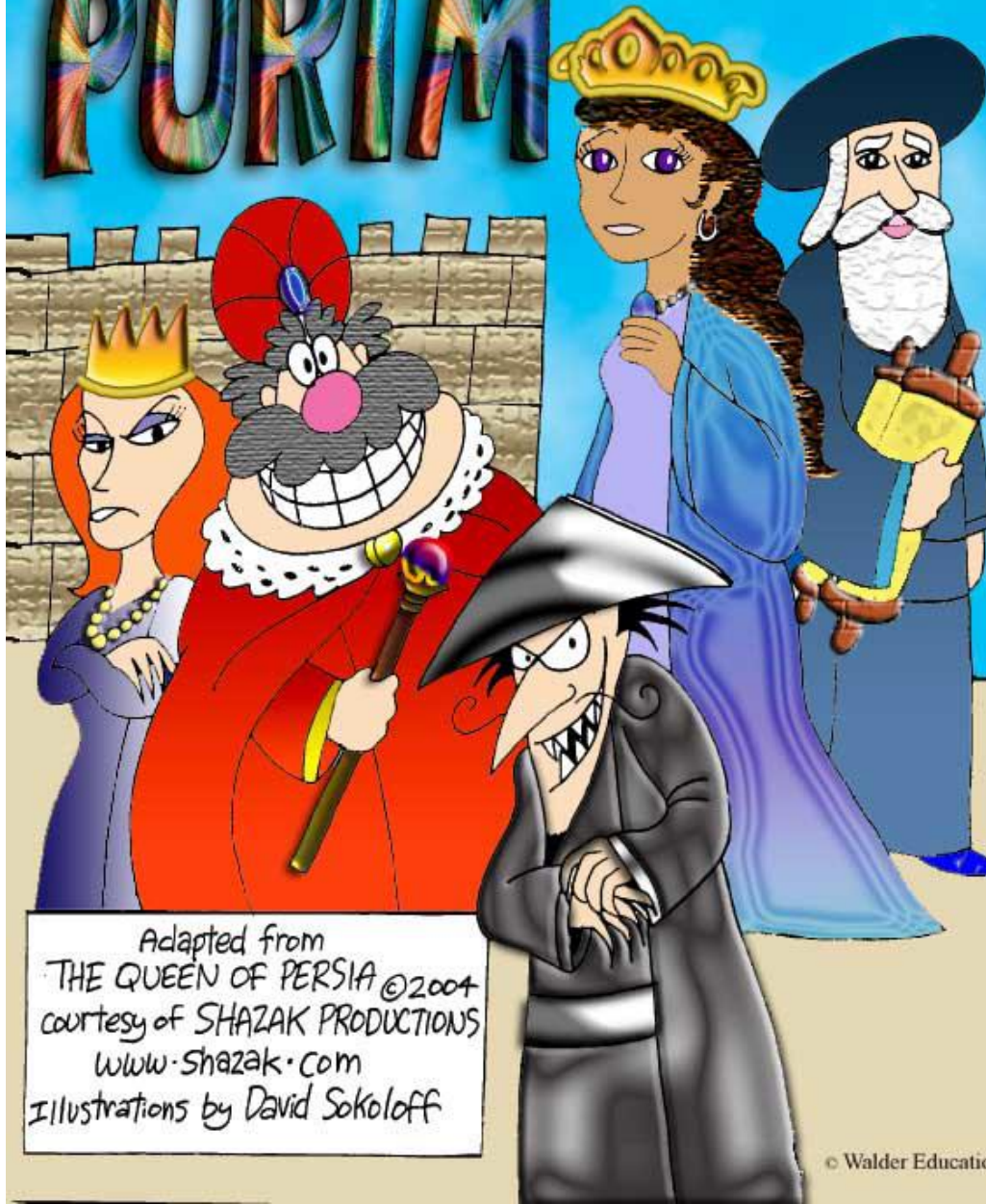


סמית



# THE STORY OF PURIM



Adapted from  
THE QUEEN OF PERSIA ©2004  
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Illustrations by David Sokoloff

Once there was a  
King and a Queen.  
They lived in the  
palace in Shushan.  
They were King  
Achashverosh and  
Queen Vashti.



King Achashverosh  
wanted Queen  
Vashti to come to  
his party, but she  
wouldn't come.  
Achashverosh got  
very angry and  
sent her away.



The King was sad  
because he didn't  
have a Queen.

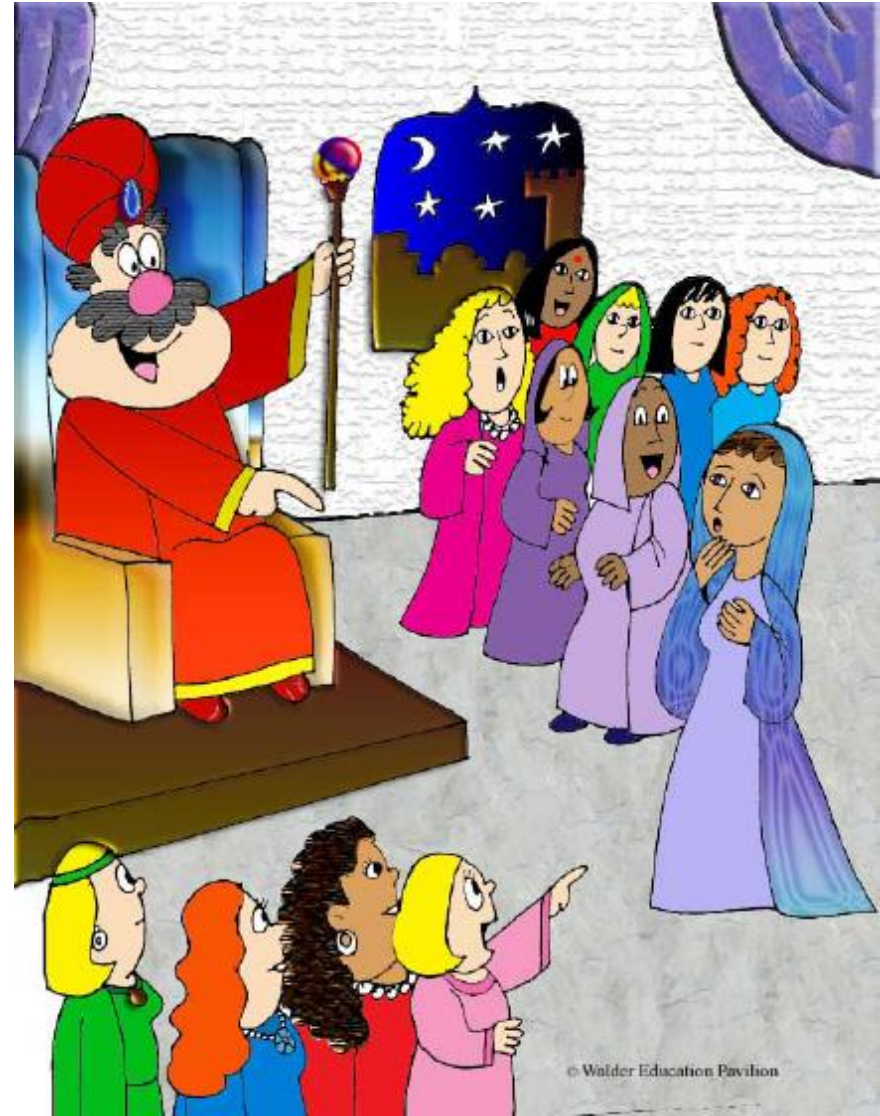


He decided to send  
messengers to  
gather beautiful  
girls from all over  
the country so he  
could decide which  
one would replace  
Vashti.



All the girls wanted  
to be picked to be  
the new Queen.

King Achashverosh  
chose beautiful  
Esther to be his  
Queen!



Esther's Uncle (cousin)

Mordechai told her  
not to tell anyone  
that she was  
Jewish.



Mordechai visited  
Esther every day.

One day, he  
overheard two  
servants planning  
to kill the King. He  
told the King and  
saved his life.



King Achashverosh  
had an evil advisor  
named Haman.

Haman wanted  
everyone to bow  
down to him.

Mordechai said,  
"NO! I won't bow to  
you! I only bow  
down to God!"



Haman was very angry. He told the King that the Jewish people were different and should be killed.



Haman drew lots  
(purim) to pick the  
day for his evil  
plan. Mordechai  
and the Jews heard  
about the plan and  
told Esther that she  
had to tell the King  
the truth.



Esther was scared  
to go to the King  
because he had not  
called her to come  
to him.

For three days and  
three nights, Esther  
and the Jews fasted  
and prayed for a  
miracle.



Then Esther  
fearfully went to  
the King. He smiled  
and was so happy  
to see her! Esther  
invited the King  
and Haman to a  
Mishteh (party)  
that night.



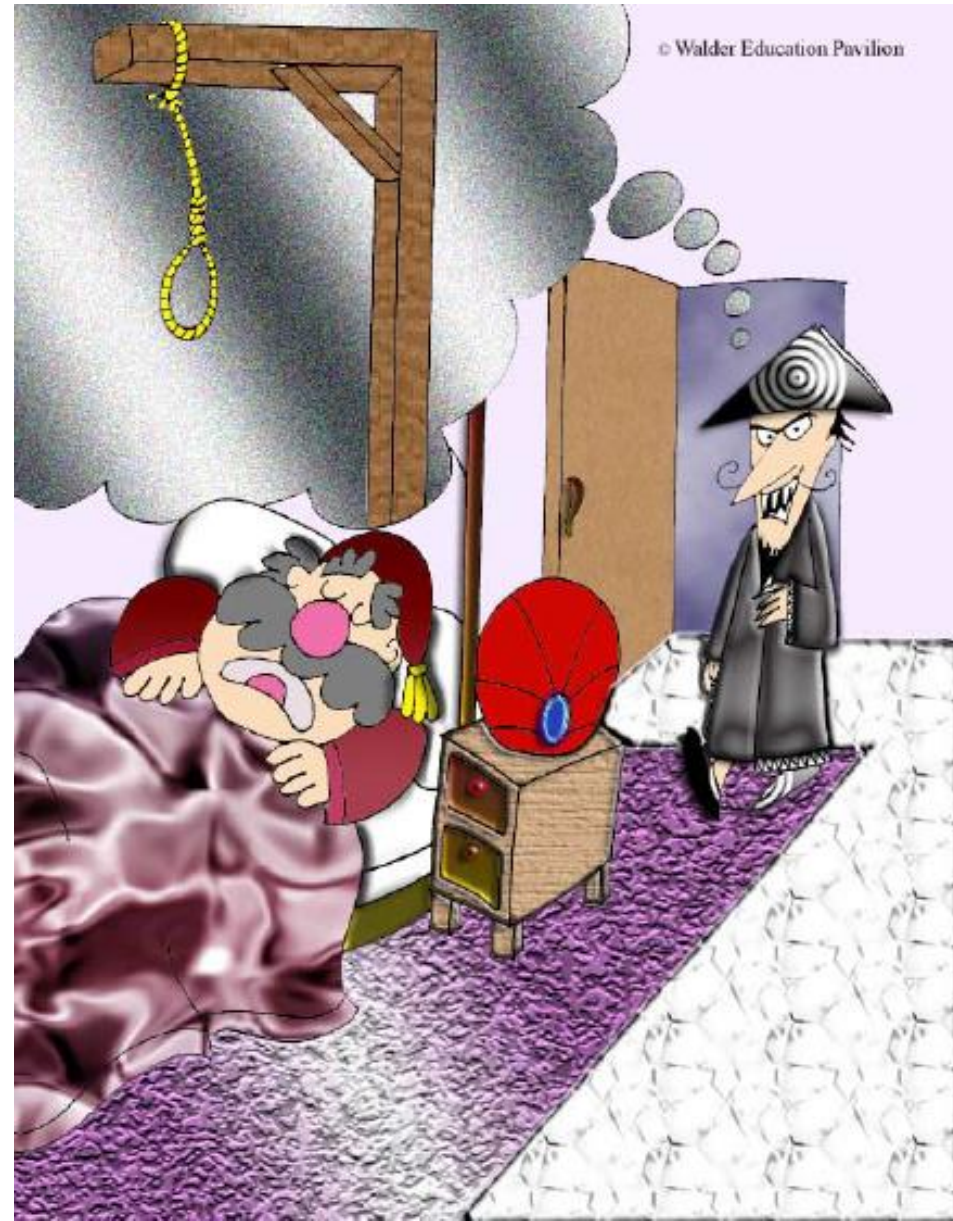
The King had  
trouble sleeping  
that same night  
and he read from a  
special book about  
things that had  
happened in the  
Kingdom.



“Uh, oh! We forgot  
to reward  
Mordechai for  
saving my life!” The  
King said.



Haman couldn't sleep either and went to see the King about his evil plan to hang Mordechai on a big tree.



First, the King  
wanted to reward  
someone special for  
saving his life. To  
Haman's surprise,  
the King rewarded  
Mordechai instead  
of him!



The King told  
Haman to lead  
Mordechai around  
the city on the  
King's horse,  
wearing the King's  
robes.

Haman was very  
angry, but had to  
do it anyway.



Esther invited  
Ahashverosh and  
Haman to a third  
party. Esther cried  
to Ahashverosh  
that an evil man  
wanted to kill her  
and her people.

That man was  
Haman!



The King stopped  
Haman's plan and  
appointed  
Mordechai to be his  
top advisor.



The Jews were  
happy and  
celebrated, while  
the evil Haman and  
his ten sons were  
hanged on the tree.



Every year, we  
remember how

**God** saved the

Jews in these ways:

First, we fast like

Esther and the

Jews on the 13<sup>th</sup> of  
Adar.



That night, after  
fasting, we read  
the Megillah,  
the story of Purim.

The next morning,  
on the 14th of Adar,  
we celebrate by reading  
the Megillah again!



...by giving  
Mishloach Manot



...by giving  
Tzedakah to the  
poor,



...by having a great  
feast with goodies  
and sweets.



# When is Purim?

- *Purim*, our most fun filled holiday, occurs on the 14th day of *Adar*.
- This year, 5773 (2012-2013), *Purim* begins sundown Saturday, February 24, and goes through Sunday evening, February 25.

# What are the 4 Mitzvot of Purim?

- Reading מגילת אסתר (Scroll of Esther)
- משלוח מנות - Sending food to friends
- מתנות לאוניים - Giving gifts to the poor
- סעודת פורים ( meal).

# How Do We Celebrate Purim?

- Tell jokes
- Be silly
- Dress in costumes.
- The entire month of *Adar*, and not just *Purim* itself, is a time for silliness and humor
- "מי שנכנס אדר מרבים בשמחה...."
- "...When Adar arrives, we increase our happiness." (*Ta'anit* 29a).

# Why is Purim Important?

- Purim reminds us that even though there have been too many real-life "Hamans," in the end God never lets our enemies win.

# Megillat Esther

## Chapter 9

**15** So the Jews of Shushan gathered again on the fourteenth day of the month of Adar and [fought] in Shushan, but took none of the spoils.

**16** And the rest of the Jews of the king's provinces gathered and stood up for their lives to relieve themselves of their enemies . . .

**17** On the thirteenth day of the month of Adar, and they rested on the fourteenth day and made it a day of feasting and rejoicing.

**18** And the Jews of Shushan gathered on the thirteenth and fourteenth [of Adar], and rested on the fifteenth and made it a day of feasting and rejoicing.

**19** Thus Jews, those who live in unwalled cities, make the fourteenth day of the month of Adar a holiday, a day of feasting, rejoicing and sending portions of food one to another.

**20** Now Mordechai recorded these events and sent letters to all the Jews living throughout the provinces of King Achashverosh, near and far

**21** [instructing them] to obligate themselves to celebrate annually the fourteenth and fifteenth days of the month of Adar,

# Shushan Purim

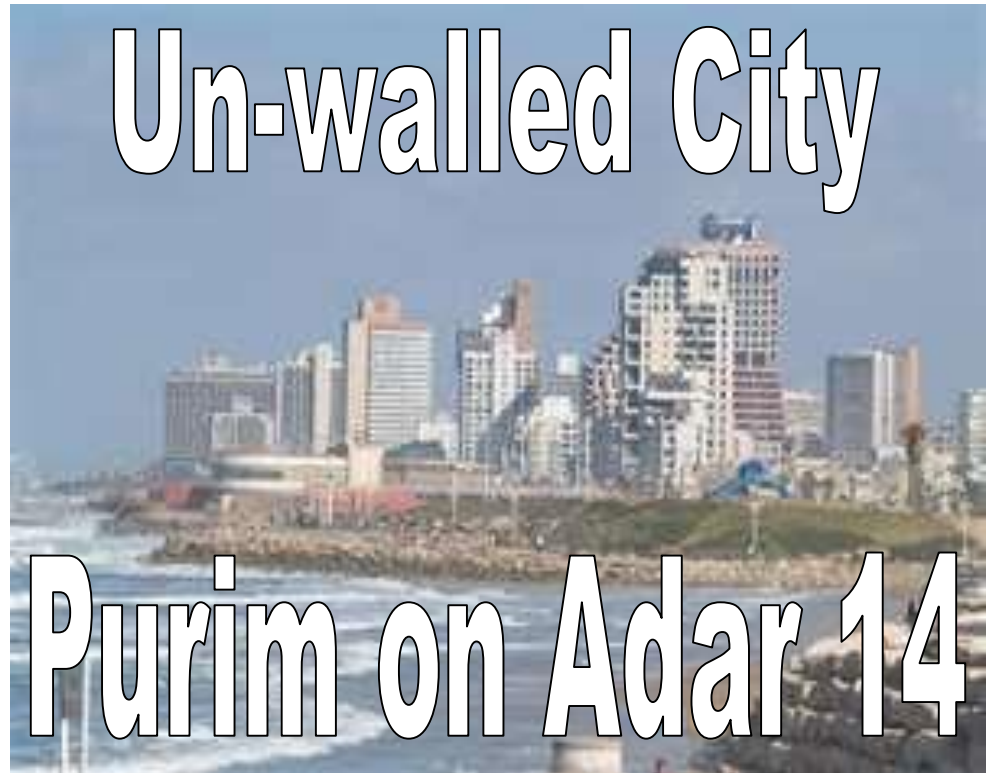
- When the holiday of Purim was set for the 14th of Adar, the rabbis decided that **Shushan** residents should celebrate Purim on the 15th of Adar—the day when the Jews of Shushan celebrated.
- The 15th of Adar is known as “**Shushan Purim.**”
- Along with Shushan (which is located in modern-day southwestern Iran), all cities that were **walled** at the time when the Israelites, under the leadership of Joshua, entered Canaan, observe Purim on the **15th.**
- These cities include **Jerusalem**, **Jaffa** and **Tiberias**
- These cities observe **two** days of Purim.

# Walled City



Purim on Adar 14-15

# Un-walled City



Purim on Adar 14

# Walled City



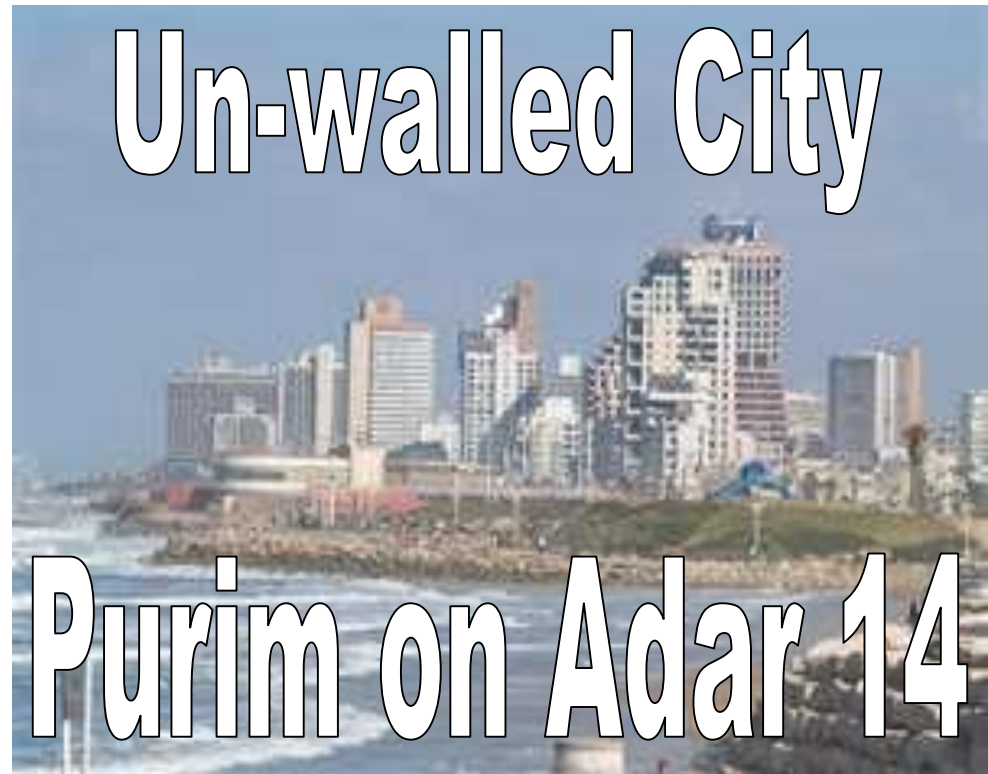
Purim on Adar 14-15

What if the Jew from non-walled city is in a walled city on the fifteenth?

When do these people observe Purim?

What happens if a person from a walled city, happens to be in a non-walled city on the fourteenth?

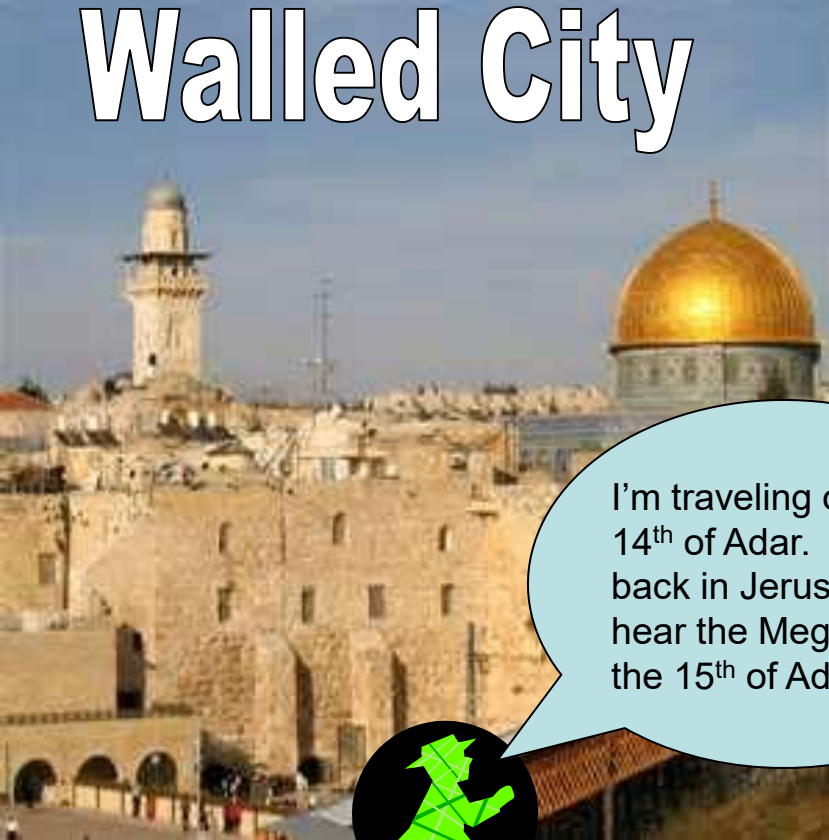
# Un-walled City



Purim on Adar 14

**What is important  
are his plans and his location  
on the morning of Adar 14.**

# Walled City



I'm traveling on the 14<sup>th</sup> of Adar. I will be back in Jerusalem to hear the Megillah on the 15<sup>th</sup> of Adar!



# Un-walled City



Even if his travel plans are changed and he is not able to make it to Jerusalem before the morning of the fourteenth, since he planned to be there, he is considered a Jerusalemite. Even if he were stuck in Tel Aviv on the fifteenth, he would celebrate his Purim then.

# Walled City



However, if on the fourteenth he fully intends to stay over in Jerusalem for Purim, then he is considered as a Jerusalemite. Even if he must leave Jerusalem on the day of the fourteenth and return to Tel Aviv, he observes his Purim there on the fifteenth.

# Un-walled City



I'll be in Jerusalem on the evening of the 14<sup>th</sup> of Adar. I will be back in Tel Aviv to hear the Megillah on the morning of 14<sup>th</sup> of Adar!



# חג פורים שמח!

