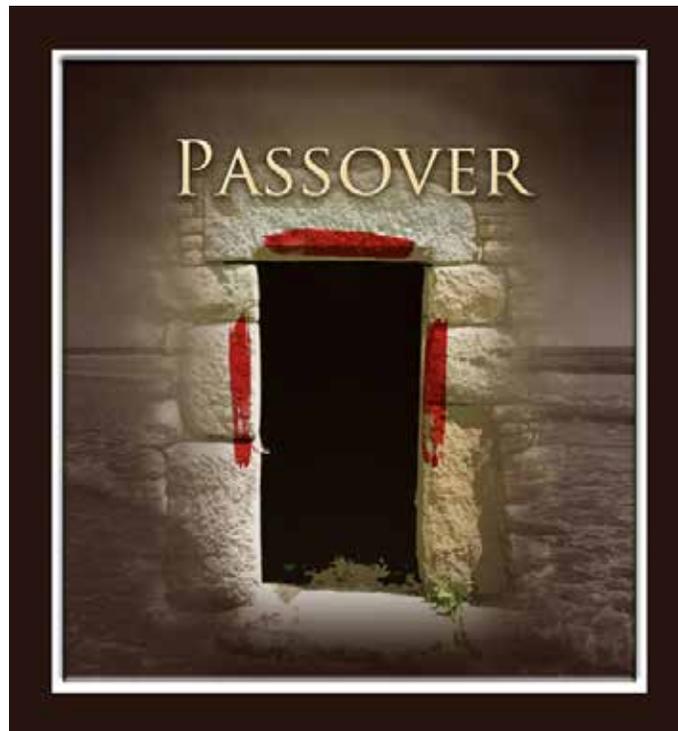




April, 2017

Congregation House of Israel

5 Nisan - 3 Iyar, 5777



CHI Passover Seder

Monday, April 10, 2017

5:30 p.m.

Burgauer Hall

Reservation Deadline: April 3

See page 2 for complete details

Thank You

We would like to thank the following donors for their generous contributions during the month of March (as of March 20)

General Fund

Lynda Kass

In honor of the B'nai Mitzvah of Tillie and Louis Reagler

Sisterhood Fund

Stuart and Mary Klompus

In honor of the B'nai Mitzvah of Tillie and Louis Reagler

Carol and Shelly Kleinman

In beloved memory of Max Prushansky, father of Carol Kleinman

Karen and David Reagler

In thanks for the Oneg Shabat that Sisterhood sponsored for the B'nai Mitzvah of Louis and Tillie



A special Thank You to Sherrill Nicolosi who donated 10 blue "Shalom Y'all" aprons to Sisterhood. Aprons are hanging on back of kitchen door for volunteer use.

A special Thank You to Jodi Chalmers for spearheading the hamantaschen project that provided hamantaschen for the Purim oneg on March 10

Sisterhood Alert

No Sisterhood Meeting April 3

There will be no Sisterhood meeting on Monday, April 3.

The next Sisterhood meeting will be Monday, May 1, 11:00 a.m. in Burgauer Hall.

Wear a funny T-Shirt.

The Shofar

Published monthly by:

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Submissions due the 15th of the prior month.
Distributed free to members, prospective members,
local clergy and other interested parties.

Passover Seder

**Monday, April 10
Burgauer Hall**

Seder to begin at 5:30 p.m.

Members and their guests: \$25.00 per person

Non members: \$36.00 per person

Children under 13 **of members** are free.

Children 13 - 18 years **of members**: \$12.50

Non-member children 5 - 18: \$18.00 per person.

Reservation deadline: Monday, April 3, 2017

Table decoration will feature canned goods to be donated after the seder.

Please bring your canned goods and leave them in Burgauer Hall anytime from now to Monday, April 3.

Tables of eight may be reserved; seating is assigned, and every attempt will be made to honor your request.

Please note on your check who you're paying for and mail your checks to CHI Sisterhood, c/o Ruth Sedler, 152 Blue Heron Drive, Hot Springs, AR 71913

Your check is your reservation.

Davar

“A Matter for Discussion”

In March, I asked the Hot Springs Fellowship of Clergy to join me for a luncheon meeting at our synagogue. The reason: I have been deeply upset by the many expressions of hatred and anger that have occurred throughout our nation, manifested most recently in the desecration of Jewish cemeteries and the cowardly threats of violence hurled against Jewish Community Centers. Of course, this is only the tip of the iceberg. Immigrant families live in fear of being separated from their loved ones. Gay, lesbian and transgender citizens worry about being the target of prejudice and violence. Muslims fear being singled out for worshipping God in their own way.



In a spirited and concerned dialogue, the ministers, who represent a variety of Christian perspectives in the community, expressed, in one voice, their concern to welcome in their churches and in public each person and each worshiper with the dignity and the respect that he/she deserves as one of God's children. I was comforted by the fact that most of my colleagues had been feeling anxious and uncomfortable over the last number of months and were grateful for an environment in which they could share their pain and anguish.

It is our obligation, as Jews, as members of the greater community, to bear witness and to uphold the rights of all people. This is expressed in the words of Isaiah: “My House shall be called a House of Prayer for all Peoples.” We welcome and we will continue to welcome all who choose to worship in our Houses of God in peace.

May Jeanne and I wish all our friends a *Zissen Pesach*. A sweet, joyous and fulfilling holiday season to you all.

Rabbi Chapin

From the President

Making Sense of the Jewish Calendar



As I am writing this, it is the month of Adar, the last month of our year and winter. In almost two weeks, it will be Rosh Hodesh of Nisan, which is also New Year of Redemption. Fifteen days after Rosh Hodesh of Nisan is Pesach (Passover). Nisan is the first month of the year but the year does not change until Rosh Hodesh of Tishri also called Rosh ha-Shanah. Tishri is the seventh month of the year.

Our Jewish calendar is a lunar calendar of twelve months regulated by the cycles of the moon. Each Rosh Hodesh is a celebration of the new moon and occurs at the first of the month. Each month is either twenty-nine or thirty days long. This results in a year that is 354 days. This creates a discrepancy between our lunar year and the secular solar. Pesach, the major spring holiday, would occur during other seasons unless the discrepancy is fixed. The fix that the Rabbis came up with is to have a leap month, Adar II, seven times in a nineteen-year cycle. We had Adar II in 5776.

If this not confusing enough, according to the Rabbis of the Mishnah, we have a total of four New Years in order from Spring to Winter: Rosh Hodesh Nisan, Rosh Hodesh Elul, Rosh Hodesh Tishri (Rosh ha-Shanah), and Tu B'Shevat. The civil calendar or the year of the kings begins on 1 Nisan. The tithing (taxing of livestock) of cattle and the month of teshuvah (returning) begins on 1 Elul. There are no fast days or festivals during Elul. This keeps us from being distracted from returning to our faith or as a people. The religious year begins with 1 Tishri. Tu B'Shevat is the only new year that is not a Rosh Hodesh. It is the fifteenth day of Shevat. Tu B'Shevat is the New Year of Trees because in Israel the rains have ended and the almond trees are beginning to bloom. In ancient Israel this marked the end of tax season for produce (much like our April 15).

ARZA - World Union

Earlier this month we listened with profound concern for Israel's future as US President Donald Trump backed away from longstanding US support for a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

And we are deeply troubled that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu likewise appears to be retreating from that long-expressed goal. While the president opined that a "one-state solution" might bring peace – "whatever works," he said – thoughtful people know that a single state would not "work."

A two-state solution has not failed – it hasn't been attempted. For religious Zionists like us, it remains the only moral resolution to the conflict on the table. The Association of Reform Zionists of America (ARZA) – the Zionist arm of the North American Reform Judaism, the world's largest Jewish religious movement – is committed to two states not out of obstinacy, but out of pragmatism. Any other approach seems to condemn our people to another century at least (God forbid) of violence and trauma.

The demographics of a single democratic state between the Mediterranean and the Jordan River would bring an end to Israel's rightful identity as a Jewish state. The alternative, annexing a people who do not want to live by Israeli rule and thereby rejecting democracy and equality for all, should be unthinkable. Israel must remain Jewish and democratic.

But there is also a crucial third issue at stake: Israel must also remain moral. The sad history of two-states-for-two-peoples is pockmarked with frustration. How well we are aware that time

and again the Palestinian leadership has rejected proposed agreements.

Even the partition plan of November 1947, which proposed two separate states, was endorsed by the Zionist leadership and rejected by the Arab world. That set the pattern for failed peace proposals for nearly 70 years.

We are very much aware of the challenges and obstacles. We recognize that Palestinian leadership throughout the decades perpetually has failed its own people. We know that among its leaders are sowers of terrorism, and we appreciate the grave risks of having a militarized enemy so close to Israel's population centers. We have no illusions about the murderers of Hamas and Hezbollah. We know that agreement is only possible if future Palestinian leadership demonstrates the ability and willingness to suppress terrorism and maintain security.



The Zionist enterprise can only be considered half-fulfilled until an equitable peace with the Palestinians is realized.

And yet we also understand that we, too, have failed to achieve peace. As we approach the 50th anniversary of the Six Day War, we wrestle with the war's complicated legacy. The unification of Jewish holy sites in the

Old City with West Jerusalem was one of the most astonishing moments in Jewish history, yet the occupation of indigenous Arab communities who reject Israeli rule remains the crux of an unresolved conflict. In the months following the 1967 war, David Ben-Gurion urged Israel to "Return [the captured territory] immediately, even if no one wants it back; return it." He warned that retaining this territory would threaten Israel's long-term security, hobble its democratic institutions and coarsen its Jewish character.

Continued on page 9

Sisterhood



We had a lovely Sisterhood meeting this month with a delicious lunch provided by Saralee Stark and Kathryn Eisenkramer with coaching and assistance from Wayne Phillips.

Kathy Klein has come up with two wonderful ideas that everyone is excited about. At our May meeting, everyone is supposed to wear a funny t-shirt which ought to bring in lots of laughs. She also suggested that we have a dog show which met with lots of enthusiasm from our members. (*see page 6*)

Kathy has done this before so she will be in charge of judging and organizing the show. Can't wait. The date is Saturday, May 13th at 5:00 in the parking lot. Bring your pet on a leash. After the dog show we will have tables set up in the parking lot and will have everyone bring your own picnic dinner including plates, and silverware or plastic ware. We will provide drinks or you can BYOD.

Afterwards we plan on having a Havdalah service to conclude the evening. Anyone is welcome to come even if you don't have a dog entered.

We will not have an April meeting so our last Sisterhood meeting of the year will be on Monday, May 1st at 11:00. That will be my last meeting as President and it has been an easy one because of all of the support I have gotten from every Sisterhood member. We may be small in size but we all come together to do whatever needs to get done without any fussing or whining. Well, maybe I whine a little but after May you will have the pleasure, the joy, the honor of having a most competent, compassionate, and definitely a non-whiner as your new President. The most WONDERFUL, Millie Baron!!

I want to thank everyone for putting up with me for the last two years, it certainly has been my pleasure.

Sue Koppel

Life and Legacy Plan

As we approach Passover, the holiday celebrating the Jews' Exodus from Egypt and their liberation from oppressive enslavement, we are reminded that this is a great legacy of our people. Each of us should consider the importance of leaving a legacy, and that is the goal of the "Life and Legacy" program.

L & L is a partnership among CHI, JFAR (Jewish Federation of Arkansas) and the Grinspoon Foundation, to establish a legacy plan for congregants and friends of CHI to make a commitment to leave a post-death, future gift to CHI. **NO MONEY IS REQUESTED NOW.** These are pledges that are given after you pass away.

By signing an L & L "Letter of Intent" stating you will leave a future gift to CHI in your Will or Trust, or by beneficiary designation on an IRA, Annuity, life insurance policy, or any other form of gifting, you will help create a legacy of Jewish tomorrows.

A monetary incentive from JFAR of \$5,000 is promised if we attain 18 new, additional Letters of Intent between now and March, 2018. We have met our first goal of 18 Letters for the preceding year, and CHI will receive JFAR's first \$5,000 gift. We are hopeful we can obtain these pledges to receive the second, final gift from JFAR.

To be a part of this legacy plan, please contact one of the committee members, Karen Reagler, Sherrill Nicolosi, or Stuart Fleischner. **REMEMBER, NO FUNDS ARE GIVEN NOW!**

This month, L & L is "spotlighting" five congregants and friends of CHI who have pledged to remember our synagogue: Shelly Baron, Louis and Betty Kleinman, and Ira and Stephanie Kleinman:

Shelly Baron was raised in CHI with her brother, Adam. Shelly is the president of JFAR, and a familiar face and participant in Jewish activities and events throughout the state. Shelly is one of the young, smart Jewish leaders in her age group.

Ira and Stephanie Kleinman are the proud parents

Continued on page 10

CHI 1st Jewish Dog Show

Come one, come all and bring your dogs. Kathy Klein, who has experience in producing dog shows has suggested and agreed to host one for our congregation. Dogs should be leashed.

We will meet in the parking lot of CHI at 5 PM on Saturday May 13 for the dog show portion of the evening. This will be followed by a bring your own picnic dinner and will conclude with a blessing of the pets and a havdalah service.

This event is being sponsored by Sisterhood who will provide water, lemonade and ice tea and some disposable cups. Please bring your own eating implements so we can keep the kitchen clean. This will be a fun event for everyone, whether you have a dog or not. We are always looking for new, fun and interesting programs to bring us all together and we thank Kathy Klein for suggesting this one. Write it on your calendar now and we look forward to seeing you then.

Entered but not pictured are:

- Sissy Eisenkramer
- Buggy and Louie Lewis
- Huskie Koppel
- Mollie Reagler-Mouton.

Note: Contestants pictured are as of March 20, 2017. Fozzie Kleinman and Rascal Berkun are unable to attend in person but join the show in spirit. Rascal Berkun likes to climb trees and is shown on his way down. Fozzie Kleinman has an attitude problem.



Domino Baron



Tiger T-Bone Kirsch



Amber Ball



LaRoux Sedler



Sesi Jarrell



Mr Smalls Chalmers



Ruby Fox Kirsch



**Murphy and Mollie
Fleischner**



Sydney Kass



Fozzie Kleinman



Rascal Berkun



Sassy and Biscuit Bull

Gaza Tailor Sews Up Niche Making Yarmulkes for Observant Israelis

March 14, 2017 | By Nidal Al Mughrabi



It's not easy doing business from Gaza, but tailor Mohammad Abu Shanab has found a demand he can supply — his sewing factory is churning out religious skull caps for devout Jewish men.

Since Israel resumed importing clothing from Gaza in 2015, Abu Shanab has renewed commercial contacts to sell merchandise to neighboring Israel. With salaries in Gaza much lower, Abu Shanab's costs are very competitive.

“We make all kinds of clothes and recently began making the skull caps that are worn by Israeli rabbis and Christian priests,” said Abu Shanab, adding that as far as Gazans were concerned, religion was not an obstacle.

“In the foundation of our religion, we believe in Christianity and Judaism ... so we have no problem making the headwear even if they are for Jews or Christians.”

Abu Shanab, 61, has sent 400 skull caps, also known as kippot or yarmulkes, and 1,000 bow ties to his Israeli client. Abu Shanab said he is also in talks to produce the long coats worn by ultra-Orthodox Jews.

“Today I have 50 workers and I can increase it to 100,” he said. -- Reuters

Please Join the
Jewish Federation of Arkansas for
the 2017

JEWISH
Food & Cultural
festival

Sunday, April 30th, 2017

War Memorial Stadium
Little Rock, AR

9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Admission to the festival is free.



Kosher Pizza War Erupts in Hasidic Brooklyn -- and Jewish Court Slices the Pie

By Michelle Honig



There's a kosher pizza war brewing in the heart of Hasidic Brooklyn — and a Jewish religious court has laid down a Solomonic decision about how the pie is going to be sliced.

Basil Pizza & Wine Bar is an established gourmet spot on Kingston Avenue, the main drag in the Crown Heights neighborhood. Enter Calabria, which opened its doors the first week in March — directly across the street.

Before the rival eatery even served its first slice, Basil co-owner Danny Branover sued last month in the local Beit Din, or rabbinical court.

He cited the Jewish law of *Hasagat Gevul*, which literally means “infringement of boundary,” and is often used to prevent unfair competition or business practices. In this, traditional Jewish law runs counter-cultural to American capitalism. Not only is unbridled competition a no-no, but the businessmen agreed to follow a rabbinic ruling that, in truth, has no legal standing in secular society.

Basil contended that Calabria's pizza was, like theirs, “specialty” pizza, and therefore would interfere with Basil's livelihood. Calabria contended that its “Roman-style” pizza (a thick, hearty rectangular pizza that's baked in an oil-rubbed pan) is totally different from Basil's thin-crust Neopolitan-style pie.

The rabbinical court mostly sided with Basil, ruling that Calabria could not sell specialty pizza without unfairly competing. It did say in the decision, issued in Hebrew and the ancient Aramaic language, that Calabria could sell regular (New York-style) pizza.

Both sides promptly claimed victory — and it remains to be seen which spot will win out with customers.

Calabria says it will abide by the rabbis' decision and changed its pizza. It has redefined its establishment as one that offers “New York-style pizza,” according to the restaurant's web site.

He said he wants to put the conflict behind him. “We've got a lot of support and the people of Crown

Continued on page 10

Arza - World Union

Continued from page 4

From his perspective half a century earlier, Ben-Gurion's fears are prescient.

Reform religious Zionism stems from *Ahavat Yisrael* (the love of Israel) that is at our core religious identity as Jews. We share a dynamic interaction of *Am Yisrael* (the People of Israel), *Torat Yisrael* (our Torah traditions throughout the ages), *Elohei Yisrael* (the Jewish People's unfolding experience with the God of Israel), and *Eretz Yisrael* (the land which is the eternal Homeland of the Jewish People).

That religious interaction brings us to several conclusions. We are committed to the Zionist project of a safe and secure home for the Jewish people. And home must be rooted in the highest values of Jewish tradition and universal rights, as the framers of the Declaration of Independence declared: “[Israel] will be based on freedom, justice and peace as envisaged by the prophets of Israel; it will ensure complete equality of social and political rights to all its inhabitants....” Truly, every strand of our tradition demands: the Jewish state must act morally.

The Zionist enterprise can only be considered half-fulfilled until an equitable peace with the Palestinians is realized. We maintain that a two-state solution – with no illusions or romanticization – remains the only viable path forward.

Today, a solid majority of US and Israeli Jews still support a two-state solution. The status quo is untenable for all the demographic and political reasons that have been laid out by responsible military and intelligence officials for decades. If we surrender the hope and vision for peace today, we fear they will not be able to be reclaimed for generations to come.

The Reform Movement has taken issue with many aspects of President's Trump's month old agenda. But if he is serious about forging an equitable and enduring deal – two peaceful states side by side – between Israel and the Palestinians, then we commit today to helping bring to fruition this goal, which thus far has eluded every generation of Zionist and Palestinian leadership.

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Life and Legacy

Continued from page 5

of three youngsters who represent the fifth generation of the Kleinman family CHI members. Ira has served on the Board, was a CHI Bar Mitzvah, and attended Camp Jacobs as a child. They are active members of CHI, devoting time and energy to ensure the next generations of the Kleinman family will have a Jewish presence in Hot Springs.

Louis and Betty Kleinman raised their 3 children, including Ira, in CHI. Both Betty and Louis have served on the CHI Board, he as a past president and she as secretary. Betty has been the president of sisterhood and acted as treasurer for many years. The Kleinmans have been devoted to CHI for more than 46 years, seeing their children through Religious School, B'not Mitzvah, and the marriages of both daughters.

Pizza

Continued from page 9

Heights are behind us. We're just trying to make people happy and do a good pizza place," he said.

Basil says it never wanted to put its rival out of business — and simply asked for its neighbor to play fairly according to Jewish law.

The Beit Din is less a court of law and more of a means of arbitration between litigants. If a defendant refuses to accept the Beit Din's jurisdiction, the rabbis of the Beit Din cannot compel the defendant to obey.

In Crown Heights, things seem to have settled down to an uneasy truce for the time being. With Calabria's changes, the new restaurant has secured kosher certification and has opened its doors.

In other words, the rabbinical court battle is over, but the competition will continue to be waged in the court of popular opinion.

And may the best pie win the battle of Kingston Avenue.

Michelle Honig is the food intern of the Forward.

April Yahrzeits

Kaddish Recited April 7

Eva Brown

Mother of Betty Forshberg

Max Prushansky

Father of Carol Kleinman

Bertha K. Marcus

Mother of Imy Marcus

Kaddish Recited April 14

Luman Sheets

Father of Mary Klompus

Craney Bellin

Mother of Ruth Sedler

Lonnie Pederson

Nephew of Cheryl Cohen

Bernard Rephan

Father of Jerry Rephan

Kaddish Recited April 21

Sam Savel

Grandfather of David Cohen

Irma Chalmers

Mother of Jerry Chalmers

Kaddish Recited April 28

Gloria Philipps

Wife of Wayne Phillips

Howard Schlesinger

Husband of Barbara Schlesinger



Birthdays & Anniversaries

April Anniversaries

Lou and Susan Siegel	Apr 1
Michael and Sharon Waxler	Apr 27

April Birthdays

Barbara Morgan	Apr 4
Larry Levi	Apr 7
Maya Grenman	Apr 9
Annette Baim	Apr 14
Brian Waxler	Apr 14
Rachel Gordon	Apr 16
Stuart Fleischner	Apr 22
Betty Kleinman	Apr 23
Jennifer Grenman	Apr 26
Gary Lax	Apr 29
Cheryl Cohen	Apr 30

Oneg Sponsors

Thank you to the following for sponsoring an Oneg during the month of April:

April 7	Stuart and Kay Fleischner Ira and Stephanie Kleinman
April 14	Hal and Sue Koppel Lynda Kass
April 21	Anthony and Sherrill Nicolosi Mille Baron and Mick Stoyanov
April 28	David and Karen Reagler Steven and Clarissa Kirsch

Reminder: If you are scheduled for an upcoming Oneg and need to change dates, please find someone to switch with and then let Ruth Sedler know so the information printed in the bulletin will be correct.

April Parshiot

Vayikra

April 1, 2017

Moses makes an accounting of the gold, silver and copper donated by the people for the making of the Mishkan. Betzalel, Ahaliav and their assistants make the Eight Priestly Garments -- the Apron, Breastplate, Cloak, Crown, Hat, Tunic, Sash and Breeches -- according to the specifications communicated to Moses in the Parshah of Tetzaveh.

The Mishkan is completed and all its components are brought to Moses, who erects it and anoints it with the holy Anointing Oil, and initiates Aaron and his four sons into the priesthood.

Tzav

April 8, 2017

G-d instructs Moses to command Aaron and his sons regarding their duties and rights as *kohanim* ("priests") who offer the *korbanot* (animal and meal offerings) in the Sanctuary.

The fire on the Altar must be kept burning at all times. In it are burned the wholly consumed ascending offering; veins of fat from the peace, sin and guilt offerings; and the "handful" separated from the meal offering. The *kohanim* eat the meat of the sin and guilt offerings, and the remainder of the meal offering.

The peace offering is eaten by the one who brought it, except for specified portions given to the *kohen*. The holy meat of the offerings must be eaten by ritually pure persons, in their designated holy place and within their specified time.

Aaron and his sons remain within the Sanctuary compound for seven days, during which Moses initiates them into the priesthood.



Shemini

April 22, 2017

Aaron and his sons begin to officiate as *Kohanim* (priests); a fire issues forth from G-d to consume the offerings on the Altar and the Divine Presence comes to dwell in the Sanctuary.

Aaron's two elder sons, Nadav and Avihu, offer a "strange fire before G-d, which He commanded them not" and die before G-d. Aaron is silent in face of his tragedy.

G-d commands the kosher laws, identifying the animal species permissible and forbidden for consumption.

Tazria/M'tzora

April 29, 2017

The Parshahs of Tazria and Metzora continue the discussion of the laws of *tumah v'taharah*, ritual impurity and purity.

Tzaraat (often mistranslated as "leprosy") is a supra-natural plague, which can afflict people as well as garments or homes. If white or pink patches appear on a person's skin (dark pink or dark green in garments or homes), a *kohen* is summoned. Judging by various signs, such as an

increase in size of the afflicted area after a seven-day quarantine, the *kohen* pronounces it *tamei* (impure) or *tahor* (pure).

A person afflicted with *tzaraat* must dwell alone outside of the camp (or city) until he is healed. The afflicted area in a garment or home must be removed; if the *tzaraat* recurs, the entire garment or home must be destroyed.

When the *metzora* ("leper") heals, he or she is purified by the *kohen* with a special procedure involving two birds, spring water in an earthen vessel, a piece of cedar wood, a scarlet thread and a bundle of hyssop.