

The Shul

at the Lubavitch Center
6701 Old Pimlico Road
Baltimore, MD 21209

www.chabadshul.org



May 6, 2023

Emor

15 Iyar, 5783

MOONBOUNCES
BALLON THINGYS
MAGIC TYPE SHOW FOR KIDS(ETC)
AND MORE !!!!!

* OR LESS

LAG BAOMER BBQ

MONDAY

MAY 8th
6:00PM O'clock

THE SHUL

6701 OLD PIMLICO RD



FREE, NO FEE, FEE FREE ADMISSION

MUSIC + BONFIRE + KIDS ENTERTAINMENT + ! =?
FOR PURCHASE: BBQ DINNER, DRINKS ETC, ETC .ETC
SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

The Pri Tzadik on Lag Ba'Omer

Lag Ba'Omer will soon be with us. A fair question at this point is: What is Lag Ba'Omer all about? The Pri Tzadik (also known as R'Tzadok HaCohen) addressed this question as follows.

The Zohar tells us that Lag Ba'Omer commemorates the petira (the passing away) of R' Shim'on Bar Yochai. You may wonder: why do we make the yahrzeit — i.e., the day in which a great Talmid Chacham is niftar — into a "hilula" (celebration)? Because, as Chazal tell us, the talmidim truly grasp the teachings of their Rebbe only after his petira. (Perhaps because when their Rebbe was alive, the talmidim felt that they could always rely on him.)

Another question. Why do we make such a big thing out of R'Shim'on Bar Yochai? The answer is straightforward: because R'Sim'on bar Yochai bore the quintessence of R' Akiva's teachings (Gitin, 67,a). And R' Akiva, in turn, was the quintessence of Torah she'be'al peh (the Torah that HaShem taught Moshe Rabeinu at Sinai orally. Moshe Rabeinu then transmitted those teachings to Bnai Yisroel only by the spoken word). Thus, the Medrash tells us that HaShem revealed to R' Akiva (and to his colleagues) teachings that He had not revealed even to Moshe Rabeinu!

What Lag Ba'Omer is, then, is a celebration of R' Akiva, who exemplified Torah she'be'al peh AND — I add — much, much more. Thus, R' Akiva was the living example of an ahm ha'aretz who started learning late, but — through his mesiras nefesh and the mesiras nefesh of his wife — became gadol ha'dor. Likewise, by his example, R' Akiva taught extraordinary courage and emuna. After he lost his many thousands of talmidim, he started teaching Torah all over again — this time to a mere five talmidim. Also, he carried Bar Kochba's armor. But when events proved him wrong on that issue, he was still able to die — tortured by the Romans — in a exemplary demonstration of Kiddush HaShem.

Good, so we know that R' Shimon bar Yochai, R' Akiva's prime talmid, was niftar on Lag Ba'Omer. We also know that Lag Ba'Omer is the day when we commemorate the petirah of R' Akiva. Apart from his other features of greatness, R' Akiva was the quintessence of Torah shebe'ahl'peh. At this point, a basic question comes to mind. Would it not make much more sense to celebrate Torah she'be'al peh not on the day when R' Akiva's talmid (R'Sh'B'Y') was niftar, but rather on the day on which R' Akiva (himself) was niftar?

The Pri Tzadik answers this question by pointing to a brutal fact. R' Akiva had defied the Romans; and for that, the Romans had killed him. In view of the the Romans' continuing domination of Eretz Yisrael, it was totally out of the question to commemorate R' Akiva's petira; for the Romans would have treated such a celebration as rebellion. Hence, the shift, as a cover, to R'Shim'on Bar Yochai, R' Akiva's prime Talmid!

(by Dr. Nosson Chayim Leff from Project Genesis at www.torah.org)

Yahrzeits This Week:

Aaron Margolies 15 Iyar - Friday night / Shabbat for father Horav Yitzchok Asher ben R' Yosef Meir

SHUL DIRECTORY

Rabbi: Shmuel Kaplan . . . rabbikaplan@chabadmd.com

Treasurer: Michael Frank . . . shul.chabad@gmail.com

Kiddush: Reuven Frank rfrank82@gmail.com

Website: Shoshana Zakar sue.zakar@gmail.com

Gabbaim:

Yehudah Buchwalter . . . judahbuchwalter@verizon.net

Allan Genut agenut@gmail.com

Ephraim Siff

Bulletin: Howard Kaplon hkaplon@towson.edu

DAVENING AND SHIURIM SCHEDULE

Friday — Pesach Sheni, 5/5 — 14 Iyar

Shacharit — 7:00 a.m.
Minchah / Ma'ariv — 7:00 p.m.

Shabbat, 5/6 — 15 Iyar

Shacharit — 9:00 a.m.
Sof Z'man Kriat Shema — 9:30 a.m.
Minchah — 7:35 p.m.
Shiur — after Minchah
Ma'ariv — 8:48 p.m.

Sunday, 5/7 — 16 Iyar

Shacharit — 8:00 a.m.
Minchah / Ma'ariv — 7:55 p.m.

Monday, 5/8 — 17 Iyar

Shacharit — 6:50 a.m.
Minchah / Ma'ariv — 7:35 p.m.

Tuesday — Lag B'Omer, 5/9 — 18 Iyar

Shacharit — 7:00 a.m.
Minchah / Ma'ariv — 7:55 p.m.

Wednesday, 5/10 — 19 Iyar

Shacharit — 7:00 a.m.
Minchah / Ma'ariv — 7:55 p.m.

Thursday, 5/11 — 20 Iyar

Shacharit — 6:50 a.m.
Minchah / Ma'ariv — 7:55 p.m.

Friday, 5/12 — 21 Iyar

Shacharit — 7:00 a.m.
Shabbat Candles — 7:52 p.m.
Minchah / Ma'ariv — 7:00 p.m.