

**Mr. Prosper Sabbah
Adat Shalom Synagogue
3030 Westwood Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90034**

December 2012

To Whom It Concerns:

I have known Ben Tisser since he began serving as Cantor of Adat Shalom Synagogue in Los Angeles. From the first day I was aware of his great care for *Nusach Hatefillah* and for being very diligent in his Hebrew pronunciation, which is of course of the utmost importance when praying on behalf of a community.

Getting to know him better, I discovered his master knowledge of the Hebrew language not only with his fluent Hebrew speaking but surprisingly by his capabilities to chant Haftarah with no advance notice, or just to read any Hebrew text/prayer.

Over our three years together, I took great pride in watching him develop as a Hazzan. He prepared our children for bar and bat mitzvah, teaching them not only to chant from the Torah and Haftarah, but often to lead the Torah Service and Musaf as well. He also created a wonderful Junior Cantors club which joined him on occasion to lead Shabbat Shacharit services, as well as developed a cadre of adult lay leaders who led Musaf occasionally.

Cantor Tisser expertly organized lay Torah readers when I was absent and I had on several occasions to hear his own beautiful Torah reading myself. I was always satisfied to know that such great care was taken in my absence. On the High Holy Days, he always led us in songs and prayers with such great *kavannah*, respecting the traditional *nusach* but always encouraging and empowering the congregation to raise their voices in chorus and his warm beautiful voice just was easy to follow and chant along.

Ben participated greatly and organized a few Concerts in our Temple which brought an additional income much needed. We miss him a lot, his great personality and the warmth he projected on everyone, and we still carry on with many of his melodies during the services.

Cantor Ben also took great care to know as many of the members as possible, always stopping to wish each person Shabbat Shalom in the synagogue. He truly cared for all members of the Congregation, regardless of age. He was present at every Shiva home, and was often in the hospitals visiting with sick members. For the few months we were without a Rabbi at the synagogue Cantor Tisser handled affairs wonderfully, delivering divrei Torah (most of the time without notes), officiating at life-cycle events and doing all he could for the benefit of the community, thus showing his "Maitrise" to conduct personally all the services.

Aside from his professional qualities and the wonderful programs he produced, Cantor Tisser and his wife quickly became part of our family. They are a wonderful young couple dedicated to Jewish life and serving as an example of Jewish values to whichever communities they serve. I know that my friend Cantor Ben Tisser will be a great asset to any congregation in search of a Cantor and I highly recommend him.

Please feel free to contact me for more information about my work with Cantor Tisser.

Warmly,

Prosper Chaim Sabbah
Torah Reader/Hazzan Sheini
Replacement Cantor and Rabbi
Adat Shalom Synagogue
Personal Tel : 818-882-9733