



Actions Speak Louder Than Words: The Case of Zohran Mamdani

Dear Friends,

Our long Jewish history has taught us to take words seriously, but even more importantly, to judge leaders by their actions, which reveal their true intentions.

New York City new Mayor Zohran Mamdani is a young, progressive leader who openly identifies as a Social Democrat. There is no question that he is an eloquent and charismatic speaker. His strong oratorical skills have earned him significant support, particularly among young and progressive New Yorkers, alongside promises such as free public transportation and rent freezes.

However, my concern lies with his controversial anti-Semitic and anti-Zionist agenda. While he claims that he will fight anti-Semitism, his actions from the very first day have demonstrated the opposite.

I want to share with you a selection from an article that appeared in the Jerusalem Post that clarifies my point of view.

“On his first day in office, he revoked an executive order adopting the IHRA definition of antisemitism, including provisions linking some anti-Zionist rhetoric to antisemitism.

“The newly inaugurated New York City Mayor Zohran Mamdani rescinded a series of executive orders on his first day in office on Thursday, including one that deemed anti-Zionist rhetoric as antisemitic.

“His predecessor, Eric Adams, signed the order adopting the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's definition of antisemitism, which includes clauses in its definition such as "Denying the Jewish people their right to self-determination, e.g., by claiming that the existence of a State of Israel is a racist endeavor," and “Accusing Jewish citizens of being more loyal to Israel, or to the alleged priorities of Jews worldwide, than to the interests of their own nations.”

Other clauses include "Accusing the Jews as a people, or Israel as a state, of inventing or exaggerating the Holocaust," "Drawing comparisons of contemporary Israeli policy to that of the Nazis," and "Holding Jews collectively responsible for actions of the State of Israel."

According to the mayor's office, Mamdani rescinded all executive orders signed by Adams since September 26, 2024, when the previous mayor was indicted.

Two-thirds of NYC's Jews did not vote for Mamdani, and many have expressed explicit concern

about the new mayor's actions. A November edition of JPPI's Voice of the Jewish People Index showed that 67% of US Jews believe Mamdani's victory will endanger New York's Jews.

Additionally, a December ADL report found that 20% of Mamdani's administrative appointees have ties to anti-Zionist groups. Some have even justified Hamas's actions or celebrated the October 7 attacks. Many are members of Students for Justice in Palestine and Democratic Socialists of America, groups which Mamdani himself has long served as an organizer for.

Mamdani has accused Israel of "genocide" and "apartheid" and has promised to arrest Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu should he set foot in New York.

President of Israel, Isaac Herzog, criticizes Mamdani's rhetoric as harmful to New York's Jewish community.

President Herzog sharply criticized New York City's then-mayor-elect, Zohran Mamdani, in December, for comments he described as "outrageous" and harmful to Jewish communities during a speech at Yeshiva University in New York City.

Herzog said the mayor-elect's remarks questioning Jews' right to move to Israel and participate in traditional Zionist practices not only delegitimize the Jewish people's ancient homeland but also "legitimize violence and undermine freedom of religion." He labeled such rhetoric both anti-Jewish and anti-American.

"Mamdani shows his true face," Israel's Foreign Ministry wrote on X. "This isn't leadership. It's antisemitic gasoline on an open fire."

Diaspora Affairs Minister Amichai Chikli called the new mayor a " Hamas sympathizer" on X, saying Mamdani "makes his top priority loud and clear: targeting and harming the Jewish community by repealing the IHRA definition of antisemitism and New York City's anti-BDS order."

"History is clear. When Islamists gain power, Jews are the first target and never the last," Chikli wrote."

As a rabbi, the safety of our people is my highest priority — especially in the aftermath of the massacre in Australia during a Hanukkah parade. In this context, Mayor Mamdani's refusal to condemn or retract his call to "globalize the Intifada" is deeply troubling and reveals his true intentions.

My hope and prayer are that the Jewish people of this country will stand united and act together to oppose Mamdani's harmful agenda through every possible and peaceful means.



- Rabbi Avi Perets



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For those unable to attend in person,
all services, classes, and important meetings can be
viewed on Zoom.

This is our meeting id number & passcode:

647 090 3997 , passcode: 7777



If you are planning to be at Saturday
services and would like an Aliyah, please
contact me as early as possible with the
information, and PLEASE be on time.

-Anne Peacock



Help us extend our Temple Emanu-El Family!

If you hear of prospective members,
please call the Membership Committee.

Main contact number is:

Lynne Baronoff @ 843.828.0664

Sara Bernstein
Benay Brockman
Roz Weinerman
Lynne Baronoff
Carol Seplow



<u>FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES:</u>		
Sandra and Phillip Satsky	8	
Jean Gadasi and Jason Shangold	17	
Joy and Ed Salander	20	
Paula and Larry Kopelman	27	
Lois Gould and Joseph Hunt	29	

<u>FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS:</u>		
Barbara Zimmerman	1	
Myra Starnes	1	
Jillian Mann	1	
Susan Curtis	2	
Karen Schecker	3	
Madeleine Smith	3	
J. Michael Becker	3	
Neal Shore	6	
Donovan Fredericks	8	
Samantha Shavitz	9	
Connor Smith	9	
Amy Krause	10	
Harvey Pollack	13	
John Rosner	13	
Spencer Lynch	13	
Sindee Wiener	14	
Sandra Satsky	16	
Sara Bernstein	17	
John Shavitz	17	
Mirabel Bertrand	18	
Joseph Lowe	19	
Stuart Smith	21	
Isabella Shavitz	26	
Ehmet Clark	26	
Sonia Kahn	27	
Renee Jackson	27	

<u>FEBRUARY YAHRZEITS:</u>		<u>SHEVAT</u>
Isadore Hurwitz	1	14
Guy Osterneck	1	14
Dinah Banner	2	15
Meyer Kotlovker	2	15
Ella Grosser	2	15
Saul Walsh	3	16

<u>FEBRUARY YAHRZEITS:</u>		<u>SHEVAT</u>
Hilda Levy	4	17
Anna Bernstein Spector	4	17
Beverly Pasternak	5	18
Mannie Winger	5	18
Clara Boritz	5	18
Mary Scharf	6	19
Fred Allgood	7	20
Ira Lambert	7	20
Julia Eisenberg	7	20
Albert Kohn	7	20
Philip Gelfand	8	21
Elsa Greenwald	8	21
Philip Cockle	9	22
Hanelore Moss	9	22
Estella Poretsky	11	24
Esther Naumoff	12	25
Beverly Epstein	12	25
Beatrice Young Carlin	13	26
Marjorie Bazar	13	26
Anna Slonimsky	14	27
Sylvia Rubin	14	27
Lyn Lerner	14	27
Sara Schreiber	15	28
Lillian Chesler	15	28
Anna Shoham	15	28
Edith Abelkop	16	29
Phillis Greenfield	16	29
Israel Shoham	17	30
		<u>ADAR</u>
Sarah Segal	18	1
Max Rosenbusch	18	1
Samuel Segal	18	1
Morris Linder	18	1
Mordecai Opher	18	1
Diane Yarchever	18	1
Wallace Reid	19	2
Nettie Wishkoff	19	2
Eunice Kohn	19	2
Theodore Cohen	19	2
Robert Rons	19	2
Mariann Forman	20	3
Murray Weicholtz	20	3
Gabriel Knee	20	3
Everett Ness	20	3
Joseph Emmi	20	3
Colvin Abrams	21	4

<u>FEBRUARY YAHRZEITS:</u>		<u>ADAR</u>
Samuel Gintel	21	4
Mary Dimont	21	4
Sol Wiener	22	5
Esther Abrams	22	5
Sara Poretsky	22	5
Paul Sullivan	22	5
Steffi Nathan	23	6
Jeffrey Owen	23	6
Bernard Kuder	24	7
Harriet Karriker	24	7
Rose Banner	24	7
Ethel Dimont	24	7

<u>FEBRUARY YAHRZEITS:</u>		<u>ADAR</u>
Tessie Lambert	25	8
Abraham Gorelick	25	8
Richard Shapiro	25	8
Shimon Perets	25	8
Harold Starnes	26	9
Jack Abrams	26	9
Gladys Bondy	26	9
Beatrice Hunt	26	9
Marion Bodofsky	26	9
Emeric Fischer	27	10
Elizabeth Young Spector	27	10
Joseph Frank	27	10



TORAH BLESSINGS WORKSHOP / DINNER



HAVE YOU EVER FOUND YOURSELF WISHING YOU KNEW HOW TO CHANT THE TORAH BLESSINGS FOR AN ALIYAH?

HAVE YOU EVER WISHED YOU KNEW THE TORAH BLESSINGS A BIT BETTER?

ARE YOU A PERFECTIONIST WISHING YOUR TORAH BLESSINGS WERE PERFECTLY POLISHED?

WISH NO MORE...

RABBI AVI WILL BE HOLDING A TORAH BLESSINGS CLASS ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, AT 6 PM

THIS PROGRAM IS BEING BROUGHT TO YOU IN PART BY A GRANT FROM THE CAROLINA FOUNDATION FOR JEWISH SENIORS.



**** A LIGHT DINNER OF COLD CUTS WILL BE SERVED. ****

TO REGISTER, PLEASE EMAIL THE OFFICE AND INCLUDE YOUR FULL HEBREW NAME;

FOR EXAMPLE, "*CHANAH BAT MELECH DAVID HA LEVY*"

(CHANAH, DAUGHTER OF MELECH DAVID, AND TITLE - KOHEN OR LEVY - IF APPLICABLE).



צדקה (TZEDAKAH)



Memorials:

Yahrzeit Plaque donation in loving memory of my mother, Simone Feder:
Leilani Fallon-Gordon

In memory of Simone Feder: **Lynne A. Baronoff**

In memory of Heather Concklin's father, Richard Greenfield: **Lynne A. Baronoff**

In memory of Lisa Epstein's father, James Ignaszewski: **Lynne A. Baronoff**

In memory of Simone Feder: **Marla & Hal Roth**

In memory of Heather Concklin's father, Richard Greenfield: **Marla & Hal Roth**

In memory of Simone Feder: **Mark & Kallie Forman**

In memory of Heather Concklin's father, Richard Greenfield: **Mark & Kallie Forman**

In loving memory of Dan's brother Steve Wiener: **Dan & Sindee Wiener**

In memory of Simone Feder: **American Legion Auxiliary**

In loving memory of Simone Feder: **Leilani & Shaun Gordon and Friends**

In memory of Gail Cohen's mother, Shirley Siegel: **Leilani Fallon-Gordon**

Remembering Eleanor Schiller, a life-long teacher, on what would
have been her 90th birthday: **Sonia Kahn**

Simchas:

In honor of Carol Seplow's milestone birthday: **Lynne A. Baronoff**

In honor of Ella Singer's birthday: **Lynne A. Baronoff**

In honor of Laura & Mike Tolbert's anniversary: **Roz & Alvin Weinerman**

In honor of Ella Singer's birthday: **The Friends of Ella Singer**

In honor of Ella Singer's birthday: **Maureen Bradley**

In honor of Roz & Alvin Weinerman's 60th anniversary: **Annette & Hal Gordon**

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund :

Sondra R. Welkis

Haganah Fund:

Menachem & Debby Shoham

Just Because:

For Peace: **Douglas Ingber**

Arthur Solomom



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>14 Shevat</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Tu B'Shevat</p> 	<p>3</p> <p>16 Shevat</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Advanced Hebrew: 12:45PM – 1:45PM</p> <p>Adult Education: 2PM – 3PM</p> <p>Hebrew School: 4PM – 6PM</p>	<p>5</p> <p>18 Shevat</p>	<p>6</p> <p>SERVICES: 6PM</p> <p>Bimah Honors: David Epstein</p> <p>Candles: 5:33PM</p>	<p>7</p> <p><i>Yitro</i></p> <p>SERVICES: 10AM</p> <p>Bimah Honors: Sonia Kahn</p> <p>Shabbat Ends: 6:30PM</p>
<p>8</p> <p>21 Shevat</p>	<p>9</p> <p>22 Shevat</p>	<p>10</p> <p>23 Shevat</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Advanced Hebrew: 12:45PM – 1:45PM</p> <p>Adult Education: 2PM – 3PM</p> <p>Hebrew School: 4PM – 6PM</p> <p>Torah Blessings Workshop: 6PM</p>	<p>12</p> <p>25 Shevat</p>	<p>13</p> <p>SERVICES: 6PM</p> <p>Bimah Honors: Sharon Kemerer</p> <p>Candles: 5:40PM</p>	<p>14</p> <p><i>Mishpatim</i></p> <p>SERVICES: 10AM</p> <p>Bimah Honors: Julian Koplen</p> <p>Shabbat Ends: 6:36PM</p>
<p>15</p> <p>28 Shevat</p>	<p>16</p> <p><i>Happy Presidents Day</i></p> 	<p>17</p> <p>30 Shevat</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Advanced Hebrew: 12:45PM – 1:45PM</p> <p>Adult Education: 2PM – 3PM</p> <p>Hebrew School: 4PM – 6PM</p>	<p>19</p> <p>2 Adar</p>	<p>20</p> <p>SERVICES: 6PM</p> <p>Bimah Honors: Frank Palermo</p> <p>Candles: 5:46PM</p>	<p>21</p> <p><i>Terumah</i></p> <p>SERVICES: 10AM</p> <p>Bimah Honors: Ken Levy</p> <p>Bar Mitzvah of Emrey Cohen</p> <p>Kiddush Sponsored by Stephen & Amy Cohen In honor of Emrey's Bar Mitzvah</p> <p>Shabbat Ends: 6:42PM</p>
<p>22</p> <p>6 Adar</p>	<p>23</p> <p>7 Adar</p>	<p>24</p> <p>7 Adar</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Advanced Hebrew: 12:45PM – 1:45PM</p> <p>Adult Education: 2PM – 3PM</p> <p>Hebrew School: 4PM – 6PM</p> <p>Board Meeting: 6PM</p> 	<p>26</p> <p>9 Adar</p>	<p>27</p> <p>SERVICES: 6PM</p> <p>Bimah Honors: Lisa Epstein</p> <p>Candles: 5:52PM</p>	<p>28</p> <p><i>Tetzaveh</i></p> <p>SERVICES: 10AM</p> <p>Bimah Honors: Lenny Reznik</p> <p>Shabbat Ends: 6:48PM</p>

Sisterhood Doings - February 2026

President Perri Sullivan

The Mah-Jongg Tournament had the Rosen Center bursting at the seams on December 17. It was full of enthusiastic players and our volunteers. Everyone seemed to be having fun playing, eating, making new friends, and visiting with each other. It was quite successful due to the many people from our Temple who helped make it so. A huge **Todah Rabah** to everyone who helped send out emails, collected money, ran the tournament, worked in the kitchen, served the food, and set up and cleaned up. We even got a few notes telling us how much the players enjoyed the day.

Do you know what you're doing the second Sunday in March? Here's an idea! There will be a Sisterhood general meeting on March 8, 2026, @ 10:30 a.m. We are asking for everyone to bring in their favorite recipe on a sheet of paper. It'll be fun to see what others like, and maybe add a new dish to your food rotation. See the advertisement included in this Bulletin for more details.

If you are thinking about sponsoring a Kiddush, wondering if you should sponsor a Kiddush, or just putting off calling to sponsor a Kiddush, don't delay any longer. The calendar is filling up quickly. Even if the date you want is far in the future, please contact me sooner than later. For a mere \$125 (\$150 with extra lox), you can remember a loved one or honor a special occasion. In fact, you don't even need a reason! Sisterhood will prepare the food, set it up, and clean up afterward.

Don't delay! Reserve your Kiddush today!



B' Shalom,
Perri





Please Join Us
Sisterhood General Meeting
and
Recipe Exchange
on
March 8, 2026
10:30 a.m.
Rosen Center

A light breakfast will be served.

Please bring your favorite recipe written on a sheet of paper. The recipe does not have to be original. We will make a booklet with everyone's submissions.



*** EDUCATION CLASSES AVAILABLE ***

Temple Emanu-El Education Classes Available:

Advanced Conversational Hebrew Class: For adults with excellent Hebrew skills.
Meets Wednesdays in the Rosen Center or via Zoom from 12:45 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.

Adult Education: This class consists of exploring the NEW book “The Jewish Book of Why,” by Alfred J. Kolactch, and current events with articles, videos and lively discussion.
Meets Wednesdays in the Rosen Center or via Zoom from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Hebrew School: Classes Aleph through Bar/Bat Mitzvah.
Meets Wednesdays in the Rosen Center from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

**** Note - Please see the calendar found in each Bulletin for exact dates of classes.**

Dear Members and Friends,

As you are aware, we have had our parking lot repaired and resurfaced.

We are still in need of funds to help cover this safety improvement to our grounds.

If you are in the position to do so, please consider making a donation towards this important project.

Sponsoring a Kiddush is a beautiful way to honor the memory of a loved one or to honor a special occasion. The Kiddush will be prepared for you, and the cost is **\$125**.

Kiddush Menu: Tuna Fish Salad, Egg Salad, Vegetable Platter, Bagels & Cream Cheese, Lox Spread, Dessert, Challah, Wine, Coffee.

Lox is available for an additional \$25 fee.

You are more than welcome to bring any other Kosher dairy/pareve foods you would like to have served.

If you are interested in sponsoring a Kiddush, please contact our **Sisterhood President, Perri Sullivan**.



* Please make your payment check out to Temple Emanu-El Sisterhood.

38th Avenue Diva Readers

NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME!

Date: **Wednesday**, February 11, 11 AM

Discussing: *The River is Waiting* by Wally Lamb

Where: Sharon Rubin's home

RSVP to Anne Peacock at annepeacoc@hotmail.com



Bar Mitzvah February 21

Emrey Cohen



Emrey is a dynamic young man and competitive tennis player. He is the proud child of Amy and Stephen Cohen and the grandchild of congregants Eileen and Bill Gorelick.

Emrey was born in Manhattan, lives in Boca Raton, and trains extensively in South Florida. His tennis brings him all across the United States, as well as international destinations.

He is a World Scholar's Cup finalist, placing in the top 1%. Emrey has showcased his academic skills in New York City, Ljubljana (Slovenia), and in New Haven at Yale University. He has also competed in the state finals for robotics and was nominated as one of the state's best digital music composers by the Florida Music Education Association (FMEA). Emrey is also passionate about astrophysics, chess, finance, photography, and law.

We look forward to watching his bright future unfold as he also deepens his connection to Judaism. Mazel Tov, Emrey! Wishing you a life blessed with love, health, happiness, success, abundance, and of course, giving tzedakah.

ATTENTION FRIENDS:



INTERESTED IN A TRIP TO ISRAEL???

AS MANY OF YOU ARE AWARE, RABBI AVI AND MIRA HAVE LED SEVERAL WONDERFUL TRIPS TO OUR PROMISED LAND.

WE ARE CURRENTLY CONDUCTING A SURVEY TO SEE HOW MANY PEOPLE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN A GROUP TRIP TO ISRAEL IN THE FUTURE.

**PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE BY EMAIL : TEMPLESECRETARY7@AOL.COM
IF YOU ARE INTERESTED.**

Temple Emanu-El

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<p>Please send any Bulletin materials to templesecretary7@aol.com. The deadline for submissions to be published in the Bulletin is the <u>20th</u> of each month. Thank you to Dr. Julian Koplen for Bulletin assistance.</p>

Temple Emanu-El Donation Opportunities



Name: _____

I am pleased to have the opportunity to contribute \$_____ to the fund specified below.

Please inscribe as follows: In Honor/ Memory (circle one) of:

Please send an acknowledgment to: (Print clearly– Must have name, address & zip)

PLEASE NOTE: \$18 minimum donation (per honoree) for Bulletin listing & mailed acknowledgment. \$5 minimum donation (per honoree) for Bulletin listing only.

***Listings will need to be prepaid and submitted in writing.**

***Tree of Life \$126**

***Yahrzeit Plaque \$360**

*** High Holy Day Prayer Book \$54**

***Hertz Chumash \$54**

***Siddur Inscription \$36**



___ Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

___ Haganah Fund (Security Fund)

___ General Donation Fund

___ Other (specify) _____

** Please make all checks payable to Temple Emanu-El, and note what the donation is for on the check. **