

# The *Chauffeur*

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Of Special Interest:

## Megillah Reading & Purim Schpiel

Saturday, February 27<sup>th</sup>

## UJC Purim Carnival

Sunday, February 28<sup>th</sup>

(no foolin')

## UJC TO LAUNCH iTORAH

BLUMEBERG NEWS SERVICE

The UJC has cancelled its plans to commission a new Sefer Torah, and will instead develop a new iTorah, built on Apple Computer's recently launched iPad platform. The announcement was made at a joint press conference held by UJC President Jonathan Kriegel and Apple Computer CEO Steven Jobs. This is believed to be Apple's first cooperative deal with a synagogue.

UJC sofer Jamie Sher, a former senior programmer for Apple, will head up the project, transitioning from writing Biblical Hebrew to writing software code. Donors, who previously were to assist the sofer in the writing of the Hebrew script, will instead be invited in to place their hands on Sher's shoulders while he is programming lines of code.

Stanton Zamek, the UJC's rabbi and a fan of all things "Apple" commented, "Naturally this is a very exciting development for the UJC. The iTorah will be much easier for our members to carry around, we'll have access to a full library of Jewish music on iTunes, and *hagbah* (the ritual raising of the Torah in the front of the congregation) will be a breeze."

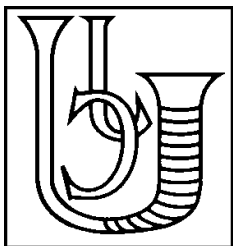
Prior to the announcement, Jewish tech websites, such as *Yehudweeb* and *EngadJew* had been rife with speculation about a new technology, but the UJC-Apple deal seems to have taken the blogosphere and the industry completely by surprise.

Apple CEO Steve Jobs said, "The iTorah is a

pleasure to use. I think kids approaching their Bar and Bat Mitzvahs will be screaming for this. I'm even thinking of converting and having a Bar Mitzvah myself!

Meanwhile, rumors have begun to circulate that search engine powerhouse Google is set to launch a competing product, Joogle, in time for Shavuot.





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For the latest on UJC  
services and events,  
visit  
[www.ujc.org.hk](http://www.ujc.org.hk)

## THE UJC EXCO GANG

	Position
Jonathan "Noodles" Kriegel	Ringleader
Daniel "Danny-K" Kirwin	Flunkie
Andrew "Limey" Gordon	Flunkie
Joshua "Baby-Face" Goldman-Brown	Flunkie
Cheryl "Whitey" Blanco	Flunkie
Brian "Beano" Brenner	Flunkie
Bob "Knuckles" Cooper	Flunkie
Samantha "Curly" Kriegel	Flunkie
Ria "The Rock" Nova	Flunkie
Jordan "Tony" Potash	Flunkie
Sharon "Slick" Ser	Flunkie
Stuart "Legs" Spencer	Flunkie
Barbara "Ace" Thomas	Flunkie
Kenny "Fingers" Weinstein	Flunkie
David "Chuckles" Weisner	Flunkie
Robert "Big Bob" Green	Consigliere
Robert "Little Bob" Meyer	Consigliere
Mark "The Prof" Michelson	Consigliere
Charles "Stretch" Monat	Consigliere

## UJC PROGRAM AREAS

UJC Connect	Fiona Connell Rachael Katz	Membership	Barbara Thomas
Communications	Joshua Goldman-Brown	Programming	Cheryl Blanco
Fundraising	Samantha Kriegel Brian Brenner	Ritual	Jordan Potash Joshua Goldman-Brown
Gala	Samantha Kriegel	Shorashim	David Weisner
House	Bob Cooper	Tikkun Olam	Lauren Goldman-Brown Adam Nelson
This Space for Rent. Call 2523 2985 to Enquire.			

If you are interested in getting more involved in UJC activities, contact the office or one of the UJC members listed above.

# A POLITICALLY CORRECT PURIM STORY

BY SHANI BEN OR

Once upon a time in the faraway land of the Republic of the United States of Shushan there lived a king named Ahachverosh. Now Ahachverosh was not really a bad man but he definitely did not have proper bonding time with his mother and was greatly affected by her decision to join in the Persian craze of feeding coconut milk to the newest little Persian princes instead of the traditional breast feeding; Achashverosh never got over this, which resulted in a constant desire to satisfy eat and drink. Even though he attended regular meetings of Gluttons Anonymous (GA), he still could not control his need to have lavish galas surrounded by beautiful voluptuous women. Because of his strong and complicated relationship with his mother he often found himself attracted to strong willed women, so it was not surprising, although a little ironic, that he married a political activist for women's rights known as Vashti Steinem.

One night, against the advice of his GA counselor, Achashverosh held one of his famous

galas—he was convinced that serving a low carb menu and light beer would somehow make the event diet friendly. Unfortunately, it so happened that Vashti had planned a fundraising cocktail hour to raise money for the first egalitarian, vegan, macramé, lactation training center in greater Shushan for the same night.

Now Vashti was already annoyed at Achashverosh, because he refused to put the toilet seat down and would never ask for directions. And even though they were trying to work things out in couple's therapy she was pretty annoyed when her Blackberry rang and it was King A demanding that she cancel her plans and attend the gala. Appalled by his demand that she show up at his gala and flustered by the idea that she would dance in front of strange men, Vashti didn't notice that her phone was on speaker mode. Humiliated that all of her feminist friends heard King A's sexist request (and still annoyed at the cold feeling of the seatless toilet in the middle of the night) Vashti

flatly refused to come and subsequently filed for divorce.

Being a forward thinking woman, Vashti had quite a hefty settlement from her very generous pre-nup arrangement. She completed her PhD in "Gender Studies, with a focus on East Asia" and wrote a best selling book "the King and I—Living with an Addictive Misogynist Glutton". And though she was banished from the kingdom a little known fact is that years later Vashti and her new, more enlightened partner, would have a child, and this one begat that one, who begat another one, who begat yet another one, and one thing led to another and many generations later a child named Herzl would be born in a land not far from Shushan. Who would have thought that the fate of the Jewish people could be so affected by one woman angry at a man who refused to put the toilet seat down?




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## FROM THE PRESIDENT

**Help! I'm being held prisoner at a printing company. Call the authorities!**

**JK**

# SECRETS OF MISHKAN T'FILAH REVEALED

From the Publisher

At great effort and expense we have managed to acquire a previously unknown internal memorandum of the Editorial Board of the CCAR Press, publishers of Mishkan T'filah, our new sid-dur. As you can see from the image of the memo on the right, this is an original document in a poor state of preservation. We are pleased to present a transcription of this important piece of Reform liturgical history for your edification.

Proposed Material for Inclusion in Mishkan T'filah  
 Draft No. 83 September 23, 2003  
**DO NOT CIRCULATE!**  
 Editorial Committee use only

## 1. Abulafian Meditative Practice

The Eternal reigns (*lean to the left*). The Eternal has reigned (*lean to the right*). The Eternal will reign (*stand up-sit down*). Forever and ever (*fight, fight, fight*).

## 2. Sample Table of Contents

Prayers for Special Occasions

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## 3. From the Old Union Prayerbook

Minister:

O Being of wondrous beneficence, we come before Thee in the vernacular and

not in the foreign Israelitish tongue to implore Thee to look with favor on our decorous and emotionless worship. Hear our prayer as we use circumlocutions to avoid directly invoking Thy name. With starched collars and good posture we come before Thee seeking to enter Thy heavenly abode, which we refer to in a

There has to be an invisible sun.

*That gives us hope when the whole day's done.*

Amen.

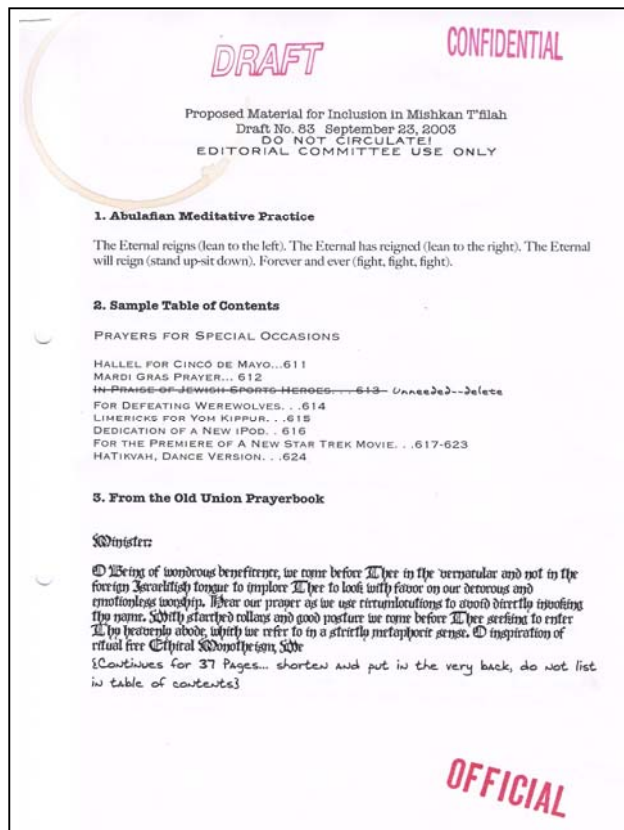
## 5. An Attempt at a Jewish Koan

My Rebbe told me, "Do the opposite of everything I tell you."

So I didn't.

## 6. A Kiddush for Purim

Praised are you, who in your great wisdom created the fruit of the vine—and ale, and rum, and gin. Did I say beer? OK, I said ale, but also lager, stout, pilsner, and bock. You have sanctified us with mitzvot and commanded us to. . . Wait--vodka, brandy, shlivovitz, arak, nyquil, port, tequila-- how could I have forgotten tequila. So sorry O Holy One. Where was I? Yes, tequila and. . . *(passage ends abruptly)*



strictly metaphoric sense. O inspiration of ritual free Ethical Monotheism, We ...  
*(Continues for 37 Pages)*

## 4. An Interpretation of the Yotzer -- a Responsive Reading

Good morning starshine, the earth says hello.

*You twinkle above us, we twinkle below.*

Here comes the sun, here comes the sun.

*And I say it's all right.*

It's another tequila sunrise.

*This old world still looks the same.*

Important Notice:  
 The Hong Kong Ministry of Health requires the following disclaimer:  
 The foregoing was a joke and/or jest and should not be taken seriously. The editors of the Mishkan T'filah were in fact not complete idiots. None of this is true.  
 Should you have taken any of this as anything other than a joke, please report immediately to the nearest hospital. You may have a serious problem with gullibility which can easily be treated with leeches.