

So... What's Nu ? Mazel Tov!

Barmitzvah

Jordan Gamsy son of Glenn and Mandy Gamsy on the occasion of his Barmitzvah and to grandparents Mike and Sharon Pamensky and Dennis and Gillian Gamsy

Batmitzvah

Ellen Oschry on the occasion of her granddaughter Sianna Levin's Batmitzvah in Australia

JWRP

JWRP Ladies will give a report back on their magnificent tour on Shabbos morning after the Kiddush

Tammuz

We bless the new month of Tammuz this Shabbat. Rosh Chodesh is on Tuesday night and Wednesday, Wednesday night and Thursday

Got a Halachic Question?

Need a quick answer?
Sms or WhatsApp Rabbi Shaw on 072 6966535 or e-mail davidshaw@sandtonshul.co.za

Condolences

Due to the sad passing of Rebbetzin Moffson's mother, Rabbi Moffson will not be our Scholar in Residence this Shabbos. We wish the Moffson family long life, comfort and consolation and look forward to his visiting us soon.

Carmella Leah Tehillim Group

All women welcome to come and complete the full book of Tehillim. This Sunday, @ the Sandton Shul Youth Centre @ 9am.
Looking forward to seeing you
Kerri Strauss and Shira Kaufman

Date	Earliest time for Tallit & Tefillin	Latest Time for Shema	Sunset	End of Shabbat
8 June	6:00:58 AM	9:28:16 AM	5:22:57 PM	5:52:57 PM
9 June	6:01:20 AM	9:28:34 AM	5:22:57 PM	5:52:58 PM
10 June	6:01:41 AM	9:28:52 AM	5:22:58 PM	5:53:00 PM
11 June	6:02:01 AM	9:29:09 AM	5:23:00 PM	5:53:03 PM
12 June	6:02:21 AM	9:29:26 AM	5:23:03 PM	5:53:07 PM

Davening Times

Shacharit

Monday and Thursday – 06h00 & 06h45
Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday – 06h15 & 06h45

Sundays and Public Holidays – 07h00
Mincha – 17h15

Rosh Chodesh / Fast Day / Chol Hamoed

1st Minyan – Davening will commence a 05h45 throughout the week
2nd Minyan – Davening will commence at 06h30 throughout the week

Petition to the SA Government to cease efforts to sever ties with State of Israel

https://www.change.org/p/south-african-government-petition-to-the-sa-government-to-cease-efforts-to-sever-ties-with-state-of-israel?recruiter=135120200&utm_source=share_petition&utm_campaign=psf_combo_share_initial&utm_medium=whatsapp&utm_content=whatsapp_share_content_2:control

Quote from Harry S. Truman

"I had faith in Israel before it was established, I have in it now. I believe it has a glorious future before it - not just another sovereign nation, but as an embodiment of the great ideals of our civilization."

SECURITY

CSO Security / Medical Emergency & Information Number: 086 18 000 18

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Make the Connection

ת"ס

9 June 2018

26 Sivan 5778

Candle Lighting: 5.05pm
Parshat Shelach
Mincha: 4.40pm
Havdalah: 5.57pm
Haftorah: Jordan Gamsy



PARSHA PAGE NO.:

ART SCROLL:
Sedra Page 798
Haftorah Page 1184
HIRSCH:
Sedra Page 560
Haftorah Page 893

SandtonShul

Torah Portion of the Week

Shelach, Numbers 13:1 - 15:41

The Jewish people received the Torah on Mt. Sinai and were ready to enter the land of Israel. There was a consensus of opinion amongst the people that we should send spies to see if it was feasible to conquer the Land. Moshe knew that the Almighty's promise to give the Land included a guarantee to conquer it. However, one of the principles of life which we learn from this portion is: the Almighty allows each of us the free will to go in the direction we choose. Even though one man and the Almighty is a majority, Moshe by Divine decree, sent out the princes of the tribes (men of the highest caliber) to spy out the land. Twelve spies were sent. Ten came back with a report of strong fortifications and giants; they rallied the people against going up to the Land. Joshua ben Nun and Calev ben Yefunah (Moshe's brother-in-law) tried to stem the rebellion but did not succeed. The Almighty decreed 40 years of wandering in the desert, one year for each day they spied in the land of Israel. This happened on the 9th of Av, a date noted throughout Jewish history for tragedy, the destruction of both Temples in Jerusalem and the expulsion of the Jews from Spain amongst them.

Dvar Torah based on *Growth Through Torah* by Rabbi Zelig Pliskin

The ten spies reported back to the Jewish people: "The people who dwell in the land are extremely fierce and the cities are fortified and very great. We also saw the children of *Anak* (giants) there. We cannot go up to the people because they are stronger than us" (Num. 13:28,31). The spies were sent to reconnoiter the land and bring back the report. What was their mistake? The commentary *Akaidah* explains that the report of the spies was appropriate. They observed and they related what they saw. Their mistake was drawing a conclusion and rendering the decision that they we should not attempt to enter the Land. It was not up to them to come to any final conclusions, only to report the facts. They were wrong about their not being able to conquer the land. The Almighty has the power to help against all odds. Just because in their minds they did not think it was possible for them to successfully take over the land of Israel did not mean that it was not really possible. What is our lesson? We often see factors in situations and come to erroneous conclusions based on our perceptions. We must be very careful because oftentimes there are factors that we are unaware of or don't take into consideration. It is a special talent to be able to reach correct decisions based on the facts. This is especially true when having to make judgments about other people. Some people have a strong tendency to reach negative conclusions about others that are inaccurate. Even if what you see about another person is basically true, always keep in mind that your conclusions could be wrong and the other person should still be judged favorably.

Rabbi Berel Wein on Parsha Shelach

In our current democratically oriented mindset we subscribe to the tenant that majority rules. Because of this mentality, many times the opinion of the minority is never taken seriously or properly assessed. Yet, throughout world and Jewish history apparently the majority opinion was not always the correct one, and harmful consequences followed from its adoption.

The Talmud therefore is always careful to preserve the minority opinion even when the normative practice of Judaism does not. It explains that there perhaps will come a time when circumstances will dictate that the

minority opinion will be correct and should be implemented. The flaw in always following the majority opinion is patently illustrated for us in the Torah reading of this week.

The majority opinion, by a vote of 10 to 2, rejected the entry of the Jewish people into the land of Israel, despite G-d's promises and the entreaties of Moshe. Yet, all Jewish history is based on the minority opinion being the correct one and that following the majority only doomed a generation to a seemingly useless death in the desert of Sinai. Apparently, G-d's will, so to speak, and the trajectory of history is not subject to a majority vote.

A Jewish Congressman famously stated a century ago that G-d and one constitute a majority. Truth, wisdom, measured action and a vision for the future are not subject to be overturned by a temporary majority opinion. The fact that there it is a Jewish people and a Jewish state in the world today testifies to the eternity of a holy and wise minority opinion.

As human beings who do not have the gift of prophecy and often find it impossible to foretell the future, following the majority opinion is comforting and reassuring. We were brought up on the slogan that 50 million Frenchmen cannot be wrong. Well, they have been very wrong many times over this past century. While we do not want to ignore the wishes of the majority, as there is power and a modicum of truth in numbers, when it comes to matters of faith and historic vision, the rules of majority and minority must be cast aside.

Common sense and historical experience coupled with strong beliefs and traditional faith should move the day when making decisions and policies. Many a leader has been faced with making unpopular decisions for the preservation and welfare of his people. We are told that King Saul lost his crown because he told the prophet Samuel that he had to bow to popular demand instead of heeding G-d's commandment. In Saul's case, following the majority opinion regarding the spies in this week's Torah reading, proved disastrous. We who live in a society where majority rules should bear this caveat in mind.

Reprinted from the Parshas Shlach 5778 website of Rabbiwein.com

A LIFE LESSON

The spies strongly felt that the current inhabitants in the Land of Israel viewed them as people who were very small in size and who could easily be conquered. But this isn't how it was. The spies first felt that they were like grasshoppers in **their own** eyes. Only after they themselves felt that they **were like grasshoppers did** they believe that others perceived them as grasshoppers **in their eyes**. This extra piece of information can have a life-changing impact on all of us. People will always perceive you exactly how you perceive yourself.

FUNNY THINGS: Taking it to the Bank

Max Greenberg was an illiterate immigrant when he came to New York, but he worked hard, saved his pennies and started a small business. It did well and soon he had enough money to send for the wife and children.

The work kept him very busy, so he never had time to learn to write, but the bank was happy to do business with him, even though his signature consisted of two O's.

He prospered, he opened more stores, the kids were transferred to private schools, the family moved into a fancy house (with one staircase going nowhere just for show) ... you get the idea.

One day his banker, Mr. Smith, asked him to drop by.

"So vat's the problem?" Greenberg asked, a bit anxiously.

Smith waved a bunch of checks at him. "Perhaps nothing," he said, "but I wanted to be on the safe side. These recent checks of yours are all signed with three O's, but your signature of record has just two."

Greenberg looked embarrassed. "I'm sorry about making trouble," he said, "but my wife said that since I'm now such a high-class rich guy, I should have a middle name!"

CLASSIFIEDS

Our Sandton Jolly Seniors Club

This week is a special treat, we are visiting The Holocaust & Genocide Museum in Parktown. Meet in the car park at 10am. Transport will be arranged. No cost.

Bring your friends!

RSVP: Rabbi David Shaw 072 6966535

Blood Drive

Our next Blood Drive will be held on Sunday morning (10 June) at Manor Medical Centre, Kelvin Drive, Gallo Manor from 9h00 to 14h00

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Beth Hamedrash Hagadol Sandton will be held on the 14th June 2018 at 7.30pm in the Upstairs Shul

Old Age Needs So Little, but need that little so much

Silver Linings has developed an effective programme for senior citizens with Alzheimer's and Dementia – do you know anyone who would benefit from a fun filled morning right here in Sandton – for more info contact Bev 082 5744770 or Sue 082 3767050

Selwyn Segal Shabbaton

We are honoured to be hosting the Selwyn Segal residents on the Shabbat of 29/30 June. Any congregant wishing to host a resident to please contact Harelle in the office



wonder WORLD

HOT AND COLD



Is alligator skin good for anything but purses?

The surface of an alligator's hide is comprised of square bumps, the same bumps that adorn alligator skin accessories. But nothing in Hashem's world is without purpose. Those bumps serve a vital purpose for the alligator.

Reptiles are cold-blooded. Unlike warm-blooded mammals, reptiles take on the temperature of their surroundings. The raised alligator scales, called scutes, contain calcium deposits called osteoderms. If an alligator gets too cold, it basks in the sun, and the osteoderms increase blood flow to the area, rapidly transmitting heat from the alligator's back into the rest of its body.

Adapted from Emunah: A Refresher Course (Melohn Edition; Ani Maamin Foundation; Mosica Press)

powerful PRAYER

POSEI'ACH ES YADECHA:
EVERY SINGLE CREATURE



The last six *perakim* of Tehillim stretch from Tehilla L'David until the end of the fifth Hallelukah. They also compose the main part of Pesukei Dezimra. There is one verse that must be said with *kavanah*, or else it must be repeated: *posei'ach es yadecha*, Hashem opens His hand and satisfies every living creature. We must never take His kindness for granted. It is amazing to realize that every single creature on earth has a food source, a food chain which stretches from the smallest animal to the biggest. And all of this was created for the benefit of mankind.

Adapted from Biur Tefillah (Ani Maamin Foundation)