



1 DEFINITION AND CONTEXT

Tisha B'Av (the ninth of Av) is the day of the Hebrew calendar that observes the worst tragedies that our people have experienced throughout our history. Among the events that are commemorated on this date are God's sentence upon the generation of Israelites who left Egypt to wander in the desert for forty years before being given access to the Land of Israel, the destruction of the First Temple (586 BCE), the destruction of the Second Temple (70 CE), the Fall of the Fortress of Betar in the times of Bar Kochva (135 CE), and the edict of expulsion of the Jews from Spain (1492 CE), among others. It is worth mentioning that these events led to the perishing of millions of Jews who lost their lives for the mere fact of being Jewish; we also remember them this day.

? DID YOU KNOW?

- In the kenim of Hanoar Hatzioni, three anthems are usually sung: "Anu Olim", "Kadima Hanoar" and Hatikvah. In all three cases we can find the close connection between the exile that our people have suffered (as a result of the destruction of the Temples), its cruel consequences for the Jews throughout the world and our profound vision as a movement to educate our chaverim to return to our Land, Israel, to live a Jewish life as a norm.

אנו עולים

אנו עולים ושרים
על חרבות ופגרים
אנו פוסעים ועוברים
באור ובחשכה.
וביודעים ובלא יודעים
את הדרך נלכה
אנו עולים ושרים
אנו שרים ועולים

We Rise – Translation

We rise and sing,
Over ruins and corpses
We sing and pass
Through light and darkness.
Knowingly or not
We will walk the path.
We sing and rise.

קדימה הנוער

קדימה הנוער, קדימה הנוער
לעליה להתישבות
תכלת לבן הוא דגלנו
חזק ואמץ היא סיסמתנו
קדימה הנוער, הנוער הציוני
כך נשיר וכך נריע
קדימה הנוער, הנוער הציוני.

Forward Hanoar – Translation

Forward Hanoar, Forward Hanoar
To make Aliyah, to settle
Blue and white is our flag
Be strong and have courage! Our motto
Forward Hanoar, Hanoar Hatzioni
This is how we will sing and cheer
Forward Hanoar, Hanoar Hatzioni

התקווה

כל עוד בלבב פנימה
נפש יהודי הומייה
ולפאתי מזרח קדימה
עין לציון צופיה.
עוד לא אבדה תקוותינו
התקווה בת שנות אלפיים
להיות עם חופשי בארצנו
ארץ ציון וירושלים.

The Hope – Translation

As long as in the heart within,
The Jewish soul yearns,
And toward the eastern edges, onward,
An eye gazes toward Zion.
Our hope is not yet lost,
The hope that is two thousand years old,
To be a free nation in our land,
The Land of Zion, Jerusalem.

- In Hanoar Hatzioni, each shichva has its anthem and motto. The anthem of the shichva of Canaim focuses on fighting to eradicate evil and recover our land. Its motto is:

"If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning. If I do not remember thee, let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth." (Psalms 137: 5-6)



VALUES OF THIS DAY OF MOURNING

SELF-EXPRESSION
DIGNITY LEADERSHIP
CONTINUITY FREEDOM
LEARNING RESPONSIBILITY
SANCTITY OF LIFE



SYMBOLS AND CUSTOMS

• MOURNING AND THE READING OF THE BOOK OF LAMENTATIONS (MEGILAT EICHA)

Being a day of mourning in which we commemorate the greatest tragedies that we have experienced as a people, and all the victims who lost their lives as a consequence of these tragedies, the usual rules of Jewish mourning are followed in Tisha B'Av alongside a twenty-five hour fast. Likewise, it is customary to read the Book of Eicha in which the prophet Jeremiah recounts the destruction of Jerusalem after Beit Hamikdash had been destroyed.

"[1] How deserted lies the city, once so full of people! How like a widow is she, who once was great among the nations! She who was queen among the provinces has now become a slave. [2] Bitterly she weeps at night, tears are on her cheeks. Among all her lovers there is no one to comfort her. All her friends have betrayed her; they have become her enemies. [3] After affliction and harsh labor, Judah has gone into exile. She dwells among the nations; she finds no resting place. All who pursue her have overtaken her in the midst of her distress. [4] The roads to Zion mourn, for no one comes to her appointed festivals. All her gateways are desolate, her priests groan, her young women grieve, and she (Jerusalem) is in bitter anguish."



RELATED QUOTES

"Our national entity and cultural baggage sprang up in this land. We were uprooted from it due to turbulent historical circumstances, and we were replanted. We were uprooted from our native soil – a source of culture and survival to any healthy nation – and we returned to put down new roots. Since the destruction of The Second Temple, with which we lost our sovereignty and were deprived of our solid emotional center, our people lived in an anomalous way in the Galut. The existence of the Jews became dependent – both physically and spiritually – on the mercy of the people among whom they lived. Even today, in a more open world, we do not see a possibility of Judaism flourishing in the long term in the Diaspora. The existence of Medinat Israel is the best guarantee for the continuity, the strengthening and the development of the Jewish people. Darkenu



ARTICLES RELATED TO THIS DAY OF MOURNING

"The Jewish People, 'Personal Example'" Mia Rapp, Rosh Chinuch Israel Hatzeira B'Argentina

As young people who are on the way of shaping our identity, of becoming adults, of overcoming crisis and growing up, we often find ourselves confused and lost. In many occasions, we have no hope or think that we are not strong enough. And that is where two key factors emerge and give us a push. On the one hand, Judaism teaches us that we are able to get out of the most challenging crossroads by reflecting, learning from our mistakes and remembering our actions and history. On the other hand, the tnuva shows us the strength that we youths have to achieve our goals, our ideals. It also shows us the ability we have to educate, transmit and create a framework full of values and carry on our shoulders our tnuva with the aspirations of building a better world.

"Tisha B'Av, 'Sinat Chinam' (Baseless Hatred) and a Vision of Continuity", Sergio Edelstein

The concept of "Sinat Chinam" (baseless hatred) is one of the most notorious references in the Jewish narrative and one of the factors that led to the destruction of the Second Temple. We must recognize the consequences that internal struggles, disputes, distrust, inequality and abuse had on our people. And if we do not learn, our own existence may be jeopardized again, and might not get a second opportunity to be rebuilt.

Tisha B'Av must guide us; it must allow us to understand that the Jewish people do not have the privilege of embracing differences of opinion, inequality, indifference and intolerance towards one another, whether they are Jews or non-Jews. And above all, we must avoid the lack of respect, solidarity and compassion.

"The Dream of Aliyah" from The Return to the Land, A.D.Gordon

"Son of Man! Oversee these ruins, pay attention and do not take your eyes off them. Then you will know, by adding realization to your knowledge, that this ruin is the ruin of your soul; its destruction is your own destruction that reigns your life in foreign lands, the destruction to which you have adhered until this day. Keep in mind that your destiny depends on it! And if you sharpen your observation, you will see that underneath these ruins, orphan embers still burn, miraculously saved, as the land's breath strives to revive it. And if you happen to completely abandon the life forged for you by others, the way that you abandoned their land, and come here to build a new life, a life of your own, you will then revive the embers, recovering its flames. Then, you will return to life, and your people and land will be revived."



ZMAN LE PEILUT

HOW DO YOU COMMEMORATE TISHA B'AV IN YOUR KEN?

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