

The Shul

at the Lubavitch Center
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www.chabadshul.org

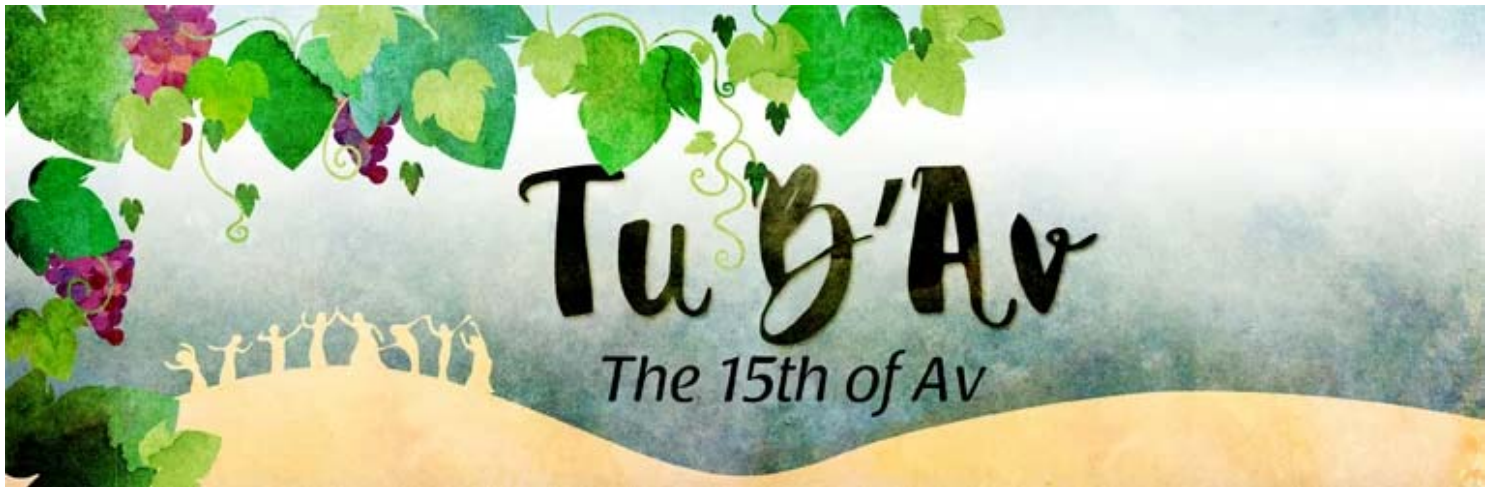


July 25, 2026

VaEtchanan — Shabbat Nachamu — Tu B'Av

11 Av, 5786

The 15th of Av 2026 Love and Rebirth



The 15th of Av (known as Tu B'Av) is a most mysterious day, celebrated this year on July 29, 2026. A search of the Shulchan Aruch (Code of Jewish Law) reveals no observances or customs for this date, except for the instruction that the tachanun (confession of sins) and similar portions should be omitted from the daily prayers (as is the case with all festive dates), and that one should increase one's study of Torah, since the nights are beginning to grow longer, and "the night was created for study."

The Talmud tells us that many years ago the "daughters of Jerusalem would go dance in the vineyards" on the 15th of Av, and "whoever did not have a wife would go there" to find himself a bride. And the Talmud considers this the greatest festival of the year, with Yom Kippur (!) a close second!

As the "full moon" of the month of Av, it is the festival of the future Redemption, marking the end of the tragedy that marred the first part of the month. Until this day, we held siyumim and gave charity each day to mitigate our sadness and hasten the Redemption. But on the 15th of Av, this is no longer. Forty-five days before Rosh Hashanah, this is also the first day on which we begin to wish each other a ketivah vachatimah tovah, to be signed and sealed for a good year.

(from www.chabad.org)

Master of Consolations

"See, I have taught you Chukim / decrees and Mishpatim / ordinances, as Hashem, my Elokim, has commanded me ... You shall safeguard and perform them, for it is your wisdom and discernment in the eyes of the peoples, who shall hear all these Chukim and who shall say, 'Surely a wise and discerning people is this great nation!'" (4:5-6)

Rabbeinu Nissim ben Reuven Gerondi z"l (Spain; 1320-1376) asks: Why would the Chukim cause the gentile nations to see us as a wise people? To the contrary, Chukim are the commandments whose reasons are not known; often, they may seem counter-intuitive or irrational!

He explains: This verse must be read with the verse that follows it, "For which is a great nation that has an Elokim Who is close to it, as is Hashem, our Elokim, whenever we call to Him?" When the gentile nations recognize that we are so close to Hashem that He answers our prayers whenever we call to Him—when we merit that—they will ask themselves what wisdom we have that causes the Divine to cling to us, but not to them. They will see that we have Mishpatim / logical civil laws—but gentiles have those as well, so that cannot be what distinguishes us. They will conclude, therefore, that it is our observance of Chukim that makes us a unique nation that is connected to the Divine. (Derashot Ha'Ran #1)

(by Rabbi Shlomo Katz from Project Genesis at www.torah.org)

Finding Energy

"I thought that this project was important to you."

"I don't have the strength for it. It will take three years to complete, and I'm only in office for another six months."

"Then Moshe set aside three cities on the east side of the Jordan River..."(Divorim 4:41) The cities of refuge that Moshe designated wouldn't take effect until the cities west of the Jordan would also be designated. The Kli Yakar points out that very often people are reluctant to start projects if they themselves would not be able to complete it. Yet Moshe was already told by Hashem that he would not live to cross the Jordan. Moshe's love of G-d's mitzvos (commandments) always gave him the drive to do them.

How much energy do you have for mitzvos ??

(by Rabbi Chaim Flom from Project Genesis at www.torah.org)



We happily wish Mazel Tov to
Rabbi Shmuel and Rebbitzin Leah Kaplan
on the **Birth of a Granddaughter**, born to
Rabbi Zalman & Mushka Minkowitz.



Brit Milah
The Covenant of Circumcision

We wish a hearty Mazel Tov to **Mr. Eli and Mrs. Yaffa Atias**
on the Birth and Brit of their son **Yedidya Nehorai**.
Mazel Tov the Grandparents and the entire Atias family!

We happily wish Mazel Tov to
Mr. Joseph and Mrs. Revaya Mimoun
on the **Birth of a Son**.
Mazel Tov also to the entire Mimoun Family.



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DAVENING AND SHIURIM SCHEDULE

Friday, 7/24 — 10 Av
Shacharit — 7:00 a.m.
Minchah / Ma'ariv — 7:00 p.m.

Shabbat, 7/25 — 11 Av
Shacharit 9:00 a.m.
Sof Z'man Kriat Shema — 9:34 a.m.
Minchah — 7:55 p.m.
Shiur — after Minchah
Shkiah — 8:26 p.m.
Ma'ariv — 9:11 p.m.

Sunday, 7/26 — 12 Av
Shacharit — 8:00 a.m.
Minchah / Ma'ariv — 8:05 p.m.

Monday, 7/27 — 13 Av
Shacharit — 6:50 a.m.
Minchah / Ma'ariv — 8:05 p.m.

Tuesday, 7/28 — 14 Av
Shacharit — 7:00 a.m.
Minchah / Ma'ariv — 8:05 p.m.

Wednesday — Tu B'Av, 7/29 — 15 Av
Shacharit — 7:00 a.m.
Minchah / Ma'ariv — 8:05 p.m.

Thursday, 7/30 — 16 Av
Shacharit — 6:50 a.m.
Minchah / Ma'ariv — 8:05 p.m.

Friday, 7/31 — 17 Av
Shacharit — 7:00 a.m.
Shabbat Candles — 8:01 p.m.
Minchah / Ma'ariv — 7:00 p.m.