

~~ This week's issue of *The Park Page* is dedicated by ~~

Arlene and Alan Balter, commemorating the Yahrzeit of her grandmother Sarah Citron – Sara bat Sender a”h (3 Tevet)  
 Cynthia and Joseph Bettelheim, commemorating the Yahrzeit of his uncle Laszlo Bettelheim – Litman ben Yosef a”h (6 Tevet)  
 Eta and Moshe Mordkovich, commemorating the Yahrzeit of her mother Tzilia Shvartsman – Tzilia bat Shmuel a”h (10 Tevet)  
 Betty Atlas Rumelt and Owen Rumelt, commemorating the Yahrzeits of his  
 aunt Ellen Rumelt – Esther Yehudit bat Asher a”h (4 Tevet) and mother Ethel Rumelt - Etel bat Avraham Meir a”h (5 Tevet)  
 Adele and Robert Shapiro, commemorating the Yahrzeit of her mother Sally Sachs – Sara Rivka bat Groynin a”h (25 Kislev)  
 Rita Wagner, commemorating the Yahrzeits of her son David Wagner a”h (8 Tevet) and husband Hebrert Wagner a”h (12 Tevet)



# The Weekly Bulletin of Young Israel of New Hyde Park

January 3-10, 2025

Parashat Vayigash  
 Issue #944

3-10 Tevet 5785

## Schedule of Services and Classes

<b>Friday, January 3 / 3 Tevet</b>		<b>Sanhedrin 17</b>
Shacharit	6:40 am	
Candle-lighting, before	4:22 pm	
Mincha, Dvar Torah, Maariv	4:25 pm	
<b>Saturday, January 4 / 4 Tevet</b>		<b>Sanhedrin 18</b>
Shacharit	8:45 am	
Latest time for Shema	MA 9:04 • GRA 9:40 am	
Drasha	10:45 am	
Gemara Shiur (Berakhot 55a)	3:30 pm	
Mincha, Seuda Shelishit	4:15 pm	
Maariv / Shabbat ends	5:26 pm	
<b>Sunday, January 5 / 5 Tevet</b>		<b>Sanhedrin 19</b>
Shacharit	8:10 am	
Gemara Shiur (Gittin 52b) - Zoom 562011827	n/a	
Mincha, Maariv	4:25 pm	
<b>Monday, January 6 / 6 Tevet</b>		<b>Sanhedrin 20</b>
Shacharit	6:40 am	
Mincha, Maariv	4:25 pm	
<b>Tuesday, January 7 / 7 Tevet</b>		<b>Sanhedrin 21</b>
Shacharit	6:40 am	
Mincha, Maariv	4:25 pm	
<b>Wednesday, January 8 / 8 Tevet</b>		<b>Sanhedrin 22</b>
Shacharit	6:40 am	
Mincha, Maariv	4:25 pm	
<b>Thursday, January 9 / 9 Tevet</b>		<b>Sanhedrin 23</b>
Shacharit	6:40 am	
Mincha, Maariv	4:25 pm	
<b>Friday, January 10 / 10 Tevet</b>		<b>Sanhedrin 24</b>
Fast begins	6:06 am	
Shacharit	6:30 am	
Mincha, Dvar Torah, Maariv	note → 4:15 pm	
Candle-lighting, before	4:29 pm	
Fast ends	5:32 pm	

## Parasha Page Numbers

Parasha (Gen. 44:18 - 47:27)	Artscroll 250 • Soncino 169
Haftara (Ezek. 37:15-28)	Artscroll 1144 • Soncino 178

- Pre-registration helps ensure a Minyan. To sign up, kindly contact Rabbi Teitelman by phone, text, or WhatsApp at 518-222-3875.
- The 6-month schedule for Tishrei through Adar is available in shul, or online at <http://yinhp.org/docs/yinhp-schedule-5785-p1.pdf>
- The last time for Kiddush Levana during Tevet is Tuesday, January 14, at 11:55 a.m. + 16 Chalakim JST.

## Drash v'DaSh – A Shabbat Message and Greeting

### “To Commemorate or Not to Commemorate: That is the Question”

In my recently completed course, “Minhag: The Role of Communal Custom” (a new edition starts mid-January), we explored not only the development and evolution of individual *minhagim*, but also patterns that span a broad range of them. One recurring paradigm is what we might call “commemoration”, doing things that preserve and perpetuate parochial practices of the days of yore. A most obvious example is the Seder in which we not only recount the story of the Exodus from Egypt, but also reenact it in ways explicitly prescribed by the Torah – eating Matzah as our ancestors did departing Egypt – and also in discretionary ways, say, by placing the Matzah on one’s shoulders, again, as our ancestors did departing Egypt.

At the same time, however, there are things we are proscribed from doing, precisely because they too much resemble what we can no longer perform. On the Seder night, not only don’t we have the roasted Korban Pesach (Paschal Sacrifice), but none of the meat or even fowl that we eat at the Seder can be roasted. Thus, while we take great care to commemorate in so many different ways, in some instances, we are required to avoid commemoration. A more accurate, albeit paradoxical formulation might be, “we commemorate by not commemorating”.

As a recent and relevant illustration of the commemoration conundrum, consider the YINHP Chanukah Menorah. On the one hand, its original fabrication has seven branches as did the Menorah in the Mishkan and Mikdash. On the other hand, as it is in fact forbidden to construct a seven-branched menorah because it is too similar to one the one in the Mikdash that we no longer have, the seven-branches has been conveniently converted into a nine-branched one.



**YOUNG ISRAEL OF NEW HYDE PARK**

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### Announcements

**Yasher koach** to David Rouhani for his Iaining this week.

**Gift Cards** for Shop Rite and Stop & Shop can be purchased from Ilene and Marc Horowitz 718-470-9474.

**YINHP Cards** ("In Memoriam", "Mazel Tov", "Get Well", and "Thank You") are available for purchase through David Mandel. The cost is \$18 each or \$72 for five (mix 'n match).

**Beautiful Memories Gemach** is open for shopping, Sunday thru Wednesday by appointment. Volunteers are needed, especially 9-10 a.m. on Sundays and 3-4 p.m. on Wednesdays. For more information, please contact Mark Krieger at 917-703-4694 or visit [www.BeautifulMemoriesGemach.org](http://www.BeautifulMemoriesGemach.org) or the BMG Facebook page.

Women requesting a **Mikvah appointment** should call 718-343-5700.

Mazal tov to Salomon, his parents Miriam and Fara Chalouh, and the entire family on his becoming a Bar Mitzvah this Shabbat

Please Join Us As We Celebrate the  
Bar Mitzvah  
Of Our Son

# Salomon Chalouh

שלמה

Shabbat, January 4, 2025  
Shacharit 9:00 AM  
Babylonian Jewish Center  
440 Great Neck Rd,  
Great Neck, NY 11021  
Followed by Lunch

Our Simcha Continues On  
Sunday, January 5, 2025  
Babylonian Jewish Center  
Shacharit 7:30 AM  
Followed by Breakfast  
Please RSVP at 347-283-6576



Salomon Chalouh (second from left) at the YINHP youth's Siyum of Mishnayot Masekhet Bikurim on Sunday, July 28, 2019. Salomon was a avid and active participant in "Kids Kayitz Kollel" for many years, as well as a master performer in the Sunday-evening Parasha Kahout held via Zoom during "COVID".

### Adapted from "The Parkives" for Asara B'Tevet "Fast Track to the Right Time"

Nearly four decades ago, during a year of study at Yeshivat Har Etzion in Israel, I acquired a copy of *Chidushei ha-Grach al ha-Shas*, novellae on the Talmud by Rabbi Chaim Soloveitchik zt"l (Brest/Brisk, 1853-1918). The volume, alternatively known as "The Stencils" because the style resembles mimeographs of old-fashioned typed pages, contains a paragraph on Asara be-Tevet, the fast of the Tenth of Tevet that we will observe next Friday.

Rabbi Soloveitchik cites the Ninth Century Babylonian Halakhist, Baal Halakhot Gedolot, as ruling that theoretically, were this fast to fall on Shabbat, we would be obligated to fast *on Shabbat itself*, unlike other fasts. (Taanit Esther is moved back to Thursday, while Tzom Gedalyah, Shiva Asara be-Tammuz, and even Tisha be-Av are postponed until Sunday.) Rabbi Soloveitchik notes that unlike these latter fasts which are identified in Scripture only by their month (Zechariah 8:19), when describing the calamities of the Tenth of Tevet, the prophet (Ezekiel 24:2) uses the expression *be-Etzem ha-Yom ha-Zeh* – "on the essence of the day itself" - suggesting that the tragedy must be commemorated then and only then, with rescheduling due to competing obligations – even the Shabbat – not a viable option.

This same terminology *be-Etzem ha-Yom ha-Zeh*, albeit from a different verse (Genesis 17:26), is invoked by another recent Torah giant, Rabbi Joseph Kapich zt"l (1917-2000), rabbinic leader of the Yemenite Jewish community. In his edition of the Rambam's *Mishneh Torah*, Rabbi Kapich states that while the prevalent custom is to circumcise a baby boy as early as possible in the morning as per the principle *zerizin makdimim le-mitzvot* – the zealous perform commandments at the first available time (Pesachim 4a), the practice in his own hometown Sanaa (the capital of Yemen) was to circumcise shortly before noon, because the "essence of the day" occurs when the sun is at its most dominant position.

In yet a third 20<sup>th</sup> Century reference to the expression in a varied form, Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik zt"l (Belarus, Berlin, Boston, and NYC, 1903-1993) relates a story that took place on Yom Kippur regarding his father Rabbi Moshe Soloveitchik zt"l (Khaslavich and NYC, 1879-1941), grandson and son respectively of the aforementioned Rabbi Chaim Soloveitchik. Rav Moshe turned to his son Rav Yosef and said, "This sunset [of Yom Kippur] differs from ordinary sunsets for with it forgiveness is bestowed upon us for our sins." On Yom Kippur, the end of the day, the time at which *Neilah* is recited, is the essence of the day, the time at which atonement is fully realized. (*Halakhic Man*, p. 38.)

While the application may vary, one thing remains constant: sometimes there is a very specific window of opportunity. It may be for a month, a day, an hour, or even a split second. Our job is to identify that window and seize the opportunity.

### Fast Fun-Facts

This week, the occurrence of "Asara B'Tevet" presents a double anomaly as it takes place on Friday, January 10: the alignment of the 10<sup>th</sup> of the Hebrew month and the secular 10<sup>th</sup> of the month (for some quick math, figure this occurs on average once every 30 months), and fasting on Erev Shabbat and even somewhat into Shabbat. (But see above about a hypothetical fast day fully falling on Shabbat!) To make things more interesting, Asara B'Tevet will reoccur this calendar year on December 30, 2025, albeit on a Tuesday. On the other hand, last year we got off easy as Asara B'Tevet did not take place at all in 2024!

Back in 2023, we also had the oxymoronic double-helping of fasting on Asara B'Tevet, once on January 3 and again on December 22. This was in addition to the rarity of the fast occurring on a Friday, following a Miktetz that was not Shabbat Chanuka.

Sound like the creators of the calendar were pulling a fast one on us...

### Making Up for Lost Easting...

The next **Simcha Kiddush** will take place on Saturday, January 25 – Shabbat Mevarkhim. Sponsorships are \$18 per Kiddush or \$200 annually and are payable by check or online at <https://tinyurl.com/yinhp-simcha-kiddush>. Please send simcha details to [office@yinhp.org](mailto:office@yinhp.org)