1 December 2012

# KOL MEVASSER

## **Israel and Miracles**

An excerpt from the full article by Rabbi Dr. Nathan Lopes Cardozo

t is incomprehensible, and nearly ironic, that a few hundred meters from where rockets hit the ground, people gather in synagogues for evening prayers, study Talmud, drink coffee and sing zemiroth at the Shabbath table. An uninformed outsider would not know that a war is taking place. Were something like this to happen anywhere else in the world, all normal life would come to a standstill and pandemonium would break loose.

This indeed reflects the nature of the people of Israel. Though it should not encourage a fatalistic attitude, for there is no way of predicting the future, neither would it be right to simply rely on the continuation of these miracles, as miracles are not to be taken for granted. One needs to merit them and to recognize them as such. Israelis have become used to miracles, and that is exactly where the problem starts.

The question at this crucial moment in Jewish history is not if the nations of the world understand the miraculous existence of the State of Israel, but if the Jews themselves are prepared to see this reality. We must realize that miracles have only been



part of Israel's history as long as Jews, in and outside the land, have understood their unprecedented uniqueness and have done everything possible to merit them.

While traditional Judaism desperately needs to re-examine itself and produce bold initiatives to stay relevant, the denial of Israel's uniqueness through secularizing the Jewish state, embracing anti-Jewish values, uprooting Jewish education, and extinguishing the love for Jewish tradition will slowly but surely empty the land of miracles. This is suicidal. On the other hand, if Jews are proud of their Jewish tradition and committed to Jewish values, the chances that Israel will survive is nearly guaranteed. Nobody knows the price it may have to pay, but Israel will endure. This is not wishful thinking but a realistic lesson learned from 4000 years of Jewish history.

If we Jews will realize that we are unique, that Judaism is most relevant, and that there is a serious need to teach our young people to be sensitive to the miracle of Jewish survival,

# KJ Schedule

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Friday, November 30, 2012
Shaharit/Morning Prayer 6:30 am
Shir Hashirim 4:10 pm
Shabbat Candle Lighting 4:25 pm
Minhah/Arbith 4:25 pm
Shabbat Vayishlach
Saturday, December 1, 2012
Shaharit/Morning Prayer 8:30 am
Ladies Tehillim Groupafter kiddush
Minha, Seudah Shlisheet, Arvit 4:00 pm
Motzei Shabbat / Havdallah 5:11 pm
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Sunday, December 2, 2012
Shaharit
"Israel Alive" for Teens & Kids
LIVE Web Conference & Movie 8:30 am
LIVE Web Conference & Movie 8:30 am KJ Youth Choir 11:00 am
KJ Youth Choir 11:00 am
KJ Youth Choir 11:00 am  Monday to Friday, December 3-7, 2012
KJ Youth Choir

Israel will do well. But if Jews, in and outside Israel, become blind to this reality, nothing will stop the deterioration of our beautiful state. This is the lesson modern Israel teaches us. Shabbat Shalom



### The Sisterhood of Kahal Joseph

invites the children of our community to a



# Hanukkah Celebration

Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup> 2012 11:00 am

#### Wonderful Entertainment

Sweets & Treats for the Children Fun for the Whole Family



#### RSVP Requested

Elsa at 323.934.3439 Louise 818.884.0120 Rita 310.839.4206 or Hannie 310.247.0220



Hag Sameah!

**▼** Happy Hanukkah!



Kahal Joseph's Youth Choir will perform at KJ Sisterhood's Hanukkah Party

Kahal Joseph Congregation • Rabbi Hagay Batzri 310.474.0559 • 10505 Santa Monica Blvd.Los Angeles, CA 90025

#### **Kahal Joseph Congregation**

Norma & Sam Dabby Jewish Education Center & Talmud Torah and Bonim B'Yachad present



# **Israel Alive**

A Program for KJ Teens & Kids Sunday, December 2, 2012

8:00 am

Early Birds visit Morning Minyan and share Bagel Breakfast

8:30 am
LIVE Web Conference for kids & teens with people in Israel

9:30 am

Movie Screening "Israel Inside: How a Small Nation Makes a Big Difference"

10:30 am Beeswax Candlemaking for Hanukkah and More

11:00 am Visit to KJ Youth Choir Rehearsal

#### In Memoriam

We remember these yahrzeit anniversaries of passings, for December 1 to 8, 2012. It is customary to light a memorial candle, donate tzedakah, and attend services the preceding Shabbat.

17 Kislev / Shabbat, December 1st Naim Lavi Lavi ben Moshe Moshe ben Moosa

**18 Kislev / Sunday, December 2nd** Raphael Emquies *Raphael ben Salomon* 

**20 Kislev / Tuesday, December 4th**Alec Jacob Jonah *Avraham ben Yaacov*Moshe Nissan *Moshe ben Hayim* 

22 Kislev / Thursday, December 6th
Joseph Israel Yosef ben Rabbia
Earl H. Klein Eliyahu Michael ben Yaakov
Ezekiel Isaac Raymond Yehezkiel ben Mulla Rahamim
Meir Sawdayi Meir ben Shaul

23 Kislev / Friday, December 7th Joseph Azar Yosef Sion ben Yaacob Gorjeh Youssefzadeh

24 Kislev / Shabbat, December 8th Regina David Regina bat Salha Matana Lily Jacob Leah bat Masooda Joseph Hayim Yaakov Yosef Hayim

#### **Refuah Shlemah**

Gerry Shapiro, Yocheved bat Rachel, Mazal bat Malka, Dan Herdoon, Mazal Tov bat Salha Matana, Moshe ben Ezra, Sasson ben Rahel / Sassoon Moses, Penina bat Henia, Dov Ber ben Sonia, Hanna bat Esther

#### SHABBAT READINGS

Torah Portion 122-134, Haftara 137-140