

THE HAGGADAH AS 'MENU'

Perhaps more than any other element of Jewish liturgy, the *Haggadah* permits – even encourages – participants to make their own choices about what to include or omit. This is particularly true of *Haggadah b'Chol Dor va-Dor*, which offers additional or alternative readings on the left-hand pages of its main section.

Leading a *Seder* therefore requires significant preparation by whomever has the responsibility of fulfilling the obligation to explain the significance of the Exodus to his or her assembled guests. Some will, I am sure, be able to guide them skilfully through. Others may need a little guidance, particularly with a new *Haggadah*.

It might be helpful to regard this *Haggadah* as a 'menu'. If you were in a restaurant, you would not choose everything on the menu; you would select your favourite courses. The same applies to this *Haggadah*. Reading the whole thing from start to finish will take too long and tax everyone's patience.

The leader of the *Seder* should select those elements that will best combine to suit the participants. For example, if the assembled group might have a particular interest in recalling the Holocaust and other times of oppression for the Jews, the leader might choose to incorporate additional readings such as those on pages 6b ('This year here'), 16b ('Donna, Donna'), 17b (both), 20b, 22b (both) and 31 to emphasise that particular theme.

Some restaurants offer set menus, offering their guests combinations that work well and saving the diners from indecision (and perhaps indigestion!) The following 'set menus' are offered to assist with the use of this *Haggadah*; it is not meant to imply that people are not able to make their own plans or preparations; simply to emphasise that the intention of this *Haggadah* is to permit a celebration of the *Seder* that is tailored to the participants' preferences.

(NOTE: Blue text refers to main *Haggadah*, pink text to the Children's version at the other end)



Menu 1: The 'typical' family Seder

(3 generations ranging in age from, say, 10-70)

Page 1a:	Opening reading (or 'Remember' – Children's introduction)
Page 2a:	Light candles, bless children,
Page 2b:	read Sharing <i>Seder</i> with family
Page 3a:	make Kiddush,
Page 4a:	read <i>she-hecheyanu</i> , drink first glass.
Page 5a:	read John Rayner poem, say blessing for parsley, eat parsley
Page 6a:	read <i>Ha lachma anya</i>
Page 6b:	Read section on slavery
Page 7a:	Children read <i>Mah Nishtanah</i>
Page 8a:	Read <i>avadim hayyinu</i>
Page 8b:	Sing 'Go Down Moses'
Page 9a:	Read opening paragraph re four sons
Page 9b:	Sing 'Ballad of Four Children'
Page 10b:	Read passage about beginnings, 'Ethiopian journey to Israel'
Page 11a:	Read <i>Arami oveid</i>
Page 11b, 12b, 13b	Read biblical verses in sequence round table.
Page 14a:	Read two passages, ten plagues
Page 15a:	Read responsively
Page 15b:	Read or sing Miriam
Page 16a or b:	Dayyeinu
Page 7]:	Children's simple <i>Hallel</i>
Page 8 <mark>X</mark> :	Explanations of the symbols

MEAL

Page 9]:	<i>Birkat ha-mazon</i> , 3 rd and 4 th glass of wine
Page 37:	Elijah's cup and Miriam's cup
	Various songs according to preference
Page 11 X :	Conclusion



Menu 2: An adult Liberal Seder

Themes: rabbinic attitudes to the *Seder* and role of Miriam.

Page 1a:	Opening reading
Page 2a:	Candlelighting
Page 2b:	Sharing Seder with friends and community
Page 3a:	Kiddush
Page 4a:	She-hecheyanu
Page 4b:	Miriam and the baby Moses
Page 5a:	Karpas
Page 6a:	Lachma
Page 6b:	Slavery
Page 7a:	Mah nishtanah
Page 8a:	Avadim hayyinu, Five rabbis
Page 8b:	Five rabbis, Go Down Moses
Page 9a:	Four children
Page 10a:	'In the beginning', <i>V'hi she-am'dah</i>
Page 10b:	Where does the story of the Jewish people begin? Ethiopian
	Journey
Page 11a:	<i>Arami oveid avi,</i> rabbinic passages
Page 12a, 13a:	rabbinic passages
Page 14a:	Plagues
Page 15a:	Liberation readings
Page 15b:	Miriam at the Sea of Reeds
Page 16a:	Dayyeinu
Page 17a:	'How much more', <i>l'fichach</i>
Page 18a:	Hallel
Page 19a:	Hallel
Page 20a:	<i>B'chol dor va-dor,</i> 2 nd glass of wine
Page 20b:	
	Marge Piercy poem
Page 21a:	Marge Piercy poem <i>Pesach</i>
Page 21a: Page 21b:	
•	Pesach
Page 21b:	Pesach Miriam in the wilderness

MEAL

Page 25-30:	Birkat ha-Mazon
Page 31:	sh'foch chamat'cha/sh'foch ahavat'cha
Page 32-33:	Hallel
Page 34-35:	Selection (or omit)
Page 36:	Fourth cup (<i>Omer</i> if appropriate)



Page 37: Pages 38-49: Page 50: Elijah/Miriam Selection of songs Conclusion



Menu 3: A children's Seder

For families with young children

Begin with 'Rememb	per' – Children's introduction
Page 1:	$Kiddush$ (\aleph or \beth pages throughout depending on ages and abilities of participants)
Page 2:	Karpas
Page 3:	Lachma
Page 4:	Mah Nishtanah
Page 9b:	Ballad of the Four Children
Page 5:	Telling the story (or pages 11b,12b,13b, or page 8b 'Go Down Moses')
Page 6:	Plagues, <i>Dayyeinu</i>
Page 7:	Hallel, 2 nd glass of wine
Page 8:	Pesach, Matzah, Maror; Explanations

MEAL

Page 9:	Thanksgiving for meal	
Page 10:	Elijah/Miriam	
(Pages 38-48 Additional songs – select as appropriate)		
Page 11 X :	Conclusion	