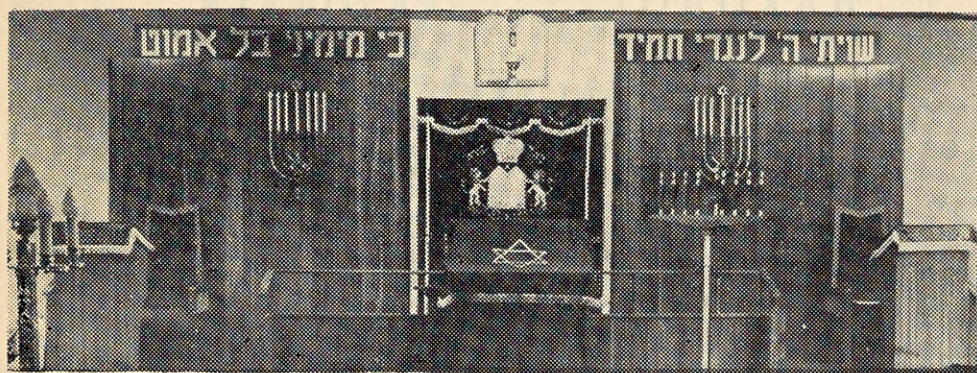


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NISAN-IYAR-SIVAN 5737 APRIL-MAY-JUNE 1977 Vol. XXV No. 131

OF ROOTS AND SHOOTS

RABBI SHLOMO KAHN

A trauma has overtaken America, land of liberty, celebrated home of the brave and the free.

Sometimes a book or play or show or song is so singularly powerful as to arouse an entire nation. That may occur once in a lifetime or not for several generations. Alex Haley did it now with his devastatingly revealing *Roots*.

Ruthlessly candid, book and ensuing TV show moved and unnerved America. Millions who identify with Kunta by reason of color and race, felt redeeming justice and even pride in the long-overdue recognition. Other millions whose skin is white could not avoid a feeling of outrage, shame and guilt. For *Roots* is the story of unspeakable cruelty, terror and degradation, brutalizing enslavement, families torn apart, wanton murder, crimes committed by man against man, by civilization against civilization.

The quality of *Roots* is two-fold,

intended not only to bestow the blessing of justice in setting a woeful record straight, but also to plead for understanding. Brutalization leaves deep marks and permanent scars. The shoots of *Roots*, children and children's children of the victims, after 300 years still suffer, emerge only slowly from the mentality forced on them by the white man.

Unquestionably true. No one can muster better understanding and warmer compassion than we Jews. Have we not suffered in precisely the same fashion?

Pesach is our "Roots," reminding us of brutalizing enslavement, families torn apart, wanton murder, crimes committed by man against man, civilization against civilization. The Egyptian experience left its marks on us as well.

Commenting on the despair which gripped the Children of Israel at the Red Sea, Ibn Ezra writes revealingly:

(Continued on page 11)

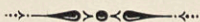
NOTE: The usual Pesach information has been omitted from this issue. To make certain that it arrives in time well before the holiday, the Pesach Manual (with special instructions for Erev Pesach on Shabbos) and the Seder Comments (Haggadah explanations) have been made available separately.

HAKOHOL

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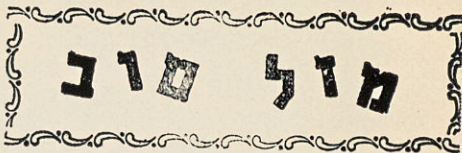
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on his 75th birthday.

Mazeltov to Mr. Leo Wartelsky on his
65th birthday.

Mazeltov on the engagement of Miss
Shirley Rosenthal and Mr. Todd Fass.

Mazeltov on the engagement of Miss
Miriam Neufeld and Mr. Milton Suss-
man.

Mazeltov on the wedding of Mr. Leo
Levi and Mrs. Ruth Rothschild.

The Congregation mourns the passing of:
Salomon Reinheimer (father of Mrs.
Elaine Kaufman)

Joseph Hirschheimer (brother of Mr.
Manfred Hirschheimer and Mrs.
Hanna Meyer)

Berthe Levy

Margaret Goldfield (sister of Mr.
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THE ADVENTURES OF

KUPSIE, THE



KIDDUSH CUP

"Mazel tov!" cried Tassie.

"Mazel tov!" called Tumbler.

"Thank you," said Kupsie, but he really didn't know what it was all about. Unwilling to admit ignorance, he tried to wiggle out of his embarrassment.

"Nice and thoughtful of you, fellows. Mazeltov to you too."

They laughed. "Oh Kupsie, foolish Kupsie," said his friend Tassie. "Have you forgotten your own birthday?"

Now he was really ashamed. Quick to notice it, kind Tumbler started a conversation.

"Birthdays are momentous occasions, you know. Not only do they show the passing of years, but they also are important reminders."

"Reminders for what?" asked the two cups.

"Well, as the years go by, we grow in importance in our own eyes and that can make us proud."

"How does a birthday prevent this?" asked Tassie.

"By reminding that we weren't always around, silly," said Kupsie.

Tumbler nodded. "It keeps us modest and also grateful."

"Grateful?"

"Yes, grateful to those who brought us into the world."

And Tumbler went on: "Pesach is such a reminder. It celebrates the birth of the Jewish people and teaches to be forever grateful to G'd Who took them from Egypt and brought them to the Land of Israel."

"But shouldn't such an important reminder be scheduled more often than just once a year?" asked Tassie.

"You're so right," answered Tumbler. "Not even a single day may pass with-

out remembering the exodus from Egypt. It is mentioned daily in the Shma, the Benshen and many other prayer passages. Also many other mitzvos, including Shabbos and tfilin, are in part reminders of the exodus from Egypt."

Tassie and Kupsie were thoughtful. But not for long. Soon Kupsie muttered: "Should drink four cups of wine every day!"

(Will be continued)

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the Congregation, Chevra Kadisha and all friends, for their good wishes and thoughtfulness during my recent illness.

Charles Newhouse

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to all those who wished me well during my illness and for their thoughtfulness.

Good Yom Tov,

Mrs. Irma Kanthal

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1st day Pesach, April 3	6:25	8:30 Sermon	6:40	7:00	4:45	8:35
2nd day Pesach, April 4	6:40	8:30 Sermon	6:40	7:00		
7th day Pesach, April 9	6:10	8:30	6:35	7:10	4:30	8:25
8th day Pesach, April 10	6:35	8:30 Yizkor	6:50	7:10		
Shmini, April 16	6:20	8:30	6:40	7:15	4:20	8:20
Tazria-M'tzoro, April 23	6:25	8:30 Sermon	6:50	7:25	4:05	8:10

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

Achare-Kdoshim, April 30	7:15	8:30	8:00	8:35	4:50	9:10
Emor, May 7	7:15	8:30 Sermon	8:10	8:45	4:30	9:00
Bhar-Bchukosai, May 14	7:15	8:30	8:15	8:50	4:25	8:55
Bamidbor, May 21	7:15	8:30	8:20	8:55	4:15	8:50
1st day Shovuos, May 23	7:55	8:30 Sermon	8:35	8:55		
2nd day Shovuos, May 24	8:35	8:30 Yizkor	8:35	8:55		
Noso, May 28	7:15	8:30	8:30	9:05	4:05	8:50
Bhalos'cho, June 4	7:15	8:30	8:35	9:10	4:00	8:50
Shlach Icho, June 11	7:15	8:30 Sermon	8:40	9:15	4:00	8:50
Korach, June 18	7:15	8:30	8:40	9:15	4:00	8:50
Chukas, June 25	7:15	8:30	8:40	9:15	4:10	8:55

Sium, Thursday, March 31 6:00 A.M.
 Kashern, Thursday, March 31 5-6:30 P.M.
 Bdikas Chometz, Thursday, March 31
 Burning Chometz, Friday, April 1,
 10:35 A.M.

Erev Pesach, Shabbas, April 2:
 Shacharis 6:00 A.M.
 Chometz eaten until 9:25 A.M.

Rosh Chodesh Iyar, Monday & Tuesday,
 April 18 & 19

Yom haAtzmaut, Thursday, April 21
 Services Wednesday evening

Sheni-Chamishi-Sheni, April 25, 28,
 May 2

Lag bOmer, Friday, May 6

Yom Yrusholaim, Monday, May 16

Rosh Chodesh Sivan, Wednesday, May 18
 Shovuos-Lernen, Sunday, May 22, 9:30
 P.M.

Rosh Chodesh Tamuz, Thursday & Fri-
 day, June 16 & 17

DAILY SERVICES

Sunday 8:00 A.M.

Monday — Friday 7:15 A.M.

Rosh Chodesh 7:10 A.M.

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 after Shovuos 7:30 P.M.

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Gemoro (advanced) Tuesday & Thursday
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Koheles — Thursday 1 hour before
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Dinim — Shabbos 45 minutes before
 Mincho

Gemoro (beginners) — Friday 6:15
 P.M.

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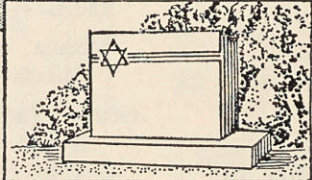
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"POINT OF VIEW"

A Column for the Young Adult

SPRING

"This month shall be for you the head of the months, the first shall it be for you of the months of the year." (Exodus 12:2).

So spoke G'd of Nisan, the month of spring. But isn't Tishri Rosh HaShono, the beginning of the year?

For the knowledgeable, a Mishna will come quickly to mind which speaks of not one but four different Rosh HaShono days during the Jewish year (Talmud Rosh HaShono 2a). For immediate concern here, let us confine ourselves to these two only: Tishri and Nisan.

Tishri celebrates the birthday of the world — Nisan is the birthday of the Jewish nation. The difference in date presents a fascinating study with meaningful significance. (Commentary of Rabbi Samson Raphael Rirsch on Exodus 12:2).

The one is Rosh HaShono of nature, of all that is physical and mundane; the other is Rosh HaShono of Israel, carrier

of the spirit of G'd. The Tishri cycle begins with the fall season, harbinger of winter, and although it graduates into spring and summer too, its culmination is again in autumn.

The Nisan cycle is altogether different. It opens with spring's stirring, budding life, blooms into summer, and although fall and winter are also its lot, it terminates again with the joy of spring.

What does this mean? All that is mundane, is born in dreary barrenness. While it has its blossoms and fruits for a time, it must end again in darkness and cold. But sanctity and Jewishness originate in the season of flowering hope. To be sure, there may be setbacks and temporary defeats, but there is confidence and faith and unshaken certainty that the bright sunshine of spring is in the offing.

Surely it can be no coincidence that so many of our nation's redemption holidays, not only Pesach but also Yom HaAtzmaut and Yom Yrusholaim, occur in the glorious season of spring!



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The Congregation Reports . . .

. . . that much work and great effort went into our annual bazaar which took place February 19th, 20th and 21st under the expert and hard-working leadership of Bazaar Chairman Arthur Hanauer and his Co-Chairman Fred Stone, who together with a dedicated staff of ladies and gentlemen guided the amassing of much merchandise, the pricing and the selling, earning the warm appreciation of the entire Congregation for a job well done . . .

. . . that the annual Chevra Kadisha meeting and luncheon took place on March 27th, at which Chevra matters were discussed, almost the entire slate of officers and trustees re-elected, and a delicious warm dinner served in festive mood and excellent Chevra spirit . . .

. . . that a community-wide committee of ladies, under the name Nshe Chesed of Washington Heights, is in the process of organization to which members of the various Sisterhoods, ours included, have received written invitation and whose well-aimed cause deserves large-scale participation . . .

. . . that our members have once again been urged to help underwrite the cost of the community Seder for Russian immigrants, arranged by the Jewish Community Council . . .

. . . that information regarding available apartments and jobs, requests for

assistance to elderly and ailing, may be directed to the Jewish Community Council, 121 Bennett Avenue, 568 - 5450 (furniture in good condition accepted for Russian immigrants) . . .

. . . that HAKOHOL deeply regrets the inadvertent omission of the name of our unforgettable late Honorary President, Albert S. Moses, whose first Yahrzeit was 22nd Shvat, on last issue's list of names . . .

. . . that the Nisan issue of the "Rabbi's Newsletter" was donated anonymously in memory of Alfred Meier . . .

. . . that the Iyar issue of the "Rabbi's Newsletter" was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Josef Erbs and Mr. Max Faktor (in memory of Lina Faktor) . . .

. . . that the Sivan issue of the "Rabbi's Newsletter" was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Justin Bing (in honor of Mr. Kurt Rosenthal, Flushing) . . .

. . . that additional donations were made by Rabbi and Mrs. Shlomo Kovitz and Rabbi and Mrs. Joseph Zitter, Mr. and Mrs. Max Hamburger, Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Lowensteiner, Rabbi and Mrs. Levi Meier (in memory of Alfred Meier), Sharon and Sandy Mayer, Mr. and Mrs. Simon Ackerman, Mr. and Mrs. Gabriel S. Harwitt, Mr. and Mrs. Meir Baran, Mrs. Julie Stock (in honor of Mr. Leo Stock's 85th birthday), Mrs. Kate Philippon, Mr. Mordochai Waldman . . .

TO ALL OUR FRIENDS:

My husband and I felt truly comforted by your many visits, donations, flowers and cards during the trying days of severe illness.

Thank you all and wishing you a happy Yom Tov

Julie and Leo Stock

MEMORIAL TABLETS



The Yahrzeit of the following will be observed on our Memorial Tablets:

Gustav Bendheim	1. Nisan	David Meyer	27. Iyar
Hannah Kayem	1. Nisan	Bertha Lemberger	28. Iyar
Paula Kalter	2. Nisan	Siegfried Rothschild	29. Iyar
Josef Haas	2. Nisan	Sidi Lorsch	1. Sivan
Meta Stern	3. Nisan	Joseph Gottlieb	3. Sivan
Selma Hamburger	3. Nisan	Jonas Frank	4. Sivan
Elsie Blumenthal	3. Nisan	Helene Mayer	7. Sivan
Isaac Selig	5. Nisan	Samuel Hess	9. Sivan
Leonore Soika	8. Nisan	Leonie Schlossberger	9. Sivan
Siegmund Ehrlich	9. Nisan	Nanny Frank	11. Sivan
Sally Nauman	10. Nisan	Lina Buchheim	13. Sivan
Johanna Koestrich	11. Nisan	Louis Jonas	13. Sivan
Samuel Hirschheimer	15. Nisan	Felix Jonas	15. Sivan
Alexander Bauer	15. Nisan	Henriette Buxbaum	15. Sivan
Ferdinand Mayer	15. Nisan	Benno Baumann	17. Sivan
Fred Marx	16. Nisan	Rosa Klar	17. Sivan
Clara Neu	16. Nisan	Michael Lichtenthal	18. Sivan
Else Angres	18. Nisan	Alice Dressler	18. Sivan
Siegfried Wertheim	21. Nisan	Malchen Gottlieb	19. Sivan
Aron Gottlieb	23. Nisan	Amalie Baum	20. Sivan
Sarah Berney	23. Nisan	Arthur Schloss	20. Sivan
Jack Kayem	24. Nisan	Jakob Plawner	21. Sivan
Simon Stern	24. Nisan	Herman Speier	21. Sivan
Josef Holzer	25. Nisan	Arnold Berney	22. Sivan
Anna Perry	26. Nisan	Fred Schindler	22. Sivan
Herbert Wolf	26. Nisan	Herman Rosenthal	23. Sivan
Fanny Auerhann	28. Nisan	Wilhelm Feuer	24. Sivan
Martha Seligmann	29. Nisan	Else Schloss	24. Sivan
Irving Simon	29. Nisan	Ernest Rosenberg	25. Sivan
Irma Erlebacher	4. Iyar	Selma Stern	26. Sivan
Max Hamburger	4. Iyar	Harv Siegel	26. Sivan
Emma Leitner	4. Iyar	Samuel Silbermann	29. Sivan
Frieda Brotman	5. Iyar	Betty Silbermann	29. Sivan
Mordko Katz	14. Iyar	Rosa Stern	29. Sivan
Liesel Leiter	15. Iyar	Richard Katz	30. Sivan
Bernard Philippon	15. Iyar	Martha Leitner	30. Sivan
Erna Stern	16. Iyar		
Michael Singer	18. Iyar		
Selma Adler	19. Iyar		
Henry Falkenstein	19. Iyar		
Sylvia Mintz	22. Iyar		
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Max Plaut	27. Iyar		
Meyer Rosenberg	27. Iyar		

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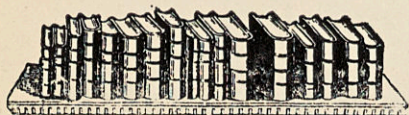
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* it must be recited seated;

* nothing must detract from proper thought-concentration (no removing of dishes, closing of lids, brushing off crumbs, etc.);

* minimum eating of *kzayis* (half-egg) of bread or Matzo requires Benshen?

(Continued from page 1)

"Surprising how a large community of 600,000 men feared their pursuers. Why did they not fight? The answer is, the Egyptians had been their masters. From early childhood the Jews had had to bear the yoke of Egypt. Their spirit was low. This entire generation had to die. A new generation had to rise, one which had never known exile. They then had a lofty spirit." (Exodus 14:13).

A glorious picture emerges, a history of which we can be immensely proud. It took but one generation for our people to shed all handicaps of slavery and lose forever the slave mentality. More: it took us only seven weeks to rise to Sinai's height!

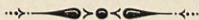
Isn't the story of our *Roots* a marvel to behold? Chains of infamy broken and joyfully replaced by the noble, ennobling chain of beauty — the days and weeks of Counting the Omer, which link Egypt and Sinai as a sparkling ornament.

Our sympathy for Kunta's kin is undiminished, but we give thanks to Him "Who has chosen us from all peoples and given us His Torah"

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