

Long live the Lubavitcher Rebbe King Moshiach forever!

Living Moshiach

Torah Portion: Ha'azinu, Sukkos

Moshiach

Moshiach * Will We Still Do the Mitzvos in the Redemption? Yes!

The Mitzvos make us better people, and they make the world a better place. But that's not the real reason we do them. We do them because it's what G-d wants. It's His deep, essential will, and it doesn't ever change. In the Redemption, we will be so clearly one with G-d and so in tune with His will that we will do the Mitzvos *automatically*, without having to be told. Like when you want to walk, you don't have to tell your own feet to move!

(From talks of the Lubavitcher Rebbe King Moshiach Shlita regarding "Laws of the Oral Torah, Which Will Never Be Nullified", 5752 (1991))

Insight * Kids Rejoicing with the Torah

Kids have a lot of fun on Simchas Torah waving flags and holding on to their little stuffed "Torahs". Simchas Torah is very connected to Moshiach – Moshiach will come in the merit of rejoicing over the Torah. Kids are also very connected to Moshiach – they are called G-d's "Moshiachs" (anointed ones). On Simchas Torah we dance with the Torah while it is closed and covered and we aren't studying it. This way everyone shares the joy of the Torah equally, from the smallest children to the most learned sages. It is similar to the time of Moshiach, when G-d will be so revealed in the world that we won't have to teach each other; everyone will know G-d.

(From a talk of the Lubavitcher Rebbe King Moshiach Shlita, Simchas Torah 5752 (1991))

Practical Judaism * Holiday Time!

- Sukkos this year begins Sunday evening, Sept. 23.
- Build the Sukkah before the holiday. It should have 2 ½, 3 or 4 sturdy walls (wood etc.). Cover it with leafy branches on top (no actual roof). It cannot be under a tree or overhang; it must be open to the sky.
- On Sunday, 18 minutes before sunset, light a Yahrzeit candle because the second night we may not light a new flame. Then women and girls light candles (two for married women, one for single women and girls) and say the blessings "Baruch Atah Ado-nai Elo-heinu Melech HaOlam Asher Kidshanu Bemitzvosav Vetzivanu Lehadlik Ner Shel Yom Tov" and "Baruch Atah Ado-nai Elo-heinu Melech HaOlam Shehecheyanu Vekiyemanu Vehigianu Lizman Hazeh". On Monday night we light from the Yahrzeit candle after dark, with the same blessings. On Friday we light 18 minutes before sunset, like every Shabbos. The next Sunday (Sept. 30) we light 18 minutes before sunset (first light a Yahrzeit candle and then the regular candles) and say the above blessings, and on Monday night (Oct. 1) we light from the Yahrzeit candle after dark, with the same blessings.
- No driving, using phones or electronic devices, work etc. at the following times: from Sunday evening, Sept. 23 until Tuesday night, Sept. 25; from Friday evening, Sept. 28 until Saturday night, Sept. 29 and from Sunday evening, Sept. 30 until Tuesday night, Oct. 2.
- We eat and drink in the Sukkah. When eating foods with the blessing of Hamotzi (bread) or Mezonos (cake, pasta etc.) first say the blessing on the food, then, before eating, look up at the Schach (leafy branches) and say "Baruch Atah Ado-nai Elo-heinu Melech HaOlam Asher Kidshanu Bemitzvosav Vetzivanu Leishev Basukkah".
- Every day from Monday, Sept. 24 until and including Sunday, Sept. 16, we shake the Lulav and Esrog: a date-palm branch, citron, myrtle branches and willow branches. There are many details regarding the specific types of plants used, so they should only be purchased from a reliable Orthodox Jewish vendor knowledgeable in the laws.
- How to shake the Lulav and Esrog: Stand in the Sukkah (if possible), facing east. In our great excitement about Moshiach, we start every Mitzvah with the proclamation of "Long live our master, teacher and Rebbe King Moshiach forever and ever!" Pick up the Lulav (date-palm branch bound together with myrtle and willow) in your right hand and say "Baruch Atah Ado-nai Elo-heinu Melech HaOlam Asher Kidshanu Bemitzvosav Vetzivanu Al Netilas Lulav." Then pick up the Esrog (citron) in your left hand. Before putting the Lulav and Esrog together on the first day (or the first time each year that one does this Mitzvah), say "Baruch Atah Ado-nai Elo-heinu Melech HaOlam Shehecheyanu Vekiyemanu Vehigianu Lizman Hazeh". Then put the Lulav and Esrog together. The Lulav should be pointing upwards. Shake it three times in each direction, bringing it back to your heart each time. The order of the directions to shake it is as follows: right, left, forward, up, down (but still keep it pointing up) and behind.
- Sunday, Sept. 30 is called "Hoshanah Rabbah". It is customary to stay up all night the night before. In the morning we bang five willow branches on the floor to "sweeten the judgements". We dip bread in honey and it is customary to eat Kreplach. The Rebbe King Moshiach Shlita gives out honey cake. This day is an extra chance to pray for a good year.
- Sunday evening and Monday, Sept. 30-Oct. 1 is "Shemini Atzeres". On Sunday night we dance with the Torah. We eat in the Sukkah but do not say the blessing of "...Leishev Basukkah". In the morning we say a special prayer for rain as it is the beginning of the rainy season in the Holy Land.
- Monday night, Oct. 1 and Tuesday, Oct. 2 is "Simchas Torah". We rejoice and dance with the Torah. (Men may not dance with or watch women dancing. Women may watch men dancing, but can also dance in a separate room.)

People * Kapparos in Tampa!

On the day before Yom Kippur, we wave chickens around our heads and then slaughter them, as an atonement. Although money may be substituted, it is ideal to use actual chickens, as the Rebbe King Moshiach Shlita does. Many Jews in Tampa had been using money instead of chickens for years because bringing a Shochet (ritual slaughterer) is complicated. But this year, it happened! The arrangements, although made at the last minute, miraculously worked out. It was exciting for the kids (and adults) to experience Kapparos with a chicken!

The Uber driver who brought the Shochet from Miami had an Arabic name but as the Shochet got into a conversation with him, he discovered that the driver's mother's mother is Jewish, making him Jewish too! The Shochet spoke to him throughout the long drive about his Jewish identity. They made up to keep in touch so he can learn and practice more!



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Sponsorship Spotlight *Lulav and Esrog

Quick! Time is running out! Help another Jew do the special, fun Mitzvah of shaking the Lulav and Esrog!

Price: \$50

<http://www.livingmoshiach.com/tishrei.html>



Kosher Recipe *Stuffed Eggplant

From Marcella Vaknin-Levy

Ingredients:

2 Eggplants

1 Package Kosher-Certified Ground Beef

1 Onion, minced

Handful of Flat-Leaf Parsley (soak in soapy water for a few minutes and rinse well to remove bugs, then soak in regular water and check water, then rinse and check a few leaves for bugs closely in the light or use another method recommended by your rabbi – bugs are strictly forbidden and herbs are often infested), chopped

Flour

1 Egg (checked for blood spots), beaten

Oil for frying

1 Can or ½ Bottle Tomato Sauce

1 Onion, diced

Handful of Flat-Leaf Parsley (cleaned and checked for bugs), chopped

Salt and Pepper to taste

Instructions:

Cut the eggplant into round slices, then cut each slice but not all the way – so it's like eggplant "sandwiches" that flap open.

Mix ground beef with onion and parsley.

Stuff eggplant "sandwiches" with meat mixture.

Pour some flour onto a plate and beaten egg onto another plate. Heat a thin layer of oil in a large, deep pan.

Dip each "sandwich" into flour, turning over to coat, then repeat with egg. Fry for a few minutes on each side.

Pour tomato sauce over eggplant (or, if the pan is not large enough, transfer to a pot) and add onion, parsley, salt and pepper. Dilute tomato sauce with some water. Cover and simmer until very soft. Serve with rice. Delicious for Yom Tov!



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