



Portugees – Israëlietische Gemeente te Amsterdam

ק"ק ספרדים תלמוד תורה באמשטרדם

Chacham Dr P. Toledano Ab Bet Din  
החכם ד"ר פנחס טולידאנו אב"ד

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### **Birkat Kohanim on Rosh Chodesh**

This is to inform our Kahal that we never had the Birkat Kohanim to be recited on Rosh Chodesh. Hence, it is important to keep the Minhag of the community as our forefathers have done so. In the olden days, the Minhag of the community was to recite Birkat Kohanim only on Yom Tob. Sabbatai Zevi has introduced Birkat Kohanim to be recited on Shabbat. As he claimed that soon Bet Hamikdash will be rebuild and the Kohanim will know what to do. Once they have realized that Sabbatai Zevi is a false messiah, the Rabbis at that time, Rabbi Ya'akob Sasportas, Rabbi Yitschak Abohab and others decided not to revoke Birkat Kohanim, since it is not appropriate to cease a blessing from the Almighty God. The introduction of Birkat Kohanim on Rosh Chodesh is not appropriate as Rabbis of old have never introduced it. Therefore, it should be discontinued.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Pinchas Toledano, Chacham