाण्याला फारच मौज वाटली, आणि ते लहरी लहरीने झुळके घेत इकडे तिकडे स्वैर धावू लागले.

घूंऽऽ.. घूंऽऽ.. घूंऽऽ.. घूंऽऽ.. असा ध्वनी उमटून स्वैर धावणाऱ्या पाण्यास कोणी तरी त्याच्या मनाविरुद्ध भलत्या सलत्या दिशेकडे वहावत घेऊन जाऊ लागले.

तसे पाणी गोंधळून म्हणाले, "मला सोड पाहू! माझ्या नादी लागू नकोस!! नाहीतर मी तुला नष्ट करुन टाकीन."

परंतु चकार शब्द न उच्चारता हसत खिदळत घुं...घूं असा आवाज करीत खोडकर वारा पाण्याला पकडून गोल गोल घिरट्या मारीत पाण्याच्या मनाविरुध्द त्याला दूर दूर घेऊन जाऊ लागला.

पाणी वाऱ्याच्या अंगावर झेप घेऊन त्याला नष्ट करण्याचा आटोकाट प्रयत्न करु लागले.

पण व्यर्थ वारा पाण्याला दाद देईना. वारा पाण्याला घेऊन गोल गोल घिरट्या घेत फार दूर गेला. त्यामुळे पाणी थकून गेले व धापा टाकीत निपचीत पडून राहिले.

जोराजोरांत गोल गोल घिरट्या मारल्यामुळे वाऱ्याचे डोके गरगर फिरु लागले त्यामुळे वारा पाण्यापासून दूर निघून गेला. परंतु अंगात जोम संचार करु लागल्यामुळे, त्याला अजून गोल गोल घिरट्या मारीत भरारी मारण्याची लहर आली, व तो भर वेगाने धावत सुटला घूंऽऽ घूंऽऽ घूंऽऽ घूंऽऽ

मार्गात काही तरी आडवे आले आणि त्याचा मार्ग रोखला गेला. तो रागावून घुंऽऽ घूंऽऽ करीत किंचाळला,

"महामूर्खा! माझ्या मार्गातून दूर हो!! नाही तर, मी तुला सुध्दा गोल गोल फिरवून दूर भिरकावून देईन!"

पण त्याला प्रत्युत्तर मिळाले नाही. त्यामुळे वारा पिसाळून जोरात धावला. परंतु मार्गात आडव्या आलेल्या भल्या मोठ्या पर्वतापुढे त्याची शक्ती कुचकामी ठरली. तो जितक्या वेगाने पुढे गेला तितक्याच वेगाने माघारी परतला....

पर्वत छाती फुगवून मोठ्या डौलात तटस्थ उभा होता!!

इस्त्रायलचा एलियाझ दांडेकर

इस्त्रायलची निर्मिती झाल्यावर महाराष्ट्रातूनही काही ज्यू तिकडे गेले. आणि आता त्याच ज्यूंचा एक वारसदार भारतात आपली मूळं शोधत फिरतो, मराठी शिकून आपल्या पूर्वजांनी केलेल्या पराक्रमांच्या नोंदी शोधतो. त्याच्या वर्तमानात त्याचा इतिहास हीच त्याची एक नवीन ओळख ठरते आहे...

१९४८ साली इस्त्रायलची निर्मिती झाल्यावर जगभरातून ज्यू इस्त्रायलकडे ओढ लागले. भारतातील बेने इस्त्रायली, बगदादी, सिरियन ज्यूंनीही त्यांचीच वाट धरली. अगदी अलीकडे ईशान्य भारतातील बेने मनाशे जमातीने तिकडे स्थलांतर केले. महाराष्ट्रातून आणि भारतातून गेलेले ज्यू आता वयस्क झालेत. ते मराठी बोलतात का, ते कोणते पदार्थ खात असतील, असे प्रश्न सतत पडत होतेच.

पण एलियाझ दांडेकरची भेट झाली आणि त्या सर्व प्रश्नांची उत्तरं मिळाली. एलियाझ हा एकदम तरुण तुर्क इतिहासकार, लेखक आणि फोटोग्राफर आहे. बेने इस्त्रायली लोकांनी आपली मूळ संस्कृती, इतिहास विसरू नये यासाठी तो गेली दहा वर्षं धडपडत आहे. त्याच्याशी आधी इंटरनेटवरून मैत्री झाली होती; पण तो भारतात भेटीवर आल्यावर प्रत्यक्ष भेटलोच आम्ही.

इस्त्रायलमध्ये गेल्यापासून भारतीय ज्यू तिथल्या नव्याने निर्माण झालेल्या समाजात मिसळून गेले. नव्या रितीभातींबरोबर जुन्या भारतीय आठवणींना घेऊन त्यांचा प्रवास सुरू झाला. पण काळ बदलत गेला तसे मराठी बोलणारे लोक कमी होत गेले. सध्याच्या दोन पिढ्या तर तिकडेच जन्मलेल्या आहेत, त्यामुळे तरुण पिढीला आपल मूळ भारतात होतं इतकंच आठवतं पण आपल्या कामधामात ते इतके व्यग्र की, वर्तमानापलीकडे इतिहासाचा शोध कोण घेणार? आपल्या इतिहासाचं डॉक्युमेंटेशन व्हायला हवं असं अनेकांना वाटतं. चर्चा होतात, पण ते करायला फारसा कुणाला वेळ नसतोच. एलियाझने मात्र ही कोंडी फोडली. भारताबद्दल त्याला आकर्षण वाटत होतंच; त्यातून आपल्या पूर्वजांची भूमी पाहणं, त्याबद्दल माहिती गोळा करणं आत्यावश्यक आहे असं त्याला वाटू लागलं. त्यामुळे २०१० साली त्याने घरी सरळ जाहीर करून टाकलं, मी या वर्षी भारतात जाणारा त्याच्या निर्णयावर लगेच काय बोलायचं हे कोणालाच कळेना. शेवटी त्याची एक आत्या त्याच्याबरोबर निघेल्या आणि त्याना दफन करण्यात आले. एलियाझच्या एक पूर्वजांनी ईस्ट इंडिया कंपनीविरोधात १८५७ साली झालेल्या बंडामध्ये सहभाग घेतला होता. सुभेदार शामाजी भाई. वाटा-कुठ्यांमधून जाताना शर्ट फाटला आणि पायालाही भरपूर लागलं. ठेचकाळत पुढे जात असतानाच अचानक एक नाग समोर येऊन थांबला. मी श्वास रोखून

आडनावांची गंमत

बेने इस्त्रायलीचे वैशिष्ट्य असलेले आणखी म्हणजे त्यांची पारंपरिक पद्धतीनी आडनावे इस्त्रायलमध्ये राहून पडत आहेत. शिंदेकर, दिवेकर, पेणकर, ठाणेकर, पाटकर, घोसकर, आळसकर, तळेकर, विरोणकर, अष्टिमकर अशी उदा. कुलाबा (आताचा रायगड) जिल्ह्यातील पारंपरिक आलेली आडनावे खापरण्यांनाजी बेने इस्त्रायली पूर्वजांची तोंडेच आडनावे म्हणून वापरू लागली आहेत. (जसे भारतामध्ये गेलेल्या काही लोकांनी कुटुंबातील जर पहिल्या माणसाने भारतामध्ये पाऊल ठेवले त्याचेच नाव आडनाव म्हणून वापरण्यास सुरुवात केली. जसे की, बापू, पाडू, दगडू) एलियाझ इस्त्रायलमधे कोणीही बेने इस्त्रायली तरुण व्यक्ती भेटली की त्याना त्याचे आडनाव विचारतो. तेव्हा ते एखाद्या व्यक्तीचे नाव सांगतात, त्याना... समजिग कर... अशी अपेक्षा. पूसर माहिती असते. तेव्हा तो त्याना मूळ आडनावे घरी विचारून वापरण्याची विनंती करतो. एलियाझला स्वतःला वयाच्या दहाव्या वर्षी त्याचे आडनाव दांडेकर असल्याचे समजले. त्यापूर्वी सर्व लोक हसेन हे आडनाव वापरत. एलियाझने शाळेपासूनच स्वतःचे आडनाव दांडेकर असे वापरायला सुरु

भारतात जाणारा त्याच्या निर्णयावर लगेच काय बोलायचं हे कोणालाच कळेना. शेवटी त्याची एक आत्या त्याच्याबरोबर यायला तयार झाली. आत्या जातेय म्हणून त्याची आईही तयार झाली. यासर्वांची तयारी पाहून निघण्यापूर्वी केवळ एक आठवडाभर आधी त्याच्या भावानही आपण सोबत असल्याचे सांगून टाकले. २०१० साली त्याने सुरू केलेला हा भारत आणि इतिहासाचा प्रवास. त्याच्या कुटुंबातील अनेक पूर्वजांना युद्धात हौतात्म्य आल्याचे, त्यांची थडगी भारतात अनेक ठिकाणी पसरली आहेत, त्याच्या पूर्वजांनी ठाण्यात आणि मुंबईत सिनेगॉग्ज स्थापन केल्याची भन्नाट माहिती त्याच्या हाती लागली.

मुंबईतील सर्वात जुने सिनेगॉग गेट ऑफ मर्सी बांधणारे सामाजी हासाजी दिवेकर (सॅम्युएल इझिकेल दिवेकर १७३०-१७९७) हे एलियाझचे पूर्वज होते. त्यांनी बांधलेले सिनेगॉग मुंबईत जुनी मसीद म्हणून ओळखली जाते. सामाजी सुभेदार कमांडंट पदावर सैन्यात होते. त्यामुळे त्यांना कमांडंट मुकादम म्हटले जाई, त्याचा अपभ्रंश आता कमोडेन मोकादम असा झाला. एलियाझच्या सुभेदार पेजर सॅम्युएल मोझेस नागावकर (१८१६-१९०४) या पूर्वजांनी १८७१ साली ठाण्यामध्ये गेट ऑफ हेवन हे सिनेगॉग बांधल्याचेही त्याला भारत भेटीमध्ये समजले. सॅम्युएल नागावकर यांचा बेंगलुरूमध्ये मृत्यू झाला आणि म्हैसूरमध्ये ज्यू धर्मीयांना एकत्र पूर्वजांना इस्ट इंडिया कंपनीविरोधात १८५७ साली झालेल्या बंडामध्ये सहभाग घेतला होता. सुभेदार सामाजी (सॅम्युएल) दांडेकर हे त्यांचे नाव. बंडात सहभाग घेतल्याबद्दल त्यांना जबलपूरमध्ये फासावर चढविण्यात आले. त्यांना तेथील ज्यू स्मशानभूमीच्या बाहेर पुरण्यात आलं. या स्मशानाची व सॅम्युएल यांच्या थडग्याची आज वाताहात झाली आहे. या सर्व दफनभूमींनाही एलियाझने भेटी दिल्या. इस्रायलमधील तसेच अहमदाबाद, जयपूर, अबू रोड, दिल्ली, इंदौर, जबलपूर, मुंबई, कोकणातील गाव, ठाणे, कर्नाटक-केरळातील गावांमधील सर्व ज्यू स्मशानांना भेटी देऊन त्यानं छायाचित्रे काढली आणि नोंदीही केल्या आहेत. आपल्या कुटुंबाच्या इतिहासावर त्यान एक पुस्तकही प्रसिद्ध केल आहे.

एलियाझने त्याच्या २०१०, २०१५ आणि २०१६ या तिन्ही भारतप्रवासांमध्ये ५० सिनेगॉग्जना भेटी दिल्या आहेत. १००हून अधिक ज्यू स्मशानभूमी आणि ५००० थडगी पाहून त्याचा अभ्यास केला आहे. पण सध्या या स्मशानभूमींची असणारी अवस्था त्याला फारच चिंताजनक वाटते. जबलपूरमध्ये १८५७च्या बंडात इंग्रजांविरुद्ध लढणाऱ्या त्याच्या पूर्वजांना सुळावर चढवले त्यांच्या समाध्यांची तोडफोड झाली आहे. काही थडग्यांना शेळ्या, मेंढ्याही बांधल्या जातात. आवारामध्ये स्मशानभूमी पाहण्याचा थरारक अनुभव सांगताना तो म्हणाला, तेथे झाडे, वेलींचे गचपण

एलियाझ उत्तम, खणखणीत मराठी बोलतो. या खेपेस त्याच्याबरोबर त्याच्या दोन चुलत बहिणी भारत भेटीवर आल्या होत्या. त्यांना भारतातील सिनेगॉग्ज, स्टार ऑफ डेव्हिड, हिब्रू प्रार्थना करणारे लोक पाहून आश्चर्याचे धक्के बसत होते असं त्यान गमतीत सांगून टाकलं. पंचाऱ्या वर्षी तेल अविव विद्यापीठ आणि मुंबई विद्यापीठ यांनी एकत्र येऊन तेल अविवमध्ये मराठीचे वर्ग घेतले, त्यातही त्याने सहभाग घेतला होता. कुतूहलापोटी अनेक लोकांनी या वर्गात प्रवेश घेतला होता. मराठीच्या वर्गामध्ये खूप नव्या गोष्टी त्याला शिकायला मिळाल्या; कारण बेने इस्रायली थोडे वेगळे शब्द आणि वेगळे हेल काढून मराठी बोलतात. प्रमाण मराठीमुळे वाचन आणि लेखन करायलाही सोपे जाईल म्हणून असे वर्ग पुन्हा इस्रायलमध्ये सुरू व्हावेत, असे तो म्हणतो.

पायालाही भरपूर लागल. ठरवलेल्या पुढे जाऊ असतानाच अचानक एक नाग समोर येऊन थांबला. मी श्वास रोखून कसेबसे तसाच स्थिर राहिलो. काही क्षणानंतर तो निघून गेला. एवढी धडपड केल्यावर मला पुढे झाडांच्या मुळांखालची, मातीत गाडली गेलेली दहा थडगी दिसली. एलियाझने १७व्या व १८व्या शतकातील थडग्यावर कोरलेली हिब्रू अक्षरे शोधून काढली आहेत. भारतीय ज्यू समाज गेल्या शतकात हिब्रू शिकला हे चूक असल्याचे त्याचे मत आहे. इस्रायलमध्ये आज बेने इस्रायली लोकांच्या आठवणींना, साहित्याला एकत्र करण्याची गरज आहे, असे एलियाझला वाटते. त्यासाठी तो लोकांना आवर्जून भेटतो. त्यांच्याकडील छायाचित्रे डिजिटाईज करतो. त्याच्या पुस्तकाचे लेखनही जोमात सुरू आहे. कामोदेन मोकादम नावाने स्वत:चे प्रकाशनगृह स्थापन करून त्याने स्वत:चे पुस्तक प्रकाशित केले. त्याचे दुसरे व तिसरे पुस्तक प्रकाशनाच्या मार्गावर आहे. 'भारतीय ज्यू' या विषयावरची त्याच्याकडे हिंदी, मराठी, इंग्रजीतील जवळपास २०० पुस्तके आहेत, त्यात एका ज्येष्ठ पुस्तकाचाही समावेश आहे. या अभ्यासाच्या निमित्ताने तो मराठी, हिब्रू, इंग्रजीसह उर्दू व थोडे अरेबिकही शिकला आहे.

- ओंकार करंबेळकर

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[illegible] आडनाव दांडेकर असे कागदावरून सुरू केले आणि मी तेच आडनाव लावणार असे घरी सांगून टाकले. आता त्याचे नाव एलियाझ रेबेका दांडेकर के. एम. असे लांबलचक झाले आहे. यातील के. एम. दोन्ही वेगळी कथा आहे. कमाडंट मुकादम या पदाचा अपभ्रंश कामोदेन मोकादम असा होऊन तो पदवी आता आडनावाला चिकटली आहे.

बोलता बोलता आमच्या बोलण्यात रिबेका रुबेन या मुंबईतील एलो कबुतरी शाळेत प्रदीर्घ काळ मुख्याध्यापिका असणाऱ्या शिक्षणतज्ज्ञाचा उल्लेख आला, तेव्हा त्याचे आडनाव नौगावकर असल्याचे त्याने सांगितले. त्यानंतर बोलता बोलता मी त्याला मुंबईचे एक डॉ. एलिजाह मोझेस (कार्यकाळ-१९३७-३८) नावाचे ज्यू महापौर होते. त्यांच्या नावाने इ. मोझेस नावाने वरळीत असणाऱ्या रुग्णालयाच्या मागे ऑफिस आहे असं मी त्याला सांगितलं. त्यावर तो चटकन म्हणाला, त्यांचे पूर्ण नाव डॉ. एलिजाह मोझेस राजपूरकर आहे. इस्रायलमधील बेने इस्रायली आणि भारतातील लोक तेही मूळ आडनावे विसरू नयेत हीच माझी इच्छा आहे. मूळ आडनावे वापरण्यात अभिमान बाळगला आहे, असे तो सर्वांना समजावून सांगतो.

शार हाशामाईम @ १३७ वर्ष

सुमारे २००० वर्षांपूर्वी इस्रायलमधून बाहेर पडलेल्या काही ज्यू समुहांची पलवटे कोकणातील नौगावच्या किनाऱ्यावर लागली. त्यानंतर नौगाव गावात स्थायीक झालेले ज्यू त्यावेळच्या कुलाबा म्हणजे आजच्या रायगड जिल्ह्यात इतरत्र गावांमध्ये स्थायिक होऊ लागली. सुरुवातीच्या काळामध्ये फेरीवाले तेलघाण्याचा व्यवसाय करणारे हे लोक इतर समुदायांच्या तुलनेत शिक्षणाचे प्रमाण जास्त असल्यामुळे इतर नोकऱ्या आणि व्यवसाय करू लागली. त्यासाठी मुंबई आणि आसपासच्या परिसरामध्ये ते स्थायिक होऊ लागले. सुमारे पावशे ते सहाशे वर्षांपूर्वी ही मंडळी ठाण्यामध्ये आली असावीत.

- ओंकार करंबेळकर

ठाण्यात ज्यूंच्या संख्येकडे लक्ष देता त्यांच्यासाठी प्रार्थनास्थळाची निर्मिती करण्याचा विचार सुरु झाला. १८७९ साली शार हाशामाईम (गेट ऑफ हेवन, स्वर्गाचे द्वार) या सिनेगॉगची ठाण्यात स्थापना करण्यात आली. येथे इस्रायल समुदायामधील एक अग्रणी व्यक्तिमत्व सुभेदार मेजर सॅम्युएल मोझेस नागावकर (१८१६-१९०४) यांचा या सिनेगॉगच्या निर्मितीमध्ये मोठा वाटा आहे.

२६ मार्च १८७८ रोजी त्यांनी सिनेगॉगचे बांधकाम सुरु केले आणि २९ डिसेंबर १८७९ रोजी ते पूर्णत्वास गेले. या कामासाठी त्यांना त्यांचे सर्वात जवळचे मित्र सॅमसन डेव्हिड गेढेकर, सुभेदार मेजर एझिकेल सोलोमन पेणकर यांची मोलाची मदत मिळाली. या आठवड्यामध्ये सिनेगॉगला १३७ वर्षे पूर्ण होत आहेत. ठाण्यातील सिव्हिल हॉस्पीटल येथील सिनेगॉग चौक येथे आजही ही इमारत दिमाखात उभी आहे.

सुभेदार मेजर सॅम्युएल मोझेस नागावकर आणि त्यांची पत्नी

मैत्री कायम राहो

येथे इस्रायली लोक २००० वर्षे भारतात शाततामय वातावरणात राहिले. ही मैत्री अशीच अखंड

बांधकाम सुरू केले आणि २९ डिसेंबर १८७९ रोजी ते पूर्णत्वास गेले. या कामासाठी त्यांना त्यांचे सर्वात जवळचे मित्र सॅमसन डेव्हिड गेडेकर, सुभेदार मेजर एझिकेल सोलोमन पेणकर यांची मोलाची मदत मिळाली. या आठवड्यामध्ये सिनेगॉगला १३७ वर्षे पूर्ण होत आहेत. ठाण्यातील सिव्हिल हॉस्पीटल येथील सिनेगॉग चौक येथे आजही ही इमारत दिमाखात उभी आहे.

सुभेदार नागावकर यांचा जन्म ठाण्यातच झाला होता. वयाच्या सोळाव्या वर्षी ते बॉम्बे नेटिव्ह इन्फ्रंट्रीच्या दहाव्या रेजिमेंटमध्ये भरती झाले. नोकरीमध्ये त्यांनी भारतासह येमेन, इथिओपिया येथेही योगदान दिले. लष्करी अधिकाऱ्यासह त्यांची धार्मिक नेते म्हणूनही ओळख होती. त्यांनी विविध धार्मिक कामामध्ये सहभाग घेतला होता. सुभेदार नागावकर यांनी प्रथम पत्नीच्या निधनानंतर दुसरा विवाह केला होता. त्यांना चार मुलगे आणि एक मुलगी अशी अपत्ये होती. त्यातील एब्राहम हे बेने इस्रायली समुदायातील पहिला अभियंता म्हणून प्रसिद्धीस पावले तर दुसरा मुलगा रुबेन यांनी पोलीस अधीक्षक म्हणून नाव कमावले. त्यांची मुलगी रेचलने कमोडेन मोकादम दिपेकर कुटुंबात विवाह केला. आज सुभेदारांचे वंशज विविध क्षेत्रात नाव कमावत आहे. भारत आणि इस्रायलमध्ये त्यांची प्रगती सुरू आहे. मॅट्रिक्युलेशन परीक्षा पास होणाऱ्या पहिल्या महिला आणि शिक्षणतज्ज्ञ रिबेका रुबेन नौगांवकर, परदेशात शिक्षण घेण्यास शिष्यवृत्ती मिळालेल्या आणि कामा हॉस्पिटलच्या मेडिकल ऑफिसर इनचार्ज डॉ. जेरुषा झिराड, बेनी रुबेन, इस्रायली लेखक आणि इतिहासकार एलियाझ दांडेकर त्यांचे वंशज आहेत.

सुभेदार मेजर सॅम्युएल मोझेस नागावकर आणि त्यांची पत्नी

शार हाशामाईम

मैत्री कायम राहो

बेने इस्रायली लोक २००० वर्षे भारतात शांततामय वातावरणात राहिले. ही मैत्री अशीच अतूट राहो. माझे बालपण भारतामध्ये गेले आहे. सुभेदार मेजर सॅम्युएल नागावकर यांनी बांधलेले हे सिनेगॉग आम्हाला कायम आनंद देत राहील, असे मत सध्या भारत भेटीवर आलेले सुभेदार नागावकर यांचे वंशज रेमंड बी. रुबेन दांडेकर यांनी व्यक्त केले.

सुभेदारांच्या बंगल्यातील कब्रीजवळ इस्रायली लेखक एलियाझ दांडेकर.

स्मशानभूमीची समस्या : बेने इस्रायली समुदायाची ठाण्यात नितीन कंपनी परिसरात असलेली स्मशानभूमी रस्त्याच्या कामामध्ये पूर्णत: गेली. हे स्मशान पाचशे वर्षे जुने होते म्हणजेच ठाण्यातील ज्यू सुमारे पाचशे ते सहाशे वर्षांपासून ठाण्यात राहात असावेत. त्यानंतर पोखरण रस्ता १ येथेही त्यांच्या स्मशानभूमीचा ४७९ चौ. मी इतका भूभाग आणि नऊ मीटरी रस्ता रुंदीकरणात यावी लागली. त्याबदल्यात आयुक्तांनी जागा देण्याचे आश्वासन दिले होते, तो लवकर मिळावी अशी अपेक्षा ठाण्यातील ज्यू व्यक्त करतात.

सुभेदार नागावकर यांचे अखेरचे दिवस बंगळुरू मध्ये गेले. म्हैसूरचे राजे कृष्णराजा वडियार (सहावे) यांनी ज्यू समुहाला दिलेल्या जागेत त्यांचे दफन करण्यात आले. या स्मशानात दफन होणारे ते पहिलेच होते. सुभेदार सॅम्युएल नागावकर यांच्या धार्मिक आणि सामाजिक कार्याबद्दल त्यांचे आजही नाव आदराने घेतले जाते. आज ठाणे आणि परिसरामध्ये सुमारे १८०० ज्यू लोक राहतात. या लोकांना शार हाशामाइमचा प्रार्थनेसाठी मोठा आधार आहे.

प्रत्येक सोमवारी आणि इतर महत्त्वाच्या दिवशी येथे प्रार्थनेसाठी ज्यू समुदाय जमतो आणि शब्बाथच्या दिवशी म्हणजे शनिवारीही येथे प्रार्थना करण्यास इच्छुकांना विशेष सोय केली जाते. तसेच मुलांना हिब्रू शिकण्यासाठी वर्ग चालवले जातात. इस्रायलमधून आलेल्या लोकांना येथे राहण्यासाठी सोयही केली जाते. भारतीय समाजाने गेली दोन हजार वर्षे आम्हाला सहकार्य केले ते आजही तसेच सुरू आहे, येथील काही संकल्पना, चालीरीती आम्ही स्वीकारल्या आहेत. आजही आमच्या प्रार्थनास्थळांना सरकारकडून संरक्षण मिळते अशा शब्दांमध्ये सिनेगॉगचे अध्यक्ष सॅम्युएल डॅनियल बाणणोलकर, विश्वस्त एजरा मोझेस, एब्राहम मोझेस, डेव्हिड घोसाळकर, मोझेस अब्राहम फणसपूरकर यांनी व्यक्त केली. रविवार २५ डिसेंबर रोजी या सिनेगॉगमध्ये १३७ वर्षे आणि हनुक्का सणाप्रित्यर्थ संध्याकाळी कार्यक्रम होत आहे. डॉ. योराम निसिम गडकर या कार्यक्रमाचे अध्यक्ष असतील.

10 commandments for the **over-50s**

Act and behave your age

Face and accept the reality of getting old, its consequences, and the limitations which growing old brings. Quit fooling yourself by trying to look like you were in your youth.

Move on

Focus on enjoying people and not on indulging in/or accumulating material things. Enjoy life and meet new people. Do the things you have always wanted to do but was unable to do so. Follow your dream and your hearts' desire.

Plan to spend whatever you have saved

You deserve to enjoy it and the few healthy years you have left. Travel if you can afford it. Don't leave anything for your children or loved ones to quarrel about. By leaving anything, you may cause even more trouble when you are gone.

Live in the present

Live in the here and now, not in the yesterdays and tomorrows. It is only today that you can handle. Yesterday is gone, tomorrow may not even happen.

Spoil your grandchildren

Enjoy and spoil your grandchildren (if you are blessed with any) but don't be their full-time baby sitter. You have no moral obligation to take care of them. Don't have any guilt feelings about refusing to baby sit anyone's kids, including your own grandkids. Your parental obligation is to your children. After you have raised them into responsible adults, your duties of child-rearing and babysitting are finished. Let your children raise their own offspring.

Accept your health

Enjoy whatever your health can allow. Accept your physical weakness, sickness, limitations and other physical pains. It is a part of the ageing process.

Retire

Enjoy what you are and what you have right now. Stop working hard for what you do not have. If you do not have them, it's probably too late.

Love yourself

Accept yourself for what and who you are. People, who truly love you, love you for yourself and not for what you have or for what you can give them. Anyone who loves you for what you have will just give you misery.

Forgive and forget

Forgive and forget all those who have wronged you. Forgive yourself and others. Forget the slights, hurts, and misfortunes of yesterday. Look towards the future. Enjoy peace of mind and soul.

Befriend death

Don't be afraid of death. It's a natural part of the cycle of life. Death is the beginning of a new and better life. So, prepare yourself not for death but for a new life.

Shani

Passover & कल्हईवाला |Pot coating of metallic utensils in India कल्हई

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lnMI7_2cs3g

Tincoating (kalhai in marathi कल्हई) of copper and brass vessels and plates is now current in many parts of India. food placed in them. This action is lessened, if not prevented, by the tin coating applied to the vessels. Persons who have made tin-coating a profession are called 'Kalhaiwallas'

Every Passover our Grand Mother Rebecca Ezekiel Daniels Walwatkar would get all the utensils, first cleaned and then get it coated with shining new metal coating and then dip each one of them in hot water for getting them ready to be used for Passover. We remember standing around the Kalhaiwallas who use to dig a small hole in the ground so that its air blowing nozzle is below the fire and then they would heat the pots and apply tin, that would melt due to high temperature and then they would spread the molten tin all around pot with a folded cloth …and the magic was done… the inside of the pot became shining like new.

What Does the Jewish Saddest day teach us?

Tisha B'av teaches us to pause and mourn and appreciate what we no longer have—so long as we don't stop at self-pity. While these episodes of *Jewish history* are indeed tragic, our collective *Jewish memory* must be more expansive. As the sages of the *Talmud* (a collection of rabbinic commentaries) stated, "On the day the Temple was destroyed, the Messiah was born." That is: Out of the flames of tragedy and loss come the sparks of redemption and change.

Panvel Cemetery-A letter of Apology 7 April. 2022

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प्रति,

माननीय अध्यक्ष
ज्युईश सीमेंन्ट्री ट्रस्ट आणि शुभानशाह दर्गा ट्रस्ट
पनवेल.

मी एक पत्रकार म्हणून मला सायमन दिघोडकर आणि इत्यादी यांनी दिलेल्या खोट्या माहितीनुसार मी ज्युईश सीमेंन्ट्री ट्रस्ट आणि शुभानशाह दर्गा ट्रस्ट विरुद्ध तक्रार केली होती, पण जेव्हा मी स्वतः शहानिशा केली असता असे आढळून आले की तसं काहीही घडलेले नाही. ज्युईश सीमेंन्ट्री ट्रस्ट आणि शुभानशाह दर्गा ट्रस्ट हे अगदी मैत्रीच्या संबंधात आहेत. म्हणुन मी ज्युईश सीमेंन्ट्री ट्रस्ट आणि शुभानशाह दर्गा ट्रस्ट यांची दिलगीरी व्यक्त करतो. आणि मी सदर ज्युईश सीमेंन्ट्री ट्रस्ट आणि शुभानशाह दर्गा ट्रस्ट यांची फक्त तक्रार केली होती पण अजूनपर्यंत कोठेही प्रसिद्धी माध्यमांना दिली नव्हती. कोणीतरी माझ्या तक्रारीचा गैरवापर केला आहे.

7/4/22
प्रकाश गोपाळ पणीकर

(राष्ट्रीय उपाध्यक्ष इंडियन प्रेस असोसिएशन)
9082296675 / 981992276

היי, אחי ליאו היקר. חדשות אחרונות על בית הקברות היהודי פאנבל. היי, אחי ליאו היקר. חדשות אחרונות על בית הקברות היהודי פאנבל. מר פרקש פאניקהר, נשיא איגוד העיתונאים ההודי, כתב התנצלות בפני קצין משטרה בכיר בפאנבל, והודיע על שמותיהם של אלה שמסרו לו מידע כוזב בראשות סיימון דיגודקאר.

Hi dear Leo brother. Latest news about panvel Jewish Cemetery. Mr. Prakash Panicker, President of the Indian Press Association, wrote an apology to a senior police officer in Panvel, and announced the names of those who gave him false information headed by Simon Digodkar.

हाय डियर लिओन भाहाय डियर लिओन भाइ. पनवेल ज्यू स्मशानभूमीबाबत ताजी बातमी . इंडियन प्रेस असोसिएशनचे अध्यक्ष श्री. प्रकाश पणिकर यांनी पनवेलमधील एका वरिष्ठ पोलीस अधिकाऱ्याकडे माफीनामा लिहून सायमन डिगोडकर यांच्या नेतृत्वाखाली खोटी माहिती देणाऱ्यांची नावे जाहीर केली. ई. पनवेल ज्यू स्मशानभूमीबाबत ताजी बातमी .

After a letter of apology (image on left) was provided, still a new complain was launched in Mumbai by Lawyer Herzel Simon (see image below).

We were informed of this by Mr. Moshe Sogaokar the head of National Community Union for Indian Jews in Israel.

We have asked Lawyer Simon the details of this case but so far we are waiting for his reply.

28.6.22
Today we have received following message from Advocate Herzel Simon

"Due to unavailability of time could not prepare the report. Will do it for the next issue"

Date: 9th June 202

To,
API Mr. Pawar,

Panvel Nagar Police station.

Dera Sir,

Further to my complain to Commissioner of Police Navi Mumbai on 11th Apr 2022, Subsequent call thereafter by Head Constable Medh and my meeting with him I am submitting a detailed complaint with all evidence. Please go through the same and I will visit again for the statement.

Find below mentioned exhibits as attachment.

LIST OF EXHIBITS

1) (Exhibit -1-Order by Joint CC)
2 (Exhibit -2- Audit Report 2018-19)
3) (Exhibit- 3- Bank statement)
4) (Exhibit- 4 - Bank statement)
5) (Exhibit- 5 - Bank statement)
6) (Exhibit- 6- Bank statement)
7) (Exhibit 7- Order dated 28-01-2021 by Pawar madam refer page no 12 point 6) (Exhibit- 6- Bank statement)
8) (Exhibit 8- Complaint by Korlekar at worli Polce and the closing of the baseless case by worli Police)
9) (Exhibit 9- Last page of the agreement)
10) (Exhibit 10- Notice published by Jewish cemetery Trust)
11) (Exhibit -11- Notice published by city real estate developer's)
12) (Exhibit-12- Exchange papers)
13) (Exhibit-13 (Exhibit 13- Pen Drive with photos of old graves, Videos, Youtube video link of the graveyard prior)
14) Exhibit-14 (Copy of the research book with details of the graves. Most of this are destroyed by the Trustees and power of attorney holder Aslum Munshi)
15) Exhibit -15-List of Trustees Beth El synagogue Panvel and Jewish Cemetery Trust Panvel

Adv. Herzel Simon

M-9833325808

Fwd: Complaint
From: CP NAVI MUMBAI (cp.navimumbai@mahapolice.gov.in)
To: dcpzone2nm@gmail.com
Cc: herzel_simon@yahoo.co.in
Date: Monday, 11 April, 2022, 11:57 am IST

Respected Sir/ Madam,

Please see the forwarded mail. You are requested to take necessary action and inform the complainant/ sender accordingly.

The Complainant/ Sender is requested to get in touch with the unit to which the email has been forwarded for further follow up.

Thanks & Regards,
For CP, Navi Mumbai office

Have you ever read the Sharia law? These laws seems made by men for men!

SHARIA LAW — LIST OF KEY RULES — What Is Sharia Law? (billionbibles.org)

• Theft is punishable by amputation of the hands (**Quran 5:38**).
• Criticizing or denying any part of the **Quran** is punishable by death.
• Criticizing **Muhammad** or denying that he is a prophet is punishable by death.
• Criticizing or denying Allah is punishable by death (see **Allah moon god**).
• A Muslim who becomes a non-Muslim is punishable by death (See **Compulsion**).
• A non-Muslim who leads a Muslim away from Islam is punishable by death.
• A non-Muslim man who marries a Muslim woman is punishable by death.
• A woman or girl who has been raped cannot testify in court against her rapist(s).
• Testimonies of 4 male witnesses are required to prove rape of a female (**Quran 24:13**).
• A woman or girl who alleges rape without producing 4 male witnesses is guilty of adultery.
• A woman or girl found guilty of adultery is punishable by death (see "**Islamophobia**").
• A male convicted of rape can have his conviction dismissed by marrying his victim.
• Girls' clitoris should be cut (**Muhammad**'s words, *Book 41, Kitab Al-Adab, Hadith 5251*).
• A man can beat his wife for insubordination (see **Quran 4:34** and **Religion of Peace**).

• A man can unilaterally divorce his wife; a wife needs her husband's consent to divorce.
• Muslim men have sexual rights to any woman/girl not wearing the **Hijab** (see **Taharrush**).
• A woman can have 1 husband, who can have up to 4 wives; **Muhammad** can have more.
• A man can marry an infant girl and consummate the marriage when she is **9 years old**.
• Girls' clitoris should be cut (**Muhammad**'s words, *Book 41, Kitab Al-Adab, Hadith 5251*).
• A man can beat his wife for insubordination (see **Quran 4:34** and **Religion of Peace**).
• A man can unilaterally divorce his wife; a wife needs her husband's consent to divorce.
• A divorced wife loses custody of all children over 6 years of age or when they exceed it.
• A woman's testimony in court, allowed in property cases, carries ½ the weight of a man's.
• A female heir inherits half of what a male heir inherits (see **Mathematics in Quran**).
• A woman cannot speak alone to a man who is not her husband or relative.
• Meat to eat must come from animals that have been sacrificed to Allah - i.e., be "**Halal**."
• Muslims should engage in **Taqiyya** and lie to non-Muslims to advance Islam.

How Did Shaniwar-Teli / Bene-Israel Jewish Education Operate in 1800's

India's Bene Israel Jews | My Jewish Learning

Kazis: (Kazi Baba)

The Bene Israel have always been the largest of the three Jewish communities in India. (The other two are Cochin and Baghdadi.) In 1838, for example, the total Bene Israel population of India was estimated at 8,000, far more than the combined numbers of Baghdadi and Cochin Jews. For generations they lived as a distinct endogamous group in rural villages, some of them in remote areas, throughout the Kolaba District of Maharashtra State. Traditionally, the Bene Israel worked in sesame-oil pressing; they also farmed their land, peddled produce, and worked as skilled carpenters.

Because the Bene Israel families were scattered among many villages, community life in Kolaba District was extremely limited, and group prayer and Jewish rituals took place in the home. The community's religious observance was based on biblical Judaism: they celebrated Jewish holidays related to the Bible; the Sabbath was strictly observed; all male children were circumcised eight days after birth; and the first Hebrew verse of the Shema was recited on all occasions for prayer.

Initially, the Bene Israel had no Torah scrolls, prayer books, or synagogues, nor were they familiar with rabbinic Judaism or the details of halakhah. They were guided by three Bene Israel religious leaders called kazis, who traveled from village to village in order to officiate at all rites of passage.

Our always wonderful Bene-Israel Ladies

Mrs. Seema Jhirad Felicitated

Rahel Bhonkar

Mrs. Seema Jhirad was blessed by "Rashmi Joshi", the environmental woman in the Maharashtra region, on Sunday, May 29th, 2022. This ceremony was organized by Mumbai women welfare forum at "Yishvant Natia Garva Dadar Matonga". Mrs. Seema Jhirad was felicitated by Rashmi Joshi Environmentalist Maharashtra Rajya on Sunday, 29th May 2022.

Our representative Rachel contacted Seema on our behalf and Seema was kind enough to write a few words about herself which we are presenting on next page. We have no way to get matter typed in Marathi so we are presenting the original hand written matter.
Please join us in congratulate Seema, a dedicated social worker for years

मी शीमा शिराड नाकीना सांताक्रुझ (पूर्व) येथे राहत असून मला वाचन, लिहिण्याशिवाय नृत्य गायन व वादन पोहणे याची आवड आहे. मी O R T मधून ट्यूटोरियलचे शिक्षण घेतले असून घरीच त्याचे काम करते.

करोनाच्या काळात मी श्रीपतराव 'रेचलवाई गडकर'च्या' पुस्तकातील गोष्टी सांगून त्याबरोबर सकारात्मक कसे राहायचे? याचे सुद्धा वाचन करून सांगायची. तेव्हा मला अमेरिका, इंग्लंड व कॅनडाकडून उत्तम प्रतिसाद सुद्धा मिळाला.

आता मी माटुंगा येथील A.J.D.C. च्या कार्यालयात 'गोल्डन डेज' कमिनिटीची सभासद तर आहेच पण कमिनिटीवर आहे. मला A J.D.C (अमेरिकन ज्यूइश कमिनिटी) ने 'Scroll of honour'ची पदवी देऊन सन्मान केला होता.

तसेच वाकोला महिला मंडळ, समुपदेशन महिला मंडळ, अरुणोदय वाचकर्स, आमची ग्रायलीची सुद्धा सभासद आहे. वाकोला महिला मंडळ कमीनीटवर आहे. तसेच

'संस्कृति संवर्धन' नैतिक शिक्षा वर्ग याची सभासद असून आम्ही येथे रामायण, महाभारत, संपूर्ण रामायण व बौद्ध कथा यांचे मराठी, इंग्रजी, हिन्दी व गुजराथी या भाषेतून शाळेत जाऊन ५ ते ८ पर्यंतच्या मुलांना शिक्षण देतो. जशी शाळा असेल त्या भाषेतून. पण हे सर्व सेवाभावी. त्या मुलांची परिक्षा घेऊन त्यांना वरिष्ठ देण्यापर्यंत सर्व कामे आम्ही मंडळातील बायका करतो. जर शाळेतील विद्यार्थी गरिब असतील तर सर्व मिळून मदत करतो. तेथून देखील मला पुरस्कार मिळाला आहे.

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मी मराठान स्पर्धेत (चालण्याची) वयोगटानुसार भाग घेऊन बक्षिसे मिळविली आहेत. आमची संस्कृती संवर्धन ही संस्था मुलांना संस्काराचे महत्व समजून सांगते आजकाल मुले, मुली मोबाईल, इंटरनेटच्या इतक्या जवळ गेलेत की संस्कार मागे पडत आहेत. विचारांची देवाण घेवाण होत नाही आणि मुख्य म्हणजे घराच्याशी संवाद. तेच त्यांना समजावून देण्याचे कार्य आमची ही संस्था करते.

अशा प्रकारे समाजउपयोगी कार्य करून स्वतःला उपयोगी ठेवून आनंद मिळवत आहे. उत्तम गृहिणी आहे.

निवडलेला रस्ता जर 'इमानदारीचा व सुंदर' असेल तर थकून जाण्याचा प्रश्नच उरत नाही. भले सोबत कुणी असो वा नसो

धन्यवाद
शीमा शिराड

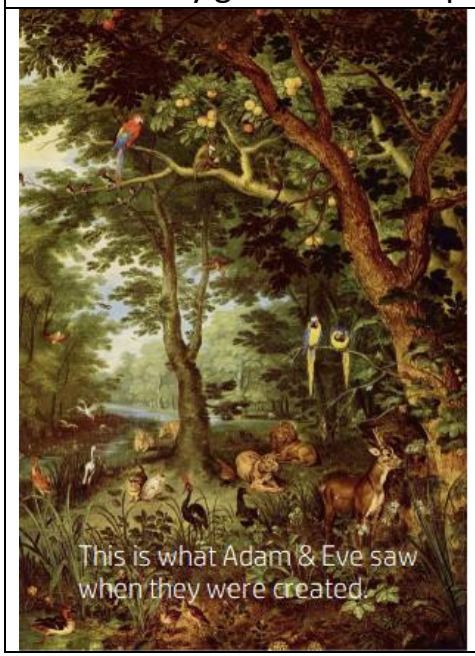
What Mr. Elijah Jacob has to say about Seema Jhirad:

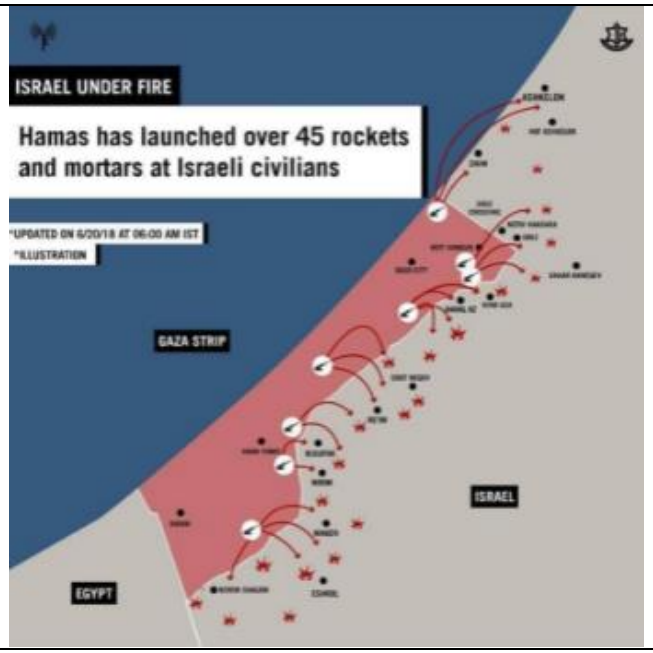
She works as a Honorary Social Worker for 'Natik Shikshan Yojana' in Sanskruti Samvardhan Pratishthan and teaches them Ramayana, Mahabharata & the Great Leaders of India. She also volunteers to teach the class when teachers are not present. She has arranged to send 1000 books on Ramayana, Mahabharata and the Great Leaders of India to Israel for translation into Hebrew and the same is taught in some Israeli Schools.

Seema is also an every ready and active volunteer in the Jewish community. She is an active member of the EPJCC, Golden Age groups, Eves, singer, swimmer and also writes poems. Currently she is learning to play the harmonium and Casio keyboard.

A couple of years ago in 2017 she opened her house to accommodate 10 youth volunteers from Ahmedabad who had come to participate in the Khai Fest event in Mumbai for which they and AJDC is grateful for her kind hospitality.

She is a very good cook and prepares halva, puris and sandans for the community.



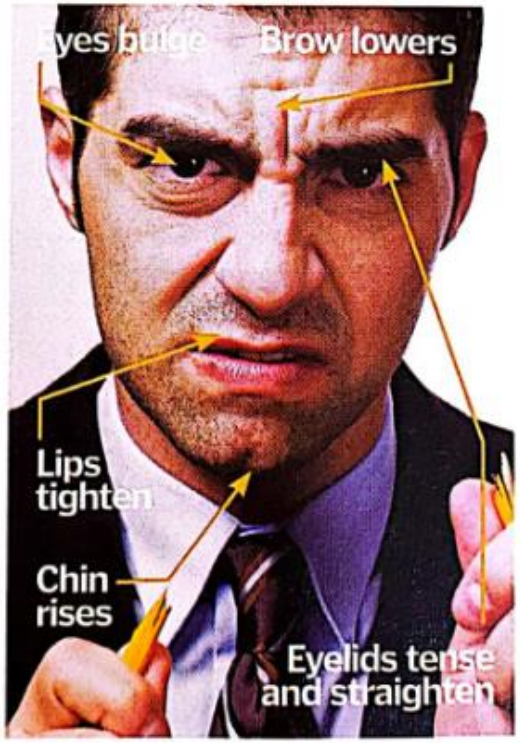


Why do we get angry?

Learn what happens when someone loses it...

Anger is one of the six universal emotions experienced by humans – the others being happiness, fear, sadness, disgust and surprise. Our emotions are the largely unconscious physical responses we have to stimuli.

While we use the cerebral cortex in the brain to think logically and make judgements, anger is controlled by the limbic system, a group of structures buried lower down in the primitive regions of the brain. A sophisticated network of nerve pathways controls instinct and governs such emotions as fear and rage. We get angry to protect ourselves from danger if something threatens us, our belongings or anyone that we care about.



Within the limbic system is the amygdala, a structure in which we store our emotional memories. Anger is a primitive form of self-preservation and it's the limbic system that invokes our natural instincts such as the fight-or-flight response to fear. When a stimulus triggers the amygdala, a flood of hormones – such as adrenaline – is produced automatically to warn the body to prepare for action. Because anger is controlled by the emotional centre of the brain – rather than the 'thinking' part – an angry person can temporarily lose control of their actions as well as the things they say. This is why we often refer to someone as 'losing it' when they get really mad.

We exhibit anger in a variety of ways, including facial expressions, raising of the voice and more aggressive behaviour. We communicate this emotion for others to read and respond to.

Why did God give us anger?

The wrath of God is revealed!

God gave us emotions because He has emotions. All Of Your Emotions Serves a Purpose. God gave you the ability to feel because this is an emotional life and our emotions severe a purpose. Just as our minds enable us to think and our wills enable us to choose, so our emotions enable us to respond.

Guilt & Shame too are emotions leading to repents and asks for forgiveness.

With no feelings there would not be much difference in humans and animals.

Ever heard of Stoicism? / Cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT)

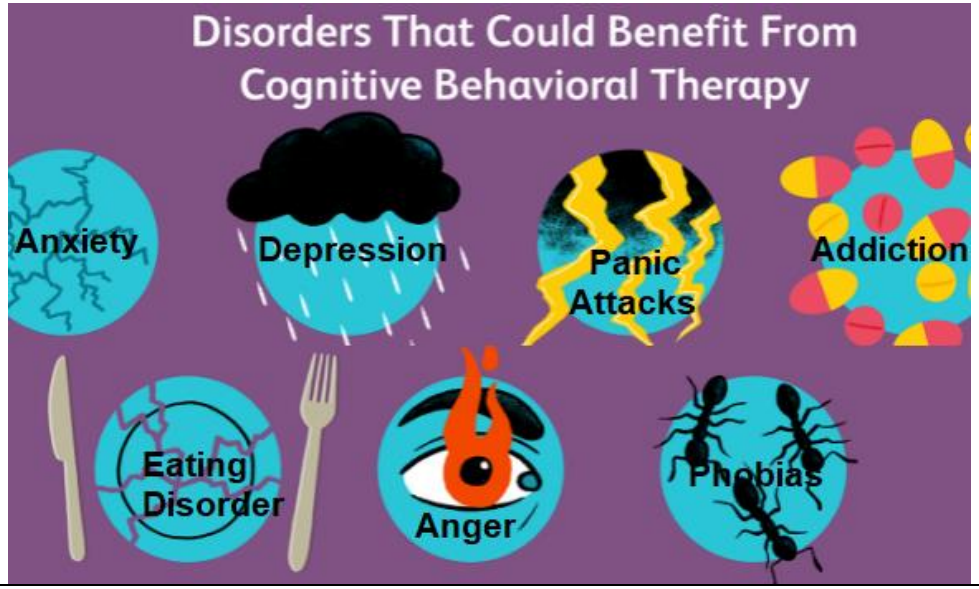
Do We Bene-Israel need CBT treatment for

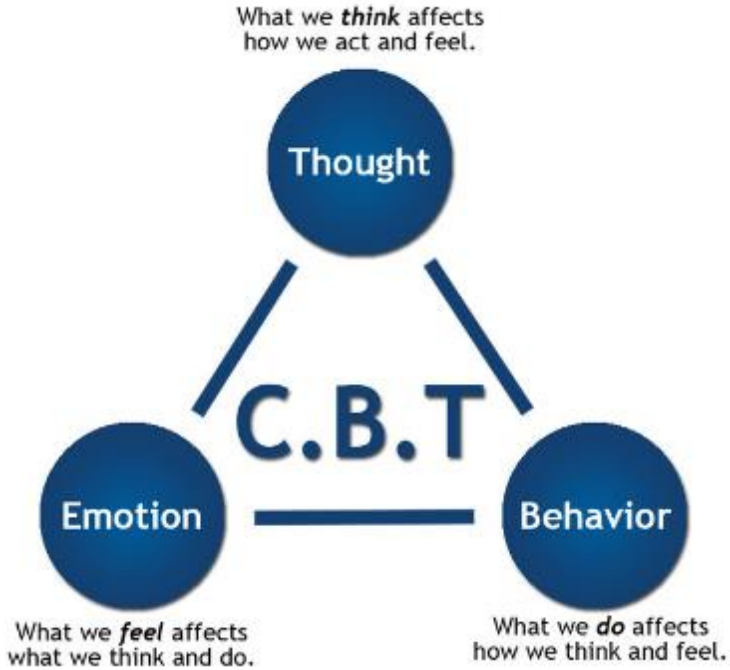
Stoicism is a school of Hellenistic philosophy founded by Zeno of Citium in Athens in the early 3rd century BC. Stoicism is a philosophy of personal ethics informed by its system of logic and its views on the natural world.

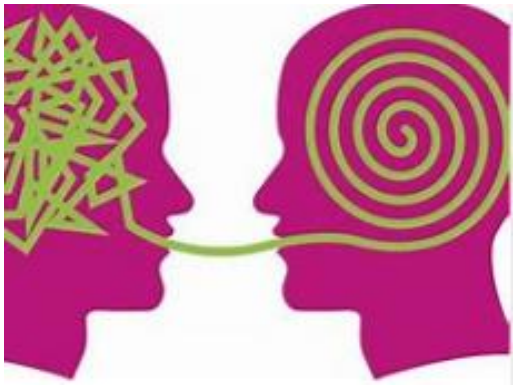
Stoicism believes **that feelings are unimportant** and that the only things that matter are your intellect and will. (as is philosophy of Chabad).

Cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) is based on Stoicism. Cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) is a talking therapy that can help you manage your problems by changing the way you think and behave.

Its most commonly used to treat anxiety and depression, but can be useful for other mental and physical health problems.







Bene-Israel Birds

Cochin Jews Teachers gave Jewish Education to Bene-Israel in 1800's

India's Bene Israel Jews | My Jewish Learning

While Christian missionaries were trying to convert the Bene Israel, in 1826 a group of dedicated **Cochin Jewish teachers left their community in order to live among the Bene Israel in Bombay and Kolaba District and teach them about mainstream Jewish observance**. A second group of Cochin teachers arrived in 1833.

On weekdays, they taught Jewish religion and Hebrew reading and writing; on Saturdays, they conducted morning prayer services and discussed halakhah and Jewish beliefs in the afternoons.

More Bene Israel synagogues were founded, and each became a vital center of religious, social, and communal life. With no ordained rabbi, the synagogue was served by a hazan (cantor), usually a Cochin, Baghdadi, or Yemenite Jew who also served as shohet (slaughterer for kosher meat), mohel (ritual circumciser) and sofer (scribe).

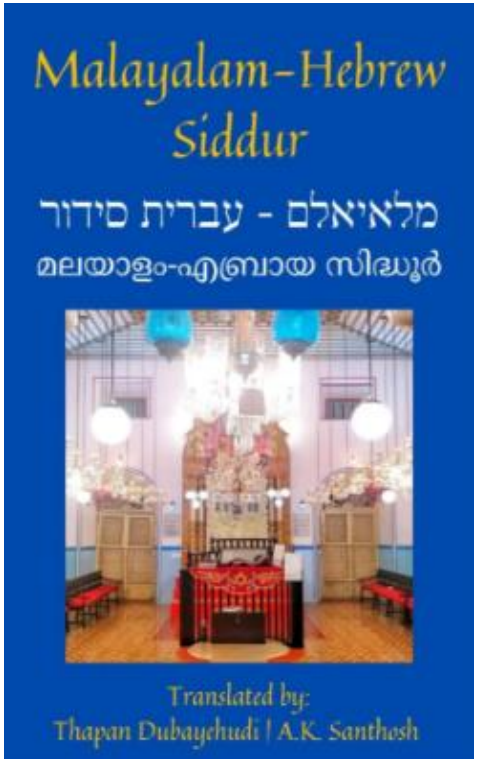
During the 19th century, Bene Israel families also settled in Pune, Ahmadabad, Karachi, Delhi, and other Indian cities. Initially, Jewish prayer services were held in the homes of community members, but in time a substantial synagogue or–where there were too few Jewish residents—an attractive prayer-hall was erected.

Two main factors contributed to the community's dispersal throughout the Indian subcontinent. First of all, during the British period, educated Bene Israel's were favored for civil service positions. Second, relatively large numbers of Bene Israel served in the government police services, the army, navy, merchant marine, and (in the 20th century) the air corps. All these vocations tended to involve permanent or temporary postings far from Bene Israel population centers.

For those stationed in remote places, the only reminder of their Jewishness would often be home life and the Jewish calendar–that is, the Jewish High Holidays, Passover, or family rites of passage. On these occasions, they would travel to Bombay, to their native villages, or to the nearest Jewish congregation in order to celebrate with family or at least be together with fellow Jews.

Respected Cochini Jewish Teachers

Eli Joseph



Eli Joseph is member of the Cochini Jewish community living in Lod. His grandfather was amongst those who educated Shaniwar-Teli 's the Jewish traditions and prayers.

One of the major reason the Scotish missionaries were not able to convert the Shaniwar-Teli/Bene Israel to Christianity during 18th/19th century was because of the able teachers from Cochin community who came to live with them and teach them all about Judaism.

As per Eli, as Cochin was a port city many passengers have been arrived there from many place including them. Some of their payers are similar to the Yeman Jewish ways. The most holly person has his tomb in Cochin named Nahemia muta (Muta in Malayalam means respectable) and the common opinion is that he was born in Yeman 400 years ago. Cochini Jews are his decedents. They never lost contact with their origin and were always updated with the latest happenings in the Jewish world.

We have requested Eli to write about his grandfather David who spent his life education and living with Bene-Israel in the 18th century. Hope we could include it in our next issue.

David Hai Madai (David the Scientists)
Great grandfather of Eli Joseph

Shaniwar-Teli Children in 607 ACE

Canada

Ariella Daniels

This year marked my 25th UJA Federation of Greater Toronto Walk with Israel! It was extra special ripping Israel in Toronto 🇮🇱. It was so nice that the Walk coincided with Yom Yerushalayim/ Jerusalem Day.

We came wearing blue 💙and white 🤍with pride! — walking 7km for Israel with thousands of others— Jewish community leaders, allies, politicians, families, students; many of which we partner with.

It was so nice to meet my MP #Thornhill Melissa Lantsman and so meaningful for me to see Sol Nayman, his wife Queenie and the Holocaust survivors at the March of the Living Canada table. #IsraelinToronto #WalkWithIsrael #UJAwalk

Thank you Israel in Canada for inviting me to speak on the "Inclusivity" panel at The Canadian Summit of Israeli-Jewish Affairs. The round table sparked conversations I look forward to continuing with my community partners Israel in Toronto. Thank you Consul General Paul Hirschson, Israel in Montreal | Israël à Montréal, for facilitating and moderating the discussions! 👏🇮🇱🇨🇦 It was interesting to hear the perspectives of the other panelists and audience members and to make new connections.

I specifically commented on the inclusion and representation of Sepharadim and Non-Ashkenazi Jews in Israel 🇮🇱and in Canada 🇨🇦. I made points related to the education system; the representation of a Jew within the community and externally; and the importance of focusing on "Peoplehood" when relating to one another and investing in future generations.
#IsraelinToronto #IsraelinCanada #OttawaSummit Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs

It was an honour to be invited to join young professional leaders in the Jewish community of Canada to meet with Israel's Minister of Diaspora Affairs נחמן שי - Nachman Shai at The Canadian Summit of Israeli-Jewish Affairs hosted by Israel in Canada.

Chordhe village of the Chordhekar's

Rachel Galsurkar (Parents Chordhekar)

Chordhe village is located in the state Maharashtra having state code 27 and having the village code 554231. The Raigad is the district of this village with district code 520. The total geographical area in which this village is expanded in 702.11 hectares / 7.0211 Square Kilometers (km2) / 1734.9515938191 acres.

Rachel was born in Chordhe where her parents and grandparents lived. Rachel's grandfather Benjanin Chordekar owned their own Ghana (oil press). Her father, Hazan Samuel Chordekar was an excellent Hebrew reader and she remembers Jews use to come from around to hear him say festival prayers to the synagogue / prayer hall in Talekhar. They had their two floor home where their family lived, parent and seven brothers and sisters. With his wife Bathsheba, Hazan Samuel owned a shop selling industrial oil. Rachel with her husband Yacob Galsurkar now lives in Ashdod having four children and ten grandchildren.

New Trend: Celebration of Maharashtra Day in Israel/Objections

For unknown reason some Bene-Israel's decided to celebrate 1st May. Two states of India, Maharashtra and Gujarat got their final boundaries based on the languages spoken, on May 1, 1960. Nothing heroic. Maharashtra started celebrating it as their victory over Gujarat. But this is not so. There was no war.

Ramle Celebration:

Maharashtra Day2022 celebration by Indian Jewish community & Indian students in Israel along with the cooperation of Municipality of Ramla, organized a cultural evening in Ramla supported by; Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, Incredible India Indian Diplomacy,Press Information Bureau - PIB, Government of India.The event included colorful Koli dance performance by Ms. Revital Moses.

(Many Gujarati Bene-Israel's have strongly objected to this celebration. They have suggested it to change to India Day)

Israel Formation/Independence Day

Our Mr. Benny Walter (Benjamin Walwatkar) was given the honor to ignite the holocaust memorial light by the city of Lod.

During Memorial day together, we remembered all 24,068 of Israel's Fallen Soldiers (136 Bene-Israel Jews)

Israel completed 74th anniversary of its formation this year and starting its journey towards reaching its beginning of Diamond Jubilee.

עמוד הבית | easy east (easygoeast.com)/ easygoeast@gmail.com/Phone /phone +972526113181

איזי איסט מתמקדים אך ורק במזרח הרחוק: הודו, סרילנקה, נפאל, ויטנאם וקמבודיה, הפיליפינים .וזו ההתמחות שלנו במשך השנים.חברת איזי איסט פועלת כבר כ- 30 שנה בקרב חוגים פרטיים .במשך השנים נפתחה לקהל הרחב וזה מבלי לפגוע בשרות ובאיכות הטיולים המאורגנים.המדריכים המלווים חלקם נולדו במזרח והתחנכו ברוח המזרח.

Easy East focuses exclusively on the Far East: India, Srilanka, Nepal, Vietnam and Cambodia, the Philippines. And this is our specialty over the years. Easy East has been active for about 30 years in private circles. Over the years it has been opened to the general public and this without compromising the service and quality of the organized trips.

India's Jewish Cricket Team to Compete in Maccabiah Games in Israel 2022

India's Jewish cricket team that will participate in the Maccabiah Games. Photo: Twitter/Kobbi Shoshani.

Credit to

Shiryn Ghermezian

חדשות יבנה

הענקת אות 'יקיר העיר יבנה' לאליהו דקל דה-קסטרו ולרב אברהם אשטמקר

השניים קיבלו את הציון המשוקלל הגבוה ביותר במסגרת ועדת הפרס על פעילותם הענפה והמסורה למען קהילות העיר. יישר כוח!

עיריית יבנה תעניק לראשונה הערב, יום רביעי, 4 במאי, יום העצמאות ה-74 לטרינת ישראל, את אות 'יקיר העיר יבנה' לשני תושבי העיר אשר קיבלו את הציון המשוקלל הגבוה ביותר במסגרת ועדת הפרס.

ראש העיר ומועצת העיר אישרו פה אחד את החלטת הוועדה בראשותו של המשנה לראש העיר, ד"ר אהוד ויצמן, להעניק את האות לתושבי העיר אליהו דקל-דה קסטרו, והרב אברהם אשטמקר.

אליהו דקל דה-קסטרו -

פעיל לרווחת תושבי העיר יבנה, בעיקר לאוכלוסיה מעוטת יכולת, בדגש על נוער בסיכון. אלי משקיע ממרצו, זמנו וכספו לטובת תושבי העיר, מתנדב באקים כיו"ר הסניף ומנהל את המקום בתבונה וביד רמה, עם פעילויות ריחומה יוצאות דופן. מתנדב כמורה ב-5 בתי-ספר, מעביר שיעורי מוסיבציה לדור הבא ומשכין שלום בבתי התושבים. מגייס מתנדבים רבים בכל תחומי העיסוק המסייעים בפעילויות התנדבות שונות, שותף בפרויקט "בני מצווה" וכן בפרויקט צהל"ה. איש חסד בכל רמ"ח איבריו.

משכין שלום. דקל-דה קסטרו

הרב אברהם אשטמקר -

משמש כרב מתחילת שנות השמונים, כיום רב קהילה ביבנה ורב קהילה ראשי ליוצאי הודו בארץ. הנגיש את היהדות ומנהגי העדה ההודית בכתיבת ספרים בנוסח אחיד לכלם. ספריו נמצאים בספריה הלאומית בירושלים. ציוני, ערכי ופועל מתוך שליחות ואהבה רבה לציבור. וכה לטל רוד ראשון הודי שני, אף וכה להכניסם לחופה. הרב אשטמקר ותנם על אמנת המוהלים אשר מתיירים לתת קמטלה ידם גם ללא סכר למי שידם אינם משגת, ואכן שמו של הרב אשטמקר ותפרסם בעיר כמוהל העורך בריתות רבות ללא כל תמורה. הרב מסביר פנים, בעל נכונות ואכפתיות לסייע בכל עת ולכל אדם בצורה או בשמחה, משכין שלום בין תושבים ובעלי עסקים.

הרב אשטמקר עלה לארץ בגיל 9 והגיע ישירות ליבנה. מאז ועד היום הוא תושב העיר ואף מעל עשרים השנים האחרונות לא יצא ללון מחוץ ליבנה ורץ מעמדים בודדות נאחת מהם על-מנת לטוס לסין לקיום מצוות ברית-מילה.

בשנות העשרים המוקדמות הוא קיבל על עצמו להיות שליח ציבור בבית הכנסת 'מגן שלמה' ביבנה לעולי הודו.

כנהוג בעדה, מי שהופך להיות שליח הציבור הראשי נוטל גם מחצות המשלות עליו, ולפיכך הודו שלום אשטמקר ע"ה הפציר בו להמשיך ולהעמיק בלימודי יהדות ותורה.

במהלך השנים למד הרב את רזני הטפה והקידושין והפך לרב מחתן ומכניס זוגות רבים תחת חופה וקידושין כדת משה וישראל.

בשנות ה-90' המוקדמות אביו אליס אשטמקר וצ"ל ואחיו שלום אשטמקר וצ"ל רצו לשמר את תפילת הקהילה ולכן הוציאו סידור לשבת בעמל רב.

בנו של הרב, יניב, מספר כי אביו התרגש מאד בעת שקיבל כשבוע שעבר את שיחת הטלפון מראש העיר, בה התבשר על זכייתו בתואר 'יקיר העיר יבנה'.

מאותו רגע שיצאה הבשורה הוא מקבל טלפונים והודעות רבות מתושבי העיר ומן מבקש להודות באופן אישי לכל אחד ואחד מהמברכים.

הרב מודה לוועדה אשר בחרה בו וכן לשנת העיר ולעמר בראשה, צבי גוב-ארי, על הבחירה ומבקש להבהיר כי אינו רואה את הבחירה בו כמובנה מאליה, והוא יודע שיש "רבים וטובים שעושים למען הקהילה".

יניב אשטמקר מוסיף: "אבי משמש מלך יושר על העיר יבנה בכל מקום בו הוא נמצא, ומשייבותו לעיר באה לידי ביטוי בין היתר בהשתתפותו בתפילות בית הכנסת 'מגן שלמה' ביבנה בכל שבת וחג".

מליץ יושר. הרב אשטמקר

ראש העיר, צבי גוב-ארי, ביקש כשם תוכ העיר את דה-קסטרו והרב אשטמקר, ההה להם על פועלם רב השנים למען קהילת יבנה.

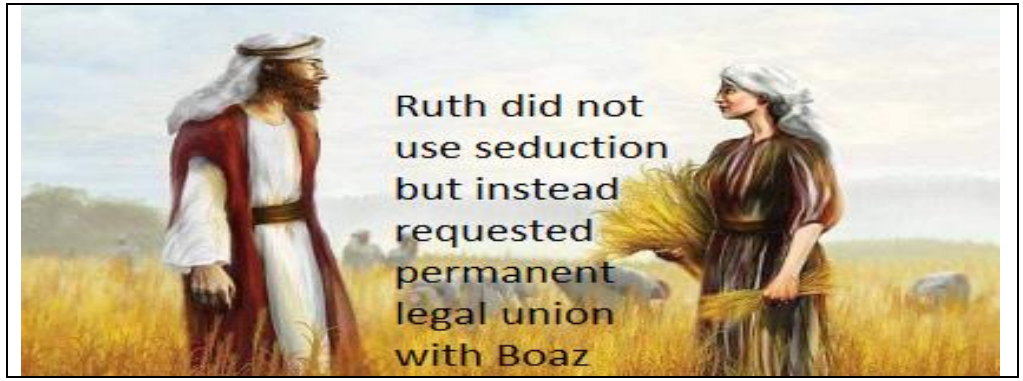
בעמל רב.

מאז ועד היום הרב המשיך להוציא סידורים רבים לשבת, לימי חול, לאכלות ולחגי ישראל, הכוללים את הטקסים והמנהגים של בני הקהילה. ספריו נמצאים כיום בספריה הלאומית בירושלים ובבתי-כנסת של הקהילה, מקריית-שמונה ועד אילת. ספריו מצויים גם בבתי-כנסת של יהודים יוצאי הודו, בקנדה ובבריטניה.

במהלך מגיפת הקורונה ביצע הרב אשטמקר בריתות רבות במסגרת מצומצמת מאוד בבתים ללא משפחה, ואף זכה לחתן זוגות בבתים במניין מצומצם (חתונה אחת אף שוברה בערוץ 12 בשידור חי, לאחר ביטול החתונה של הזוג באולם).

הרב איננו מקבל שכר מהעירייה או מהרבנות כרב קהילה, והכנסתו העיקרית היא מפעילות הקודש.

Scanned with CamScanner



Israel names street after Rabindranath Tagore Photo: Twitter

On the 159th birthday of Rabindranath Tagore, the Israeli Embassy in India commemorated the late Bengali poet and Nobel laureate by sharing a picture of a street named after him in Tel Aviv. Tagore died in 1941— a few years before the creation of Israel— but it is clear from his correspondences that the poet showed an interest in the nascent Zionist movement. His interest is evident from his letters exchanged with Western colleagues (notably, Immanuel Olsvanger), his political internationalism, and his specific concerns about the state of European politics, including the rise of Nazism.

Israel Against Normalizing Bangladeshi—Israeli relations

Bangladesh's refusal to recognize Israel is a stance that many within Bangladesh and abroad are incentivized to change.

Israeli investment in the growing Bangladeshi economy, such as the "Digital Bangladesh" project and textile export, but is elusive about the burning question of "security cooperation.

Lenin coined a term "a useful idiot," for certain groups, is self-evident. Zionist think-tank media concern that must be recognized is that Bangladesh – which in 2021 will be fifty years old – is incentivized unlike ever before to normalize partial relations with Israel.

Tagore Street, Tel Aviv: Against Normalizing Bangladeshi—Israeli relations — Jamhoor

Over 8000 Bangladeshi youths volunteered to fight for the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) in the 1980s, following Yasser Arafat's visit to the country. Source: Chris Steele-Perkins / Magnum Photos, 1982

Who Killed Shivaji in Raigad Fort?

Shivaji died on 4 April 1680. He was 53 at the time of his death. The cause of Shivaji's death is a disputed. British records states that Shivaji died of bloody flux being sick for 12 days. In a contemporary work in Portuguese, the Biblioteca Nacional de Lisboa, the recorded cause of death of Shivaji is anthrax.

This death was misinformed by the Maratha kingdom as such a brave and powerful king was cheated by his second wife Soyarabai who had poisoned him in order to put her 10-year-old son Rajaram on the throne.

Village Chaul of the Chaulkar's

Chaul, Our heaven

The first thing I remember about my native place is, waking up in the early dawn, to the rhythmic swishing sound of my grandma sweeping the large courtyard in front of our house. As an accompaniment to our waterwheel, Rahhat wailed in the background as it was drawing water from the well. To this unusual lullaby, we again went to sleep, to wake up later, refreshed but hungry.

My paternal grandfather's house at Chaul, around 14 km. from Alibaug, Raigadh dist. Of Maharastra, India was green heaven to us children during the time of vacation. Myself along with my many cousins stayed at this house from the 15th of April to the 13th of June, the school summer vacation. Various friends and kids of relatives visited us. Chaul and its surrounding area is strewed with green farms mainly growing Areca nut or Supari and coconut. A fair sprinkling of Mango, Jackfruit, Kokam, Jamun, Jam (Water apple)Tadgola (Ice apple) could be found along with a few Chicco, Guava Banana Papaya Sitaphal(custard apple) bor (Indian Jujube).

Being close to Mumbai, we used to spend our school and college vacations there supervised by our elder cousin and Aunty. Chaul is said to have had 700 temples. We visited a few of them regularly and still do. Cool, peaceful and silent, dimly lit, the space inside these old abodes of gods permeated with his divine presence. Even in our childhood something attracted us to these temples to sit for a few moments.

Chaul has long been home to the Bene Israel Jews, who were known for their primary occupation as oil pressers and who did not work on Saturdays (Shaniwar Telis). The town has a lovely synagogue belonging to their faith. We had a few Jew friends, one of them had a cold drinks shop. The milkshake called Doodh cold drink locally served there was loved by us. There is a Jama Masjid, King Indra III's copper plate grant, mentions the Governor of Sanjan as Madhumati (Mahmud) Sugatipa, a 'Tajik' (ie an Arab) appointed by his father who continues to serve under him. Chaul has a fire temple of the Zoroastrians, and also a church. This is the best example of communal harmony. A marble plate at Mukhari Ganpati temple mentions a donation given by Sara Abraham Talekar, an Israel Jew, for the construction of sabhagriha or prayer hall.

Our day generally started late. Breakfast was Pohe or such traditional food or the fat Butter biscuits, which were provided by the local bakery. The vender came to the house carrying his large metal container on his head or bicycle, full of slabs (we call it ladi)of these biscuits attached together in a mosaic. Only

the Nan khatai, Bread and Toast were on offer. Later we left for a visit to the market which was a couple of kmt. away. The meals were eaten sitting on an earthen floor finished with cow dung, in a long Hall or living room. Rice Cooked on wood-burning chulha was the staple and we growing kids consumed a huge quantity of it.
We had a big rectangular swing made of fine wood, hung on metal chains. We had a lot of fun and some mishaps swinging on it. My grandma took her siesta sitting on the swing which moved gently. She never slept on a bed in the daytime.

The first mention of Chaul is found at Buddhist caves at Kanheri, Mumbai. Dating to 1st 2nd century CE. It records the donations given by the goldsmiths and their families. The Hingulja Devi temple at Chaul is housed in Buddhist caves. There are other relics from the 1stcentury around Chaul. another ancient reference to Chaul from the same period is in the Geographia of Ptolemy. A hundred years later, the Periplus of the Erythraean Sea too mentions the port of Symulla and places it south of Kalliena (Kalyan) and north of Mandragora (Mandad).

Chaul was probably visited early in the 6th century CE by the monk-geographer Cosmas Indicopluestes, who referred to it as 'Sibor', a leading trade centre between Kalyan and the Malabar ports. The next reference to Chaul is by Hiuen Tsang, the renowned 7th-century Chinese monk who calls it 'Chimolo' and says "great riches come from the sea".

Local history says that Chaul was under the Yadavas of Deogiri in the 13th century CE, and evidence of this is clearly seen in the 1298 CE inscription of Ramchandradeva Yadava on a gadhegal (ass curse stones) at Modak Wadi in Chaul In the early years of the 14th century CE, Chaul fell to the invading army of Alauddin Khilji. Chaul falls smack in the middle of territory controlled by the little-known ruler, Hambirarao, who ruled Thane-Konkan from Mahim in Mumbai. Hambirarao's inscriptions are dated between 1366 and 1369 CE and are seen at Nagaon 8 km to the north of Chaul, and Nandgaon 26 km to the south of Chaul. The discovery of three new inscriptions of Hambirarao in the last three years has added a new chapter to the history of the Konkan.

In 1490 CE, Chaul passed to the Ahmednagar Sultanate. Around 1505 CE, Portuguese explorer and military commander Dom Lourenco de Almeida, with a squadron of ten ships, attacked the Chaul harbour and proceeded to wreak havoc there. The Portuguese avenged their loss by defeating the Egyptian fleet in the Battle of Diu in 1509 CE. After this, the Portuguese Viceroy signed a formal treaty to protect Chaul, with Emperor Burhan of the Ahmednagar Sultanate.

The Portuguese had completed their primary fortifications, the Revdanda Fort or Fortaleza de Chaul in 1524, and held them at bay. The 16th century CE marked the period of actual Portuguese control at Chaul, and they defended their territory against combined fleets that included the Ahmednagar Sultanate, Calicut and Achin (in Sumatra). Despite major campaigns in 1570 and 1594, the Portuguese held Chaul and fortified the hill on the opposite side of the creek, with the formidable fortress of the Morro de Chaul (Korlai Fort). This pincer fortification of the mouth of the Kundalika was virtually impregnable.

In 1600 CE, Ahmednagar fell to the Mughals, with the exception of Revdanda-Chaul. In 1630, after the final fall of the Ahmednagar Sultanate, the territory of Chaul passed into the hands of Shahji Bhonsale, who challenged the Mughals and held it until 1636, when he was forced to surrender it.

Interestingly, in 1634, the entire territory was ceded to Adil Shah of Bijapur by the Mughals. In 1637, the territory came under the Siddis of Janjira. In 1662, the Bijapur Sultanate ceded the entire southern Konkan to Maratha king, Shivaji. Yet the forts at Revdanda and Korlai continued to be held by the Portuguese with only a sliver of territory around them. This status quo continued till the fall of Revdanda to the forces of Maratha General Chimmaji Appa during the reign Peshwa Baji Rao I.

The British finally wrested control of the forts in 1818 after the battle of Khadki and the The British finally wrested control of the forts in 1818 after the battle of Khadki and the defeat of the Maratha Empire, and Chaul became a part of the British Indian Empire, where it remained till independence in 1947.

A very interesting relic of the long Portuguese occupation of Chaul is a small community of Christians who live in the village of Korlai and speak a unique Konkani-Portuguese creole (hybrid language) called Kristi. Until very recently, their church services and hymns were in this language though it is fast becoming extinct.
Not much remains of the fortifications, with the exception of the outer walls of Revdanda Fort, with its inscribed sea gate and land gate with Portuguese crest and projecting crown. The only intact remnants are seen at the protected site of the saat-khaani buruz – the bell tower of the church of Saint Barbara. The only other notable remains are the ruins of a small chapel in which St Francis Xavier is said to have stayed on his visits to the city of Chaul. It is venerated to this day.

The excavators located a deposit going back to the 3rd century BCE, topped with brick structures of the Satavahana period, among which they found fragments of amphorae and Red Polished Ware, both synonymous with Indo-Roman trade. Above this, they found Early Medieval levels characterised by Glazed West Asian ceramics, Monochrome Glazed Ware and Chinese Porcelains of the Blue on White variety.

Similar beads have been recorded at East African sites like Kilwa, Manda, Shanga and Mtwapa as well as at West Coast Indian sites like Chaul, Palshet, Sanjan and Kelshi. The beads and the foreign ceramics are without a doubt evidence of a complex network of trade in the Indian Ocean littoral during this period. They also found a large number of glass beads known as 'Trade-Wind Beads', which are known to have been made in India and traded all over the Indo-Pacific littoral during this period. The team corroborated the finds from the trench with hundreds of surface finds and concluded that this was definitely a manufacturing centre, from where they were sent to East Africa. This was mentioned by the 16th century CE Venetian traveller and merchant Caesar Frederick, who visited Chaul. Volumes could be written about Chaul and the area around it. Let's leave it for later.

Sourced from net articles, information by Kurush Dalal and others

From your Digest

Alex Korolev
Former Served in the Russian Airborne Troops - VDV (1994–1999) · Mar 26

Has Ukraine won the war?

Originally Answered: Can we say now that Ukraine has won the war?

Yes, sure. The Ukrainian army ceased to exist as a single entity. It is split into several parts with virtually no possibility of delivering reinforcements, resupply and rotation of troops. They do not even make attempts to deblocade their 15,000 grouping in Mariupol, of which, however, less than half remain.

All attempts at counterattacks that I have seen in the last 2 weeks were made with maximum strength up to a reinforced tank company. And this is for 400.000 (in February :))) army. I included in the figure the National Guard, forces of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, mercenaries and all sorts of paramilitary clowns with automatic rifles. Let me remind you that Russia involved in the operation less than 200,000 people, including rear and maintenance personnel. Ukraine uses practically the same tactics that ISIS and "moderate rebels" in Iraq and Syria. Hides in cities and densely populated areas and uses locals as a shield.

Almost all major fuel depots have been destroyed, it is very difficult to play modern warfare without fuel. I'm not talking about the loss of weapons. 65% tanks and other armored vehicles, 73% aircraft, half helicopters, 82% long and medium range air defense, etc.

At the same time, Russia is fighting "with a hand tied behind its back" and does not use the "shock and awe" tactics beloved by the West to minimize civilian losses. You can see example in many videos from Baghdad in 2003.

Quora

Bene Menashe Jewish community

Photo exhibition by renowned photographer Dorit Lombroso on India's ***Bene Menashe Jewish community*** was inaugurated at Anu Diaspora Museum in Tel Aviv.

Meet Elizabeth Binyamini Dookarker

אני אליזבט בנימיני (דוקרקר)בת של יצחק ובת ציון דוקרקר זכרונם לברכה מפתח תקוה נולדתי באמדאבד שבגו'זראט אימי ילידת מומבאי ואבי יליד אמדבאד עלו לישראל מתאמי ציונות אבי פחד שאנחנו נגדל ונינשא לגוי, הגענו לפתח תקוה 12/1968גדלנו באוכלוסיה מעורבת.
היינו קהילה קטנה אבל מאד מגובשת ,לא היה לנו בית כנסת אבל הדוד גבריאל קנדלי ז"ל עם עד כמה משפחות בשכונה משפחת קולטקר,משפחת ראובן (טלקר) דאגו לקבל מקום להתפלל מהעירייה ,דוד גביראל ז"ל דאג לאחדות הקהילה וידע לקרב את הילדים לדת ליהדות למנהגים של מסורת ההודית ,דאג לספר לכולם על המנהגים והתרבות ,כילדה מגיל 6 היינו מתרגשים להגיע לחגים ולשמוע את הסיפורים על היהדות והמנהגים ,וכמו כן כל הנשים בקהילה הכינו מטעמים הודים כיבוד לכל הקהילה על חשבונם העיקר לשמור על האחדות ,אימי ז"ל היתה מאד עוזרת בחתונות לארגן את כל האוכל לחינה ולהכין את כל המאכלים לחינה ,היתה לוקחת חופש מחלה ונרתמת למשימה כאילו הבת או הבן שלה מתחתנים ,ולצערי גם בתקופות שמבוגרים נפטרו דוד גבריאל ז"ל היה תמיד ניצב ראשון.

לתפילות ,ללא כל תשלום כולם היו נרתמים.
כך חונכתי לאהוב לתת לעזור ,היתה לי דוגמא טובה מהבית ,והכי חשוב זה השורשים של משפחתי ששמעתי מסבתי ירושה בירוודקר ז"ל ולמדתי מימנה לבשל ,על הריחות והתבלינים ,סבתי היתה אישה מדהימה שתמיד חשבה חיובי ותמיד אמרה
לדבר מילים טובות כי יעבור מלאך ויגיד אמן,
היום כל מה שאני זה בזכותם ,וכך אני חינכתי את ילדיי לאהבה ,נתינה,ולזכור מהיכן באנו ולא לשכוח את השורשים

נישאתי לבחור ישראלי דור 5 בישראל מעורב ,עראקי,פרסי,מיצרי,העיקר לבחור טוב ויהודי כשר ,הוא זרם איתי לגבי המנהגים שלנו עשינו מלידה שקנינו בית ,וחינה הודית,בחודש השביעי עשו לי מלידה שהייתי בהריון והוא זרם אהב את המנהגים והאוכל , וזה ריגש את כל המשפחה שלו ומאד אהבו, היום אני אישה בתחילת ה 60 שלי עצמאית כבר 22 שנים ,בתחום ההיטק מצליחה מאד וגאה ,בתחום שלי מחפשים אותי ולא אני אותם מבחינת עבודה ותודה לאל.

יש גזענות אבל אף פעם לא הרגשתי שזה מה שיעצור אותי ,הכל אפשר אם רוצים ונחושים להגיע לאן שהוא ,להרגיש ממורמר ולהגיד שדופקים את השוחרים לא בבית ספרי, ולדעתי די הצלחתי ,וכך חינכתי את בניי, לחלום בגדול עם הלב והיקום והתפילות יביאו את הכל.

יש לי 3 בנים מילדותם אני מספרת להם על יהדות הודו תרבות מנהגים וגם על יהדות התפוצות ,במיוחד על השוואה ,שיזכרו שאנחנו יהודים ולעולם לא לשכוח מה שהיהודים עברו במלחמת עולם שניה רק בגלל היותם יהודים,וחשוב לזכור לנצח ולהעביר לילדיהם ,6 מיליון זה לא רק מספר ,זה אנשים שנרצחו.

בניי 2 מהם נשואים והכלות ביקשו טקסים הודים חינה הודית וכשכלתי היתה בחודש השביעי עשינו מלידה ,וכולם רצו ולא ויתרו.. והם מאד אוהבים את השורשים של בני ישראל ,אפילו שהם מעורבים מה שמענין אותם זה התרבות היהודית שלנו ,ששואלים אותם מאיזה מוצא הם הם תמיד אומרים שהם הודים גאים ...כי50% הם הודים .
וזה משמח אותי שהתרבות ההודית של בני ישראל הצלחתי להעביר להם מחכה שהנכדה תגדל וב"ה שיהיו לי עד נכדים ונכדות אזכה לחנך ולהעביר את המסורת כפי שסיפרו לי .לדעתי תמיד תמיד צריך לזכור את השורשים ההודים כי יש סיפור יפה מאחורי היהודים שהגיעו להודו.
תודה רבה

Bene-Israel Books

Hello and best regards, In praise and thanksgiving in honor of God will be blessed, The book "A New Song" was published,
In it are found the piyutim of the Indian community intertwined with the piyyutim that are in the mouths of the general public.
The book includes: Shabbat and holiday songs (from Passover songs through Lag BaOmer songs to Purim songs), songs for Saturday night, as well as songs for all celebrations.
There are over 90 piyyutim in the book.
And in the book there are: an evening prayer, Malida, a chapter of poetry, the soul of every life, a general correction with an explanation and commentary on each psalm, and many other pearls.

The cost of the book is: 25 NIS.

The book is colorful, hardcover, and with smooth chromo-type pages, and they are thick and beautiful to the eyes.

Order: 052-5390650 and
shirha1323@gmail.com- Email

In the book you can find agreements and blessings from the dear rabbis: Rabbi Ilan Indeforker 16th, as well as Rabbi Shimshon Mordechai 16th. And in addition, the book is suitable for souvenirs for celebrations such as Brit, Shabbat Chatan, from birth, as well as to dedicate it to the exaltation of the soul. (You can request an imprint.)

שלום וברכה,
בשבח והודאה לכבוד השם יתברך,
יצא לאור הספר "שיר חדש",
בו נמצאים פיוטיהם של העדה ההודית שזורים בחיבור נפלא עם הפיוטים הנמצאים בפיהם של כלל הציבור.
הספר כולל בתוכו: שירי שבת וחגים (משירי חג הפסח דרך שירי ל"ג בעומר ועד שירי פורים), שירים למוצאי שבת, וכן שירים לכלל השמחות.
בספר ישנם מעל 90 פיוטים.

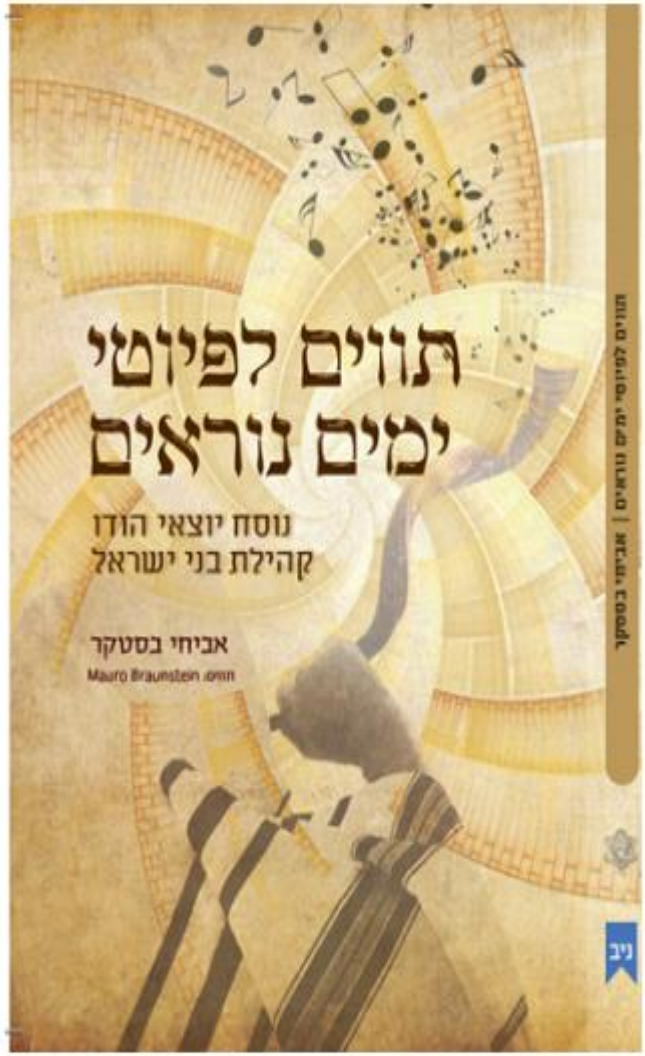
וכן בספר ישנם: תפילת ערבית, מלידה, פרק שירה, נשמת כל חי, תיקון הכללי עם הסבר ופירוש על כל מזמור, ועוד פנינים רבים.

עלות הספר הינה: 25₪.

הספר צבעוני, בעל כריכה קשה, ועם דפים חלקים מסוג כרומו, והם עבים ויפים לעין.

0525390650 -אריאל.
או במייל shirha1323@gmail.com :
בספר ניתן למצוא הסכמות וברכות מאת הרבנים היקרים: הרב אילן אינדפורקר הי"ו, וכן הרב שמשון מרדכי הי"ו.
ובנוסף הספר מתאים למזכרות לשמחות כמו ברית, שבת חתן, מלידה, וכן להקדיש אותו לעילוי נשמת.(אפשר לבקש הטבעה).

See the video at:
[ספר תווים נוסח הודו (headstart.co.il)](https://headstart.co.il)



הצטרפו אלי בהוצאה לאור של הספר "תווים לימים נוראים נוסח הודו בני ישראל"

מטרת הגיוס

מטרת הגיוס היא לשמר במדויק את המנגינות בהודו, שעברו בין אב לבן, בין חזן לתלמיד. ולכן כתבנו ספר תווים למנגינות הקסומות שעברו אצלנו במסורת.

בספר ישנם 50 פיוטים. ולכל פיוט יש סריקה ברקוד לשמיעת הפיוט ביוטיוב. ככה ש**לא חייבים לדעת לנגן.**

הספר נותן מענה שגם בעוד 100 שנה ניתן לחזור במדוייק למנגינות שלנו ללא זיופים והשפעות של קהילות אחרות. בכל פיוט יש ברקוד שמפנה להקלטה של אותו פיוט.

איך הכל התחיל

מי שמע על יהודי הודו מקהילת הבני ישראל? חלק מהאנשים מתבלבלים ביננו לבין קהילת קוצ'ין שהיא קהילה בפני עצמה. חלק מהאנשים אפילו מתפלאים שיש קהילה יהודית אותנטית מקורית שחיה אפילו היום בהודו. הקהילה מיוחדת שעברה היסטוריה קצת אחרת ומיוחדת בשונה מהמון קהילות ישראל. רוב קהילות ישראל לא מכירות את יהודי הודו מקהילת הבני ישראל. קהילת יהודי הודו עשירה במנהגים, אוכל פיוטים ושירה.

בעת העלייה לארץ בשנות ה-50 תחת כור ההיתוך, התאחדו כל הקהילות השונות ברוח אחידה ישראלית. המנהגים הישנים והמנגינות העתיקות החלו להיעלם. אותם ניגונים ייחודים מהתקופה בהודו שעברו בין אב לבן ובין אמא לביתה כמה מאות דורות , בקרב הצעירים של ימינו, לצערנו זה הולך ונשכח.

כיום בעיקר רק המבוגרים הזקנים שגדלו בהודו יודעים במדויק את המנגינות. הספר לפניכם, הוא ספר הראשון מסוגו שבו כתוב את תווי הנגינה הייחודים של אותם ניגונים הנעלמים. הספר מהווה אבן מהפסיפס הגדול של כלל קהילות ישראל. הוא נוגע לכל אחד ואחת מאתנו השייך לעם ישראל ומסורת ישראל. עם תווים אלו, ניתן יהיה לחזור במדויק למנגינות של הימים הנוראים בנוסח קהילת בני ישראל. הצטרפו אליי להוצאת ספר ייחודי זה.

עד עכשיו

עצבנו כריכה, כתבנו, ערכנו,

וגם:

.1הוספנו ברקוד בכל פיוט, גם למי שלא יודע לנגן. שבסריקה פשוטה בפלאפון אתם שומעים את הפיוט.

.2הסכמות: הרב אבינועם משילקר, הרב רון אלכסנברגAnna Schultz, Dr Sara MANASSEH ,

.3מבוא הספר

.4הקדמותMauro Cutz Braunstein :

.5מנהגים: מפי אליעזר ששונקר חזן

.6תוכן עיקר הספר: 50 פיוטים + תווי נגינה

.7תמונות: של סידורים ומחזורים שהשתמשו בהודו לימים הנוראים

.8ואנחנו מחכים לכם, כדי שנוסיף אתכם להקדשות בספר: שמות התומכים העיקריים ,הצלחת המשפחה , לרפואת המשפחה ולעילוי נשמת אחד הקרובים .9.ותודות:)

מה חסר לנו

תוכן הספר קיים, נשאר רק: הדפסת הספר + שרבוטים שמורכבים מציור של סמלים מחיי היומיום של הקהילה. לדוגמה: המאטלי (הדס) למאלידה, האתרוג לברית, הטאפקיר, ה777(: ועוד

מי אני

אביחי בסטקר 34 נשוי לליאורה יהודית + 4, שירתתי בהנדסה קרבית, בעל תואר ראשון בביוטכנולוגיה מכללת הדסה ירושלים. בעשור האחרון עבדתי על שימור מסורת קהילת בני ישראל מהודו. שימור ספרים עתיקים, הקלטות מבוגרי העדה שירה במראטי ובעברית הסטוריה וסיפורת.

קצת על יהודי הודו בני ישראל (בומביי והסביבה) מתוך ויקיפדיה

בני ישראל) במראטהית-יהודית ,**बेने इस्राएल** :תעתיק: "בֶּנֶה ישראל("

היא הקהילה היהודית, שהתקיימה במערב הודו בנוסף לקהילת יהודי בגדאד ויהודי קוצ'ין בהודו. עם הקמת מדינת ישראל, עלתה במהלך השנים רוב הקהילה לישראל ובה מצוי הריכוז הגדול ביותר של בני ישראל מהודו.

על פי המסורת של בני העדה אבותיהם הם ניצולים מספינה שנטרפה סמוך לחוף "קונקאן" דרומית למומבאי. מהספינה ניצלו 7 גברים ו-7 נשים, כל ספרי הקודש ותשמישי הקדושה שלהם אבדו באסון. הניצולים קברו את מתיהם באתר סמוך לכפר נאווגאון, במקום ששימש לימים כבית הקברות של קהילת בני ישראל והתיישבו באזור.ישנה אי-בהירות לגבי התקופה בה קרה האירוע. יש מבני ישראל הסוברים כי אבותיהם נמלטו מארץ ישראל בדרך הים החל בשנת 175 לפני הספירה, בימי מלכותו של אנטיוכוס אפיפאנס. ישנם מבני העדה שטוענים שהיו מצאצאי עשרת השבטים.

על פי המסורת של בני בני ישראל, חלה אצלם תחייה דתית במאה ה-10, כאשר אדם בשם דוד רחבי שזיהה שהם יהודים על פי מנהגיהם, לימד אותם דינים והנהיג את חג השבועות ואת חג הסוכות. אותו דוד רחבי נהרג על ידי פרש מוסלמי כאשר היה על חוף הים. ישנם הסבורים שהיה זה דוד הסוחר, אחי הרמב"ם אשר נסע לסחור בהודו במאה ה-12, אך אין לכך עדויות מבוססות.

אזור קונקאן

משפחות "בני ישראל" גרו במשך דורות רבים בכ-200 כפרים שונים באזור קונקאן. אחד הכפרים הידועים בו חיו יהודי "בני ישראל" היה אליבג .(Alibag) הכפר היה ידוע ככפר יהודי וגרו בו מאות משפחות. בני ישראל שימשו כדורכי שמן בקונקאן ונודעו בכינוי "שנוואר טליס", שמשמעו עוצרי שמן שומרי שבת. הם אימצו את שפת המקום, מרטהי, ולא נבדלו, למראית עין, מבני המקום. אולם, בחברה הכפרית הם נבדלו מאחרים בשל דבקותם ביהדות.

חיי הדת

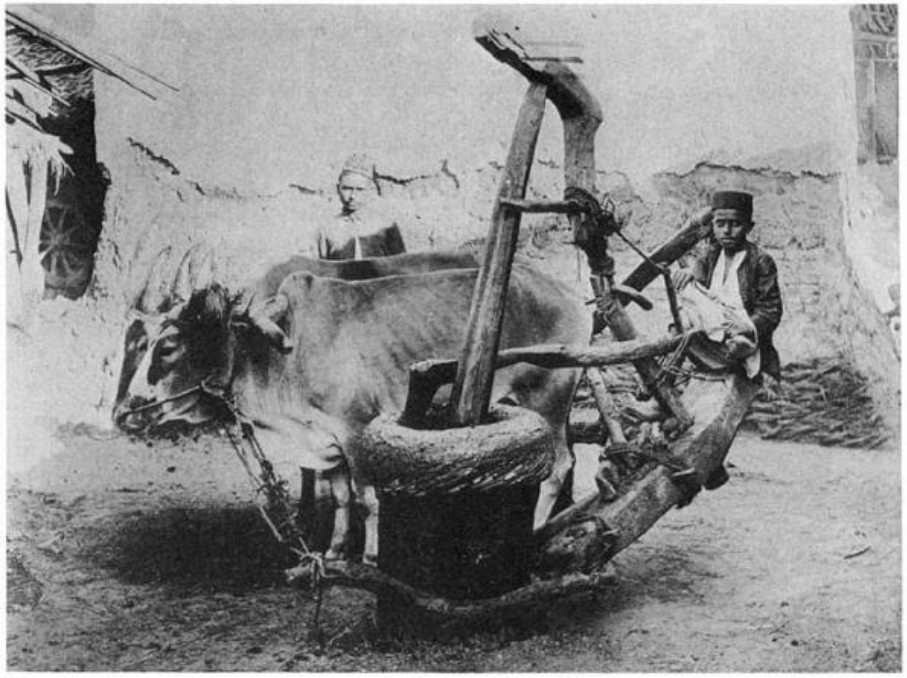
עדיין נותרו כ-40 בתי כנסת ברחבי הודו של הקהילה. בני ישראל דבקים במסורת שלהם ובמנהגיהם, והמועדים החשובים ביותר להם הם ראש השנה, יום כיפור, שמחת תורה וחג הפסח. בחתונה, למשל, הכלה לובשת סארי לבן ויוצאת לקבל את פני החתן, כשהוא עומד על בימת בית הכנסת ומזמר את "שיר החתן" (נכתב על ידי רבי ישראל נג'ארה) המיוחד לבני ישראל.

מבנה הקהילה הדתית

קהילת "בני ישראל" התנהלה במשך השנים על פי ההנהגה של "החזן", שהוא היה הדמות הרוחנית בקהילה. המורה הרוחני שעל פיו נעשה כל דבר. הקהילה הייתה ממושמעת מאוד לדברי "החזן" בכל דבר רוחני.

לסיכום

כדי שהספר 'תווים לפיוטי ימים הנוראים' יראה אור, נשמח שתבואו לתמוך ולבחור באחת התשורות, כדי לשמר מסורת עתיקה, שלא תאבד.



שניוואר טלי- עוצרי השמן מסורת של אלפי שנים

Bene-Israel Community Center in Ramle

Elkan Judah

The Bene-Israel Community Center in Ramle is getting prepared for launch this month on 29th June 2022.

Mr Raymond Bhastekar
Mr Michael Satamkar
Mrs Simcha Birvadker
Mrs Naomi Shaphrir

are behind getting this project started?

Malida Ceremony from next page: !50 people attended

Opening Ceremony of “Eden (Divekar/Pezarkar) Bene-Israel Community Center

Elkan Judah

The mayor of Ramla

Assistant to the Mayor of Ramla

The late Mrs Edna Yosef Pezarkers Husband also was working very hard

Ramla is a locality located 37.09 km east-southeast from Jerusalem in Central District, Israel. The population of Ramla is 75,500 people that include a population of about 2388 Bene-Israel Community (about 3.15%). Some 150 Bene-Israel attended the opening ceremony. It was leadership in the right hands with a together we succeed attitude. They have named the place after Edna Pezarkar (Divekar) as she used to do a lot for the less fortunate Indian community in Ramla including for widows and single mother's from her own resources, without letting anybody know that she was helping them not even her own family. She wanted very much to open this center but that did not happen while she was alive. There was a Malida performed as is the customs with all of our Bene-Israel people.

Picture: *The lady in the Middle is Galit from the Eria office and the lady in the Pink Blazer is Naomi Shaphrir . The lady in the Saree is Simcha Birvadker then Raymond Bhastekar and Michael Satamkar.*

Rest in Peace Dear Hanna!

Sion Charikar finally built the grave of his mother Hanna after all the repairs; walls building, light and electricity repairs, cropping trees , gate building, making path ways, renovating the building, repairing and washing every grave and beautifying the Worli cemetery. May Hanna's soul rest in peace in her permanent home.

ORT-India

Sivanah D Ashtamkar Johnny E Jhirad

"ORT India has offered more professional courses like Data Science and Digital marketing for the community's students. These and other courses are being campaigned particularly among students who have done or doing BSc, BCom, BMS, BA, etc. to bring them on the professional track and thus hope for a better salary. Excel and Python classes are being conducted during weekends. Many students are taking benefit of this facility which will help them in their work.

Pesah seder was held which was enjoyed by all. A few days later followed by Malida on renovation completion of the ORT flat.

33 youth are visiting Israel for 10 days as a part of Taglit Birthright program and enjoying every moment of it.

Scholarships are being sanctioned for classroom and online studies for the applications received for the year 2021-22. Laptops are also being given to deserving students.

The New Synagogue in Ashdod

Yafet Pingle

This is the new Synagogue of that Rav Shimshon Bamnolkar from Ashdod in Ezor vow in front of Bank HaPoalim.
The project is looking for donations. Please contact the Rav at **Mobile 050-4101733**

IJFC [(2) Indian Jewish Heritage Center- IJHC | Facebook]

Indian Embassy

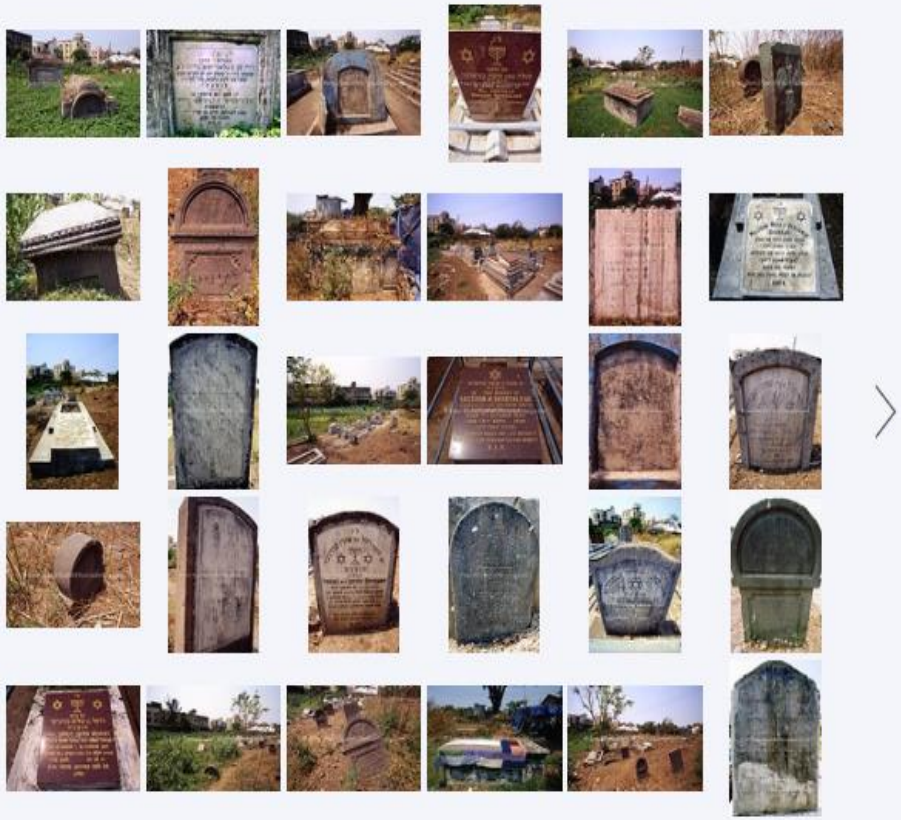
3rd June Indian Embassy arranged a bicycle ride to celebrate Bicycle day

NOTICE

To the queries related to the issuance of the OCI (Overseas Citizenship of India) card, the Embassy of India, Tel Aviv, reiterates that the people of Indian origin are eligible for OCI cards even if they have done mandatory military service (2 years for women and 3 years for men) in Israel.

For more details on OCI cards, visit the website of the Embassy of India in Israel:
https://www.indembassyisrael.gov.in

INDIA, Panvel (Konkan Region, Maharashtra). Jewish Cemetery. (2009)



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IN 1322

[INDIA, Panvel (Konkan Region, Maharashtra). Jewish Cemetery. (2009) - JewishPhotoLibrary (smugmug.com)]

Bene-Israel Cemetery in USA

Beni Israel Cemetery - Wikipedia

Beni Israel Cemetery, also known as Cemetery Beni Israel is an historic Jewish cemetery located at 1301 E. 2100 Road in Eudora, Douglas County, Kansas. It was founded in 1858 by German and Polish Jews who were a part of the German Immigrant Settlement Company from Chicago that had founded Eudora in 1856. One-year-old Isaac Cohn who died September 5, 1858, was the first person buried in the cemetery. He was the son of Asher Cohn (1828-1890), an immigrant businessman from Lubawa, Poland who founded a general store in Eudora ca. 1857 and who is also buried here with his wife Sarah. After 1928, burials ceased for decades until 1978 when responsibility for the cemetery was taken on by the Lawrence Jewish Community Congregation of nearby Lawrence. On January 2, 2013, Beni Israel Cemetery was added to the National Register of Historic Places.

Beni Israel Cemetery

U.S. National Register of Historic Places

Beni Israel Cemetery in 2012.

Current state of Palav Phata Bene Israel cemetery

Raamash G Ragvian

It has been taken over by a timber trade/ हे लाकडाच्या व्यापाराने ताब्यात घेतले आहे/הוא השתלט על ידי סחר עצים

Bene-Israel Jokes

Ramrajkar: I accidentally knocked over a headstone while walking through a cemetery.
Cheulkar: You have made a grave mistake!

Jetakar: I am looking for a loan to build a synagogue
Divakar: Approach LGBTQ for the loan.
Jeatkar: LGBTQ?? Lisbon's… how can they help me?
Divakar: Loans Given By The Queen !!

Awaskar: You know the Hazan discovered a hole in the fence of a nudist community in Raigad. He called the police. And now Police are looking into it!

Roherekar: I still believe that the world is flat.
Jiradkar: How many people do you think believe in this?
Roherekar: We have believers all around the globe!

Rahel: What are you planning to cook today?
Sarah: I was thinking of Bombil Bhaji, Coconut curry and white rice.
Rahel: Wow that sounds great. My plan was Methi Bhaji and hot chapattis and some rice.
Sarah: Yummu …..
Rahel: oof! When will our husbands come and start cooking!!??

Talkar: I spend three hours yesterday reading the Kutaba again and again. Must have read it a hundred times.
Bastaker: (Surprised). Why? What were you looking for?
Talkar: Expiry Date.

Esther: These Bene-Israel husbands are never happy. They always find something to crib about. Always something is missing. I am fed up of this attitude of husbands.
Leah: Correct. I know of no one who is happily married, except my husband.

Why God never got a PhD?

1. He had only one major publication.
2. It was written in Aramaic, not in English.
3. It has no references.
4. It wasn't even published in a refereed journal.
5. There are serious doubts he wrote it himself.
6. It may be true that he created the world, but what has he done since then?
7. His cooperative efforts have been quite limited.
8. The Scientific community has had a hard time replicating his results.
9. He unlawfully performed not only Animal, but *Human* testing.
10. When one experiment went awry, he tried to cover it by drowning his subjects.
11. When subjects didn't behave as predicted, he deleted them from the sample.
12. He rarely came to class, just told his students to read the book.
13. Some say he had his son to teach the class.
14. He expelled his first two students for learning.
15. Although there were only 10 requirements, most of his students failed his tests.
16. His office hours were infrequent and usually held on a mountain top.

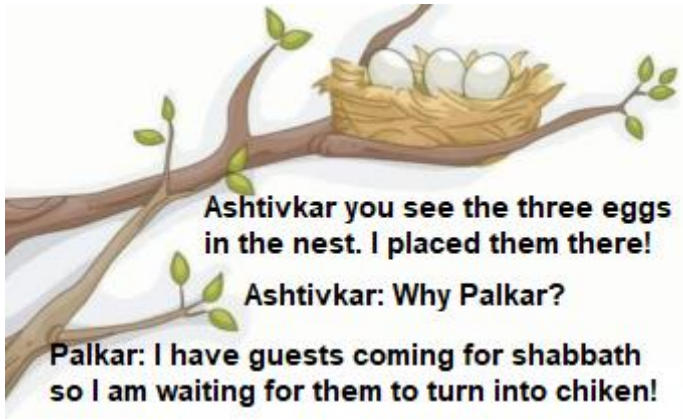
What is Body Language?

The conscious and unconscious movements and postures by which attitudes and feelings are communicated.

Body language is **communication by movement or position**, particularly facial expressions, gestures and the relative positions of a speaker and listener. It may be the message being conveyed or it may add layers of meaning to the spoken words.

Take a free test to see if you understand body languages.

New Body Language Quiz (typeform.com)



Shavuot with Knafeh!

Ofira Samson

It is customary to have milk and milk products for Shavuot and so instead of baking a cheese cake or making kheer, I decided to recreate the best middle eastern sweet dish I have ever had during my recent visit to holy land ; Knafeh (כנאפה/ कनाफे)

*Kataifi dough:
Knafeh (Arabic: كنافة) is **a traditional Middle Eastern dessert made with spun pastry called kataifi, soaked in a sweet, sugar-based syrup called attar, and typically layered with cheese, or with other ingredients such as clotted cream, pistachio or nuts, depending on the region.**

You will need:

*Kataifi dough
Ghee or Butter
Mozzarella
Sugar syrup
Lemon juice and rose water (optional)
Pistachios

Procedure:
Prepare the sugar syrup by mixing 1 cup water with 2 cups sugar in a sauce pan on medium heat until all the sugar melts. Make sure the heat is medium so all the sugar melts before the water begins to boil. Once it begins to boil you can add a few drops lemon to avoid crystallization. Let it boil for 5 mins and turn off the gas and allow to cool. Kataifi dough comes frozen as very long strands. We must begin by breaking down these strands into smaller pieces. The easiest way to do this is to blitz it in a food processor or blender a few times. Alternatively, you can hand chop the dough into smaller pieces.

Once processed into small pieces, transfer the dough strands to a large bowl and combine

with the melted butter or ghee. Use your hands to mix the ingredients well. Make sure the kataifi dough is well coated in ghee or butter. Now we prepare baking pan by greasing butter. Transfer half of the kataifi dough to the pan and use your hands or something flat-bottomed (like a glass) to spread and level out the layer. Then, add the cheese, spreading evenly. You can either add slices of mozzarella or shred it – either will work well. I recommend leaving an inch of space around the outside so the cheese doesn't ooze out the sides of the kunafa. Finally, add the remaining dough and level it, pressing lightly.

Transfer the baking pan to the center rack in your oven and bake for 45-60 minutes until the kunafa is a deep golden-brown color and depending on your oven. I suggest checking it after the 30 min mark. Once ready, remove the pastry from the oven and immediately pour the syrup over it. I recommend doing so from the outer edges to the center in a circular motion. Set it aside for 10 minutes to allow it to absorb all the syrup.Finally, top the pastry with ground pistachios, slice, and serve while still warm (for the ultimate cheese pull dessert!) or at room temperature.

From yours truly ~ ofira samson

Any questions please email ofirasamson@gmail.com

Information/Promotions

बेनी-इस्राएल लोकांना त्यांच्या दैनंदिन गरजा पूर्ण करण्यासाठी मदत करणे

- त्यांना चालवणं
- त्यांना रुग्णालयात घेऊन जाणे
- कागदपत्रे तयार करण्यात मदत करणे
- दररोजच्या खरेदीला मदत करणे समान सेवा

कॉल : 054-901-2945
भोनकर

סיוע לבני ישראל בדרישות היומיומיות שלהם

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-לקחת אותם לבית החולים
-עזרה ביצירת מסמכים
-עזרה בקניות יומיומיות
-שירות דומה

חייגו : 054-901-2945
בונקר

Helping Bene-Israel People in their daily requirements

- **Driving them**
- **Taking them to hospital**
- **Helping making documents**
- **Helping daily shopping**
- **Similar service**

Call : 054-901-2945
Bhonkar

INDIAN CULTURAL CENTER
Se'adya Ga'on St 24, Tel Aviv
Free Yoga Classes (Online & Offline)
YOGA FOR STRENGTH &BALANCE
SUN, 03.04.2022
@0730-0830hrs & 1830-1930hrs
VINYASA YOGA- PRIMARY SERIES
MON, 04.04.2022
@0730-0830hrs & 1800-1900hrs
HATHA YOGA-SPLITS AND BACKBENDS
TUES, 05.04.2022
@0730-0830hrs & 1730-1830hrs
YOGA FOR CORE STRENGTH
WED, 06.04.2022
@0730-0830hrs
*YOGA IN ASHDOD CITY
@19:30 ,Venue-Safra Community Center,Ezor Yod Beth
GENTLE VINYASA
THUR, 07.04.2022@0730-0830hrs
PRANAYAMA
THUR, 07.04.2022@1800-1900hrs
*YOGA AT WINTER POOL (HAYARKON PARK)
FRI, 08.04.2022 @0700-0900 hrs
SAT, 09.04.2022 @1700-1800 hrs
HTTPS://PARK.CO.IL/EVENTS/YOGA-04-22/
@ICCRinIsrael
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@iccr_israel

בס"ד
"לרומם את בית ה'"
Distributed by
Shaniwarteli e-newsletter
קול קורא לציבור
בואו לקחת חלק בחידוש פני בית הכנסת.
בתכנון:
◄שיקום וחידוש חזיתות בית הכנסת.
◄מעלית לרווחת הציבור.
◄פרגולה קבועה שתשמש גם לסוכה.
◄החלפת רצפת הכניסה ואיטום הגזילות.
◄עמדת נטילת ידיים רחבה.
◄החלפת דלת הכניסה לאולם.
◄ועוד ועוד ככל שיאפשר התקציב.
לתרומות אפשר לפנות
לוועד
מספר חשבון לתרומות:
796360
בנק פאגי
סניף 186
שם החשבון :
מגן חסידים אשדוד.

IOBI / IBI

International organization for Bene Israel (IOBI) / Israeli Bene-Israel (IBI) held two functions in May. Maharashtra Day and Memorial Day for the Bene-Israel fallen soldiers.

Both the functions were held at the Indian Cultural Center of Embassy of India.

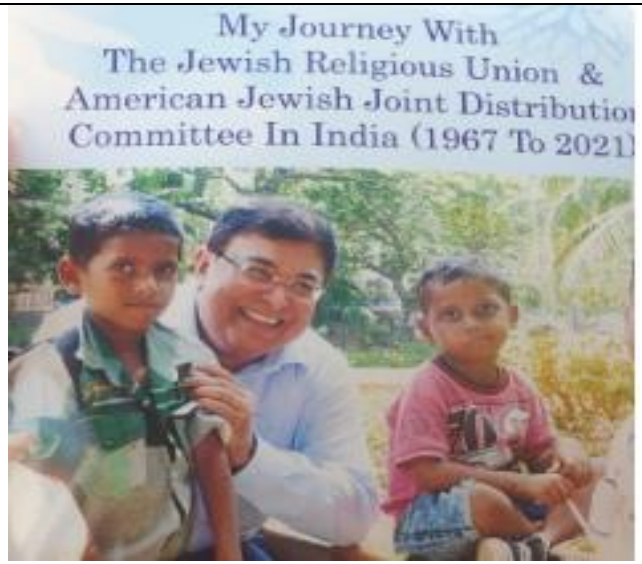
IOBI/IBI presented a thanking giving certificate to Mr. Nissim Moses, Historian for Indian Jews and its Heritage & Bene Israel Genealogy Researching, for his supporting them in their activities. They visited his home on Saturday 14th May, 2022.

Jewish Religious Union Elijah Jacob

The Jewish Religious Union celebrated Passover by holding its annual Seder service at the Jacob Sassoon school hall on Sunday, 17th April 2022 with over 70 participant members. The event was marked by a Book release of "My Journey with the JRU and AJDC in India -1967 to 2021." compiled by Elijah Jacob which recounts some the important milestones during this period. The book was released at the hands of his mother Mozelle , the senior most member in the congregation. The book was well received by all the members present which included Mr. Scott Ticknor -Deputy Consul General of USA in Mumbai as the Guest of Honour who participated whole heartedly in the service. Mr. Raamesh Gauri Raghavan -Executive member of Asiatic Society of Mumbai also graced the occasion.

The Seder service was well organized by Norma Suvarna and the youth members of JRU viz. Asriel Jhirad and Ephraim Moses and conducted by Elijah Jacob, the Chair of the Services Committee. The service included the traditional singing of songs Dayenu and Had Gadya along with completing all the 15 steps of the order of the Seder service. Special prizes were given to members and all members had portions to read from the service along with two skits which were enacted during the service to make the event interesting and enjoyable. A sumptous dinner spread consisting of vegetarian dishes as well as chicken curry and salads was provided by a Jewish caterer for the evening.

All in all, it was a fun filled evening with fulfilling a double mitzvah of participating in the Seder and helping the needy elders of our community living in Bayiti. All the sale proceeds of the book released on that day (Rs.85,700/) were donated towards the upkeep and welfare of our elderly living in Bayiti-Home for the Elders at Panvel. The book released is available for local sale @Rs.500/ per copy earmarked as a Donation to Bayiti at the EPJCC , Matunga. You can contact EPJCC or Elijah Jacob at +91-9820278177 for procuring copies of the book for outstation and foreign posting.



איחוד קהילתי יצוגי ארצי

National Community Union for Indian Jews in Israel

June 15, 2022

קהל יקר,
אני שמחה לחשוף בפניכם את האיחוד הארצי הקהילתי ליוצאי הודו בישראל.
האיחוד הארצי בראשותו של מר משה סוגאוקר פועלת כמעט שנתיים למען הקהילה ברחבי הארץ בהתנדבות מלאה.

חלק מהדברים בהם הם עסקו עד עכשיו הם טיפול בנושא בתי העלמין בהודו, קידום עצמאיים צעירים בני הקהילה, חיפוש תעסוקה למבוגרים וצעירים ואף לעולים חדשים, סיוע בסלי מזון לפני חג הפסח, השתתפות באירועים שונים ברחבי הארץ של הקהילה, קידום נושאים בעולם הספורט כמו טורניר כדורגל ברמלה עם מספר קבוצות, חשיפה של הקריקט והבעיות השונות , חשיפה של חלק מהדברים גם בתקשורת, הרצאות בהתנדבות של אנשי מקצוע. ואחת המטרות הכי חשובות היא להשיג מלגות לסטודנטים.

Dear Audience,
I am happy to expose to you the National Community Union for Indian Jews in Israel.
The National Union, headed by Mr. Moshe Sugauker, has been working for almost two years for the benefit of the community throughout the country on a fully voluntary basis.

Some of the things they have dealt with so far are dealing with the issue of cemeteries in India, promoting self-employed young members of the community, seeking employment for adults and young people and even for new immigrants, assistance with food baskets before Passover, participation in various events throughout the country of the community, promoting topics in the world of sports such as a football tournament in Ramla with several teams, exposure of cricket and the various problems,

אנשי האיחוד הארצי פועלים ללא שכר ובהתנדבות מלאה של כלל הגורמים. הם מבקשים בעיקר תמיכה של הקהילה על מנת שיהיה להם את הכוח להמשיך ולעשות והם אומרים בפה מלא " זה הזמן לאיחוד כוחות!! מספיק עם הפילוג והקבוצות" כך נוכל לקדם הן מועמדים רציניים למועצות ברחבי הארץ וגם בעתיד הקרוב מאוד בעזרת השם ובעזרת כל

אחד ואחד מכם להכניס מועמד מטעם הקהילה לכנסת ישראל .
כולנו תקווה שהקבוצה תצליח לקדם את התרבות שלנו המסורת והמורשת.

exposure of some of the things also in the media, Voluntary lectures by professionals. And one of the most important goals is to get scholarships for students.

Members of the National Union operate without pay and on the full volunteer basis of all parties. They mostly ask for the support of the community so that they have the strength to continue doing and they say plainly “It’s time for joining forces!! Enough with the division and the groups" so that we can promote both serious candidates for councils throughout the country and in the very near future with G-d's help and with the help of each and every one of you to bring a candidate on behalf of the community into the Knesset of Israel.
We all hope that the group will succeed in promoting our culture, tradition and heritage.

Carrom Competition in Israel (Kiryat Gat)

our champions in crembold! - my yavne portal (myavne.co.il)

National Community Union for Indian Jews in Israel arranges for a carom board competition in Kiryat Gat.

The National Union organized a reception for a group of Bene-Israeli children, who came from India, as part of Tagled-Israel. The Chairman of the National Union, Mr. Moshe Sugaokar will organize a meeting with the children of Birthright Israel in the near future.		האיחוד הארצי אירגן קבלת פנים לקבוצת ילדי בני ישראל, שהגיעו מהודו, במסגרת "תגלית". יו"ר האיחוד הארצי, מר משה סוגאוקר יארגן מפגש עם ילדי "תגלית" מהודו בזמן הקרוב.

On June 19, at 20:30pm, Rabbi Yona from Ashdod plans to organize malida ceremony on a boat. Anybody interested to join May contact him on this number 052-6126071. contribution is NIS 50/person.			

International Bene-Israel Kirtan Singing Group (IBKSG)

In service of our kind God

The Bene-Israel Kirtan singing practice has started. Next meeting on Monday 27 June at 11 AM at JDC office in Mataunga.
Do you sing well? Be there....

A sutiable Bene-Israel instrument player is welcome too. Call: 098202 78177

This group will be performing shows in Indian and on International stages where Bene-Israel population lives today.

Bhakti songs

שירי בהקטי

AJDC

Kesher - Connecting our Jewish Community

July 2022 **Tammuz - Av 5782**

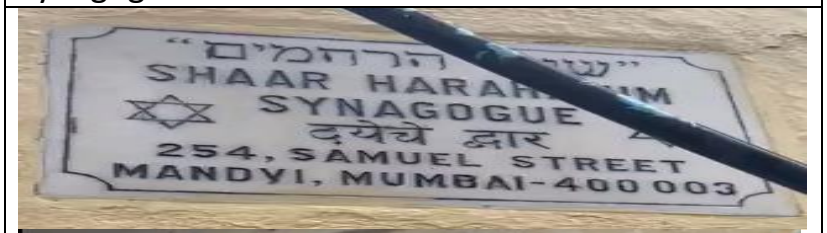
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 Hebrew Class - 5.00pm Parashat Shavua - 7:30pm					1 Erev Shabbat	2 Shabbat Shalom
3 Hebrew Class - 5.00pm Parashat Shavua - 7:30pm	4	5	6	7 Kaballah Class with Judah Kolet - 6:00pm	8 Erev Shabbat	9 Shabbat Shalom
10 Hebrew Class - 5.00pm Parashat Shavua - 7:30pm	11	12	13	14 Kaballah Class with Judah Kolet - 6:00pm	15 Erev Shabbat	16 Shabbat Shalom
17 Hebrew Class - 5.00pm Parashat Shavua - 7:30pm	18	19	20	21 Kaballah Class with Judah Kolet - 6:00pm	22 Erev Shabbat	23 Shabbat Shalom
24 Nutrition - 11am Hebrew Class - 5.00pm Parashat Shavua - 7:30pm	25	26	27	28 Kaballah Class with Judah Kolet - 6:00pm	29 Erev Shabbat	30 Shabbat Shalom

The seed of bhakti – even if drying up from years of neglect – will flourish by cherishing songs of bhakti.

***Gate of Mercy Synagogue or Shaar ha Rahamim or Juni Masjid**

Advocate David Talegaokar

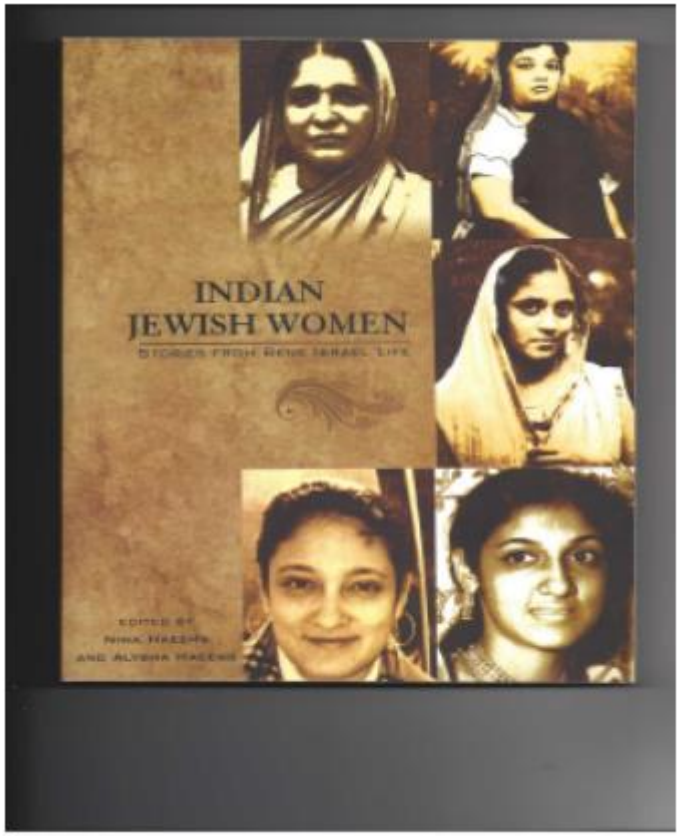
The Synagogue is **Gate of Mercy Synagogue** or **Shaar ha Rahamim** synagogue. It is the oldest Bene Israel community Synagogue in Maharashtra. It has completed 225 yrs. Mr Sion has helped renovate the Mikve of the Synagogue. We are repairing the entire synagogue. The work of the Mikve is still not complete. There are many more donors who have promised to donate for the repairs of the Synagogue.



***"Gate of Mercy" is the English translation of "Shaar ha Rahamim". It is also known as the Juni Masjid as it is the oldest synagogue.**

Australia

Solomon Erulkar



I thought it would be great to share this with all or you. I remember attending an International Bene Israel Association event in Mumbai – Jan 2018. We had a great few days with the community and remember visiting a few stalls on that day. At that time, I had purchased this book. I had a very quick look at it and placed it on my bookshelf at home.

I decided to read this book a few days ago and was fascinated by the content of this publication. It was amazing to read about the Bene Israel women in our Society. To actually read and feel about their lives, achievement and commitment to our community over a long period of time. To read these different stories published in this book has given me a lot of information about what was achieved over many years by women from our Bene Israel Community.

What was even more fascinating is that I got to read a bit about my family connection going back to Ahmedabad.

Raigad Jewish Association (RJA)

Herzl Bhonkar

Raigad, that was just until 70 years ago a thriving 300+ villages where Bene-Israel communities spread and lived over 2000 years, rapidly lost its Jewish population in 70 years. We cannot ignore what transpired with our community in Raigad over 2000 years.

175BCE to 1 ACE
Our ancestors were washed ashore and they became part of the local community as Teli (oilmen). As they did not work on Saturdays they were called Saturday oilmen (Shaniwar-Teli).

1ACE-10 ACE
Shaniwar- Teli community spread in Raigad region into various empty areas. As they spread their names became the names of the villages (as per new research by Nissim Moses).

10ACE-14ACE
Cochin Jews (Origin from Yamen) discovered Shaniwar-Teli community as Jews.

15ACE-18ACE
Christian missionaries tried to convert Shaniwar-Teli community to Christianity but the able teachers from Cochin inculcated into the community strong love for Judaism. Those days the Chazan (Hazan Baba) performed an important function of traveling village to village teaching Judaism customs and traditions to the Shaniwar-Telis families.

19 ACE – 20 ACE
The first book on Bene-Israel history was published written by Haeem Kehimkar. Israel was formed. Mass immigration to Israel of the Bene-Israel community started leaving hundreds of villages empty of its Bene-Israel community that had lived in Raigad for 2000 years.

We need to preserve our heritage in Raigad.

Magen Hassidim Mumbai Saved!!

Ronen Bhonkar

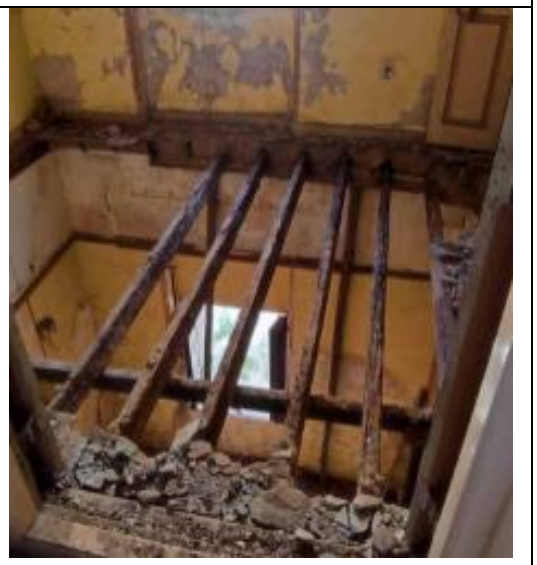
Magen Hassidim Mumbai Saved!!
During 2020 winter the roof of the synoguge office fell. The synagouge management decided to do a structure audit. This gave the management a shocking information.
"The condition of wood is detoriated and structure need urgent repairs or it can collapse".
If the repairs were not done immeditely the synagouge would have stopped functioning due to danger of life.
Though the wood looked good from out side due to paintings, as they went in to depth they discovered the wood insided had rotten and was turning in to powder. This was the reason the roof has collapsed.
Please see the pictures and the videos. This major repair work has started. The synagouge needs your donation help.
Hundreds of us Bene-Israels were married here and attended high holiday functions here. Now the synagouge needs our help. Please send your donations to

Name of Account
Magen Hassidim Synagogue Estate Trust
A/c No.: 005910210000019
Bank: Bank of India
Branch : Jacob Circle
Account Type: Saving
IFSC Code. BKID0000059

The management committee discovered a new problem in ladies Gallery, the staircase wooden beams of Magen Hassidim are rotting.

Slab over varanda

Roof slab over Main office



Beth-El Synagogue, Panvel

Moses Korlekar

Panvel Synagogue celebrated its 173rd Anniversary on 12th June 2022. The invited the whole community had a cake cutting ceremony followed by Malida and lunch. They also honored the Charikar family for their unique contribution in beautification of the Worli Cemetery.

PUNE NEWS during the Period from March to 30th June 2022

Dr. Reuben Daniel Pezarkar, Pune

The 101st year celebration of the Succath Shelomo Synagogue in Rasta Peth was celebrated on 22/05/2022 (21st Iyyar 5782) on a low key note, as the country had just recovered from the pandemic and life slowly started returning to normal throughout the country.

Mr. Samuel Elijah Daniel Bamnolkar and Mrs Lebana Samuel were the chief guests at the function. Mr Samuel Elijah Daniel Bamnolkar is also the President of Shaar Hashamaim Synagogue, Thane. The festivities were celebrated by lighting of lamps, cutting of the anniversary cake, felicitating members of the Jewish community, speech by the President of Succath Shelomo Synagogue Mr. Samuel Gadkar, and by the Chief Guest. The program concluded by serving sumptuous Kosher Dinner to all those present at the adjacent lawn of the Succath Shelomo Synagogue.

Another development that took place was the cleaning of the Jewish Cemetery at Koregaon Park by a voluntary organization headed by Mr. Adar Poonawala and his team of volunteers. This initiative was headed by Dr. Zimra Israel who roped in this NGO to clean the Cemetery. The compound walls which were breached at places were repaired with the help from Mr. Solomon Sopher, Managing Trustee of the Sassoon Charitable Trusts in India. The cemetery was cleared of grass and weeds in the earlier year also by volunteers from the Jewish community of Pune but this being a perennial problem after every monsoons as heavy rains lash Pune and the grass grows at such a fast pace that it becomes very difficult to access the graves of our loved ones who have departed from this world.

Gabriel Project Mumbai

Gabriel Project Mumbai

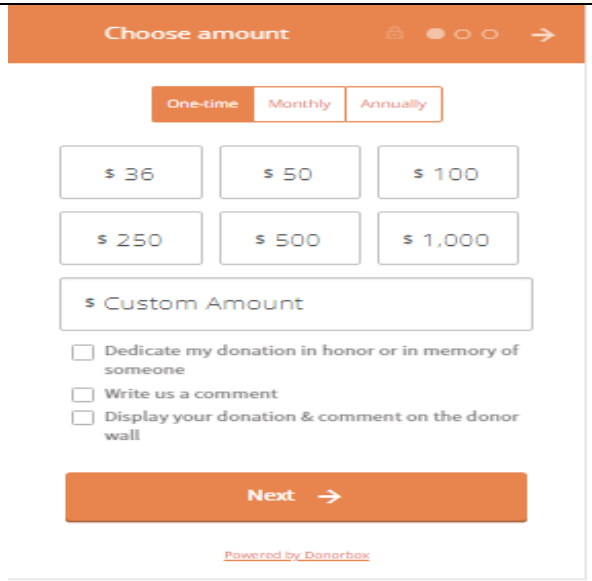
Gabriel Project Mumbai is excited to announce its partnership with the Indian Dental Association (IDA) in providing oral health awareness and treatment to thousands of people living in remote underserved villages of the Mokhada sub-district.

According to the Global Burden of Disease Study (2017), oral diseases including untreated tooth decay, severe periodontitis, tooth loss and **oral cancer effect 3.5 billion people worldwide!** The effect of this oral health alliance, between the IDA And GPM, means that a serious impact will be made on the overall **oral health and well-being of thousands of people living in remote rural and tribal communities in India.**

GPM is proud of its collaboration with the IDA and its partners who include: TATA Memorial Center, the National Health Mission (NHM), Grameen First Foundation, Karkinos, and the Public Health Department of Maharashtra. This initiative is in addition to GPM's other oral health programs: the Healthy Homes and 'Gabriel Smiles Projects' in the Kalwa 'slum' in Mumbai (in collaboration with Humble Smile Foundation and IDA) and the Martha B. Leigh Community Dental Clinic operated by GPM

Gabriel Project Mumbai (GPM) is an NGO that works with local communities in caring for vulnerable children in slums and under-served rural villages of Maharashtra, India, by providing a grassroots response to poverty, malnutrition, disease, illiteracy, hunger, and child labor in India.

Founded in 2012, GPM uses a creative, compassionate, and carefully-crafted strategic approach of The Triad of Children's Well-Being. By attending to three core issues simultaneously – education, health and nutrition – GPM creates the best environment to maximize the ability of vulnerable children to change the trajectory of their lives.



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Eliat

14th anniversary of Eailat Bene Israellie Synagogue Shaare Shalom 30.6.2022

Essay competition

We have very good response from the Bene-Israel community. As of 28.6.2022 we have received 43% English essays, 35 Marathi essays and 22% Hebrew essays. The results will be announced in our next issue due on 1.10.2022

יש לנו היענות טובה מאוד מקהילת בני ישראל. נכון ל-28.6.2022 קיבלנו 43% חיבורים באנגלית, 35 חיבורים מאראתיים ו-22% חיבורים בעברית. התוצאות יוכרזו בגיליון הבא שלנו הצפוי ביום 1.10.2022

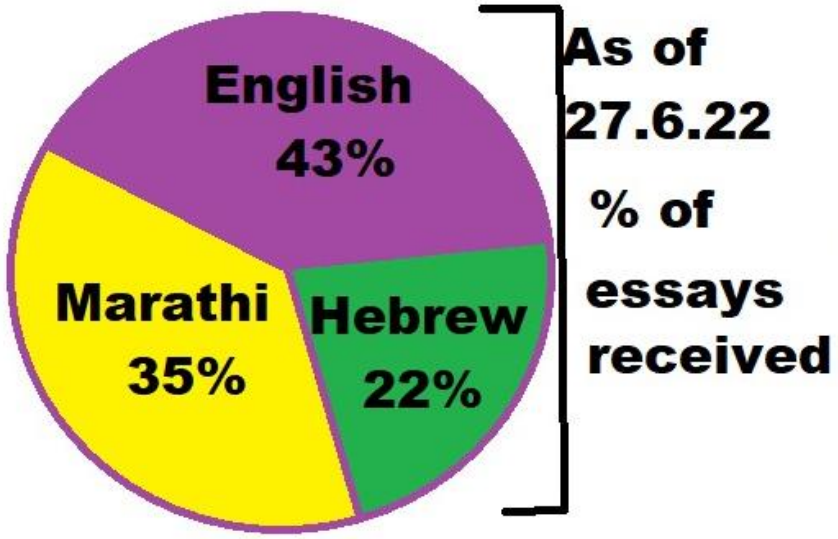
आम्हाला बेने-इस्रायल समुदायाकडून खूप चांगला प्रतिसाद मिळाला आहे. २८.६.२०२२ पर्यंत आपल्याला ४३% इंग्रजी निबंध, ३५ मराठी निबंध आणि २२% हिब्रू निबंध प्राप्त झाले आहेत. 1.10.2022 रोजी आमच्या पुढील अंकात निकाल जाहीर केला जाईल

It has been decided that Judges will not be given the names of the participants

Shaniwar Teli will number each essay and send it to the Judges with these numbers

The judges will return the number of the winning essay.

The winners will be announced in the coming issue on 1.10.2022



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
Follow us on Face book and become our friends: https://www.facebook.com/wbwo.daniels.1

To Our Readers

1. Please send us your letters and articles to email: shaniwartali@gmail.com
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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.
9. There is no guarantee all the information given here are fully investigated.

Disclaimer

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Coming Dead Line to submit matter for next issue:
Sept 15 2022