

Congregation



\*\*\* 2108 Ocean Parkway Brooklyn, N.Y. 11223 \*\*\*

**Rabbi Aharon Farhi**

*Parashat **Va'era***

28<sup>th</sup> Tevet 5786

*Maqam Nawa*

Issue #1146

**Mr. Eliyahu Levy, President**

*Haftarat **Ko Amar***

January 17<sup>th</sup> 2026

*Candle Lighting 4:36pm \* Shekiah 4:54pm \* Shir Hashirim 4:25pm followed by Minha Friday Night  
Shaharit Shabbat 8:15am \* Minha Shabbat 4:20pm \* Shabbat Ends 5:37pm & Rabbenu Tam 6:07pm  
Time for Talit 6:20am \* Seasonal Hour 57 \* Alot Hashahar 6:08am \* Netz Hachama 7:17am  
Weekday Minha 4:40pm \* Earliest Time for Arbit 4:21pm \* Tzet Hacoachavim 5:32pm \* Chatzot 12:06  
Latest Time for Morning Keriat Shema 8:59am \* Latest Time for Morning Amidah 9:56am*

***Monday January 19<sup>th</sup> will be Rosh Hodesh Shevat***

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***Mr. Henry Abadi, his wife Shella, and their children, and***

***Mr. Morris Abadi, his wife Miriam, and their children.***

May Hashem bless them with spiritual and physical success,

Tizku L'Mitzvot, Amen!

*Those who wish to contact Rabbi Aharon Farhi can call (646) 552-3412*

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**Vaad Tehilim Torah c/o R' A. Farhi**

**2415 Ocean Parkway, Brooklyn NY 11235**

Please do not read this bulletin during Tefillah or Keriat Hatorah

Moshe asked Hashem, why have you allowed harm to this nation? Hashem responded, you think Pharaoh is the one causing harm and refusing to let them go? If Bnei Yisrael would want to leave, Pharaoh would not be able to stop them. However, *I am Hashem*. Meaning, the way to leave is to accept Hashem and forsake the impure idolatry of Egypt that Bnei Yisrael were entrenched in. Four times Hashem says *I am Hashem*, teaching that the redemption would be done in four stages, which lasted from Pesah to Pesah. The first stage, from Pesah to Rosh Hashanah, Hashem removed them from harsh labor, but kept them under regular labor. The second stage,

from Rosh Hashanah, Hashem removed them from labor completely. The third stage, Hashem took them out of Egypt after Makat Bechorot. The fourth stage, Hashem gave them the Torah at Har Sinai, after seven weeks. When Moshe tried to tell the nation what would be happening over the next year, they could not comprehend, they could not yet remove themselves from the idolatry and impurity in Egypt, because they were still so overwhelmed from the labor. Hashem told Moshe, it is not Pharaoh who is their problem, they are their own problem. Therefore, as they progressed through the four stages of redemption, as the labor waned, they

were able to turn away from the idolatry and impurity, and turn instead back to Hashem. May Hashem watch over us, Amen.

***Yom Hilula of the Baba Sali***  
***Rabbenu Yisrael Abuchatzera zt”l***

The holy Baba Sali was born in Morocco in 1890, and passed away in Israel on the 4<sup>th</sup> of Shevat in 1984. This year his Hilula will be Thursday January 22<sup>nd</sup>. Generations of the Abuchatzera family lineage includes a chain of prominent and holy Rabbanim. From a very young age he was identified as a holy and righteous person, and many traveled to ask him for blessings and prayers. He filled his father’s place as Rosh Yeshiva and was renowned for his vast knowledge of Torah as a great Gaon. After his brother Rebi Meir was murdered, the Baba Sali became the rabbinical leader of his city, serving also as judge, celebrated on his rulings for Jews and non-Jews alike. Many stories of miracles and wonders are repeated about him throughout his life. In 1964 he moved to Israel, as most Moroccan Jews made Aliyah to Israel. His home immediately became a place that Jews from all backgrounds came to visit, Sephardim, Ashkenazim, Chassidim, Moroccans, all searching for blessings and prayers in hopes of miracles on their behalf. Many terribly sick people were healed, many who were barren were blessed with children, many blind and lame were made whole, and many experienced miraculous salvations through his blessings and prayers. Many visit his grave, especially on the day of his passing. We will mention just a few words about this holy saintly man’s miracles: One time three Rabbanim came to visit. As was his

custom, he poured some Arak for them. They recited a blessing and drank together. One rabbi did not want to drink Arak, so he made believe and then spilled it into his cup of water. Afterwards, the Baba Sali slammed his right hand on the table and said, who is trying to trick me? Do you think I am drinking for my pleasure? When I poured four cups, I had in mind the four letters of Hashem’s name. Now I see that one of the letters are not illuminated through the blessing because it was spilled. He would teach: two is better than one, meaning when someone learns alone, he does not have another to strengthen the words in his hands, and Torah without toil is destined for loss and causes sin. Segulah: if you say the following 120x on the day of his Hilula you will witness miracles and salvation: “*Rabbenu Yisrael Abuchatzera a”h Zichrono Librachta Ultovah.*”

***Health and Recovery***

The foot of a diabetic is a dangerous area of the body from which trouble begins. A diabetic must guard his feet most, because the nerves that communicate sensations to the brain are impaired, so they no longer feel pain or impact like a healthy person. As a result, if they experience sores or cuts on their feet or legs, by the time they realize the damage and potential harm the situation will have already deteriorated to a point that is very difficult. That is why it is important to examine each foot daily. Pay attention to any soreness, redness, or abnormalities, and not walk around barefoot. Maintain good hygiene and cleanliness of your feet and wipe them well after washing. It is advisable to wear cotton socks, as well as wearing properly fitted shoes that will not cause pressure or

scraping to the feet. It is important to trim your toenails carefully. Sometimes, neglect can be the difference between healing and amputation. It is imperative for patients with diabetes to be cautious of everything that we have discussed. As well, much care is required to maintain proper gum health, as neglect in gum treatment can result in the development of heart disease, kidney failure, stroke, and osteoporosis. This is because the gums are saturated with blood vessels, so when there is inflammation, the problem comes into direct contact with the blood.

**Mussar: *Sefer HaMidot***

1- One who does not accept rebuke will eventually incur suffering. 2- One who spends time preparing for prayer, even if he doesn't end up concentrating during the prayer, will be saved from suffering. 3- Haughtiness causes one to lose Hashem's kindness. 4- Saying Tikun Hatzot saves one from judgment. 5- Staying awake all night saves one from terrible judgments. 6- Visiting a Tzaddik sweetens one's judgment. 7- Giving money to Tzedaka also sweetens one's judgment. 8- Laziness causes bad things to eventually befall a person. 9- Learning Torah causes one's prosecutors to turn away. 10- Falling may sometimes be a kindness, and could even be inflicted instead of an actual death decree. 11- Sometimes the Gadol Hador's Mitzvot that are done in public erase the judgments of the people. 12- Upon hearing troubles and problems, one should say "Lo Alenu" – not upon us. 13- Toiling in Torah study at night allows Hashem to bestow kindness throughout the day and shield us from sickness. 14- One who doesn't pray for the generation will eventually be

punished gravely. 15- If one is sick in the house, ask a Hacham to pray for him and bless him. 16- The gates of livelihood are opened for those who do not speak during Chazarah, Kaddish, and Torah. May Hashem bless us, Amen.

***Rabbenu Hacham Yaakov Kassin zt"l*  
*Syrian Chief Rabbi of Shaare Zion NY***

From his youth in Jerusalem, orphaned from his parents, growing up with hunger and terrible sicknesses, as well as many other challenges and problems, he nonetheless completely dedicated his energy and focus on learning Torah, acquiring the characters of Perishut and Chassidut. He was fluent in all of Shas Gemara and Poskim. After his marriage, he began learning Sod and Kabbalah along with the elder Mekubalim of Jerusalem. At the young age of twenty-five he already authored the *Sefer Or Halevana*, despite dealing with terrible sicknesses. In his *Sefer*, he writes about a dream that was told to him by the honorable Shelomo Sofiotz who saw his father the Tzaddik Hacham David Sofiotz standing in prayer, and northeast stood in prayer Chassid Rabbi Shalom Sharabi. He reached him, kissed his hand, and he told him that the Chassid Rabbi Yaakov Kassin Ben Rabbi Shaul is very sick, please pray for his recovery and strength, especially as he learns Kabbalah and prays from your Sidurim. Rashash, Rabbi Shalom Sharabi spoke of Rabbi Yaakov, that yes he will pray for him, do not worry, he will be healed and live with strength. And so it was, he received recovery and salvation. Rabbenu then traveled to the United States, was appointed as the Chief Rabbi and served in Shaare Zion for sixty-two years for the

Syrian community. He led the people towards much Torah growth, and passed away on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of Tevet in 1995, his son Hacham Shaul continued to serve in his place, may his merits protect us, Amen.

### ***Laws***

**1** – If someone walks in the public domain during Shabbat with a Pasul Tzitzit or Pasul Talit that is folded over on his shoulders, since it is not kosher, he has desecrated Shabbat and must remove the garment. He cannot continue walking with it during Shabbat.

**2** – If you come to Shul on Shabbat and the only Talit available is Pasul, you cannot wear it to sit in Shul just so that you won't be embarrassed, even without a blessing, but the Ashkenazim are lenient.

**3** – For chocolate covered peanuts, recite Shehakol on the chocolate, having in mind not to include the peanuts, and then recite Ha'adamah on the peanuts. It is best to separate them if possible so that you could first recite Ha'adamah on the peanuts. If you recite Ha'adamah on everything it is still good.

**4** – Chocolate which include pieces of nuts, you recite Shehakol since the chocolate is primary and the nuts are added. If you can separate them first, then you can recite first Ha'adamah on the peanuts and then Shehakol on the chocolate.

### ***Sponsors***

\*\*\* ***Mr. Mordi Lozie HaCohen, his children and their spouses.*** Blessings and success for the entire family, Amen. \*\*\* ***Mr. Farah Hamra, his wife Dina, and their children.*** Blessings and success for the entire family, requesting that family and friends recite Tehillim on Shabbat Parashat Va'era Leilui Nishmat his father ***Yosef Ben Nahlia a"h***, Amen. \*\*\* ***The Farhi Family.***

Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their mother ***Sarah Bat Salha a"h***, Amen. \*\*\* ***Mr. Edmond Saade, his wife Hayat, and their children.*** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat his mother ***Shafiah Bat Mazal a"h***, Amen. \*\*\* ***Mr. Albert Shaya, his wife Shoshana, and their children.*** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat his father ***Moshe Ben Miriam a"h***, Amen. \*\*\* ***Mrs. Nina Saade and her blessed children: Yosef, Jack, Ziko, Sofia, Dolly, and Karen.*** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their father ***Avraham Saade Ben Shafiah a"h***, Amen. \*\*\* ***Mr. Nissim Alkada, his wife Rima, and their children.*** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat her father ***Yehuda Ben Rima a"h***, Leilui Nishmat his father ***Nouri Ben Rosa a"h***, and Leilui Nishmat his mother ***Rachel Bat Latifah a"h***, Amen. \*\*\* ***Mrs. Brenda Heffez and her blessed children: Larry, Gabriel, and Jack.*** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their father ***Avraham Ben Dora a"h***, Amen. \*\*\* ***Mrs. Norma Assa and her children.*** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat her husband and their father the Shochet Hacham ***Yosef Ben Najla a"h***, Amen.

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