

THE MOURNER'S KADDISH

Kaddish requires a Minyan (a quorum of ten adult male Jews) in Orthodox circles.

Mourners' Kaddish

יִתְגַּדַּל וְיִתְקַדַּשׁ שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא. בְּעֵלְמָא דִּי־יִבְרָא כְרַעוּתָהּ.
וְיִמְלִיךְ מַלְכוּתָהּ בְּתַיִיכוֹן וּבְיוֹמֵיכוֹן זְבַחְיָי דְּכָל־בֵּית
יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּעֵגְלָא וּבְזִמְן קָרִיב. וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן:

Congregation and Mourners

יְהֵא שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא מְבָרַךְ לְעָלְמֵי עֵלְמַיָּא:

Mourners

יִתְבָּרַךְ וְיִשְׁתַּבַּח וְיִתְפָּאֵר וְיִתְרַמֵּם וְיִתְעַשֶּׂא וְיִתְהַדָּד
וְיִתְעַלֶּה וְיִתְהַלַּל שְׁמֵהּ דְּקֻדְשָׁא. בְּרִיד הוּא. לְעֵלְא
מִן־כָּל־בְּרַכְתָּא וְשִׁירְתָּא תְּשַׁבַּחְתָּא וְנַחֲמַתָּא דְּאָמִידוֹן
בְּעֵלְמָא. וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן:

יְהֵא שְׁלָמָא רַבָּא מִן־שְׁמַיָּא וְתַיִים עָלֵינוּ וְעַל־כָּל־
יִשְׂרָאֵל. וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן:

עֲשֵׂה שְׁלוֹם בְּמִרוֹמָיו הוּא יַעֲשֶׂה שְׁלוֹם עָלֵינוּ וְעַל־כָּל־
יִשְׂרָאֵל. וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן:

Yis-ga-dal v'yis-ka-dash sh'may ra-bo,
B'ol-mo dee-v'ro hir-u-say, v'yam-lech mal-hu-say,
B'ha-yay-hon uv-yo-may-hon, uv-ha-yay d'hol hays yis-ro-ayl,
Ba-a-go-lo u-viz'man ko-reev, v'im-ru o-mayn.
Y'hay sh'may ra-bo m'vo-rah, l'o-lam ul-ol-may ol-ma-yo.
Yis-bo-rah v'yish-ta-bah, v'yis-po-ar v'yis-ro-mam,
V'yis-na-say v'yis-ha-dar, v'yis-a-leh, v'yis-ha-lal
sh'may d'kud sho b'rih hu;
L'ay-lo min kol bir-ho-so v'shee-ro-so,
Tush-b'ho-so v'ne-heh-mo-so, da-a-mee-ron b'ol-mo,
V'im-ru o-mayn.
Y'hay sh'lo-mo ra-bo min sh'ma-yo,
V'ha-yeem o-lay-nu v'al kol yis-ro-ayl v'im-ru o-mayn.
O-se sho-lom him-ro-mov hu va-a-se sho-lom

V'ha-yeem o-lay-nu v'al kol yis-ro-ayl v'im-ru o-mayn.
O-se sho-lōm him-rō-mov hu ya-a-se sho-lōm
O-lay-nu v'al kol yis-ro-ayl v'im-ru o-mayn.

MOURNER'S KADDISH

An English Translation

Glorified and sanctified be God's great name throughout the world which He has created according to His will. May He establish His kingdom in your lifetime and during your days, and within the life of the entire House of Israel, speedily and soon; and say, Amen.

May His great name be blessed forever and to all eternity.

Blessed and praised, glorified and exalted, extolled and honored, adored and lauded be the name of the Holy One, blessed be He, beyond all the blessings and hymns, praises and consolations that are ever spoken in the world; and say, Amen.

May there be abundant peace from heaven, and life, for us and for all Israel; and say, Amen.

He who creates peace in His celestial heights, may He create peace for us and for all Israel; and say, Amen.

The Meaning of Kaddish

Having read the translation of the Kaddish Prayer, one should realize that, although Jewish tradition holds that the Kaddish is to be recited during the first eleven months following the death of a loved one by prescribed mourners, and on each anniversary of the death (the "Yahrtzeit"), and by custom in the State of Israel by all Jews on the Tenth of Tevet ("Yom HaKaddish HaKlali"), there is no reference, no word even, about death in the prayer!

The theme of Kaddish is, rather, the Greatness of G-d, Who conducts the entire universe, and especially his most favored creature, each individual human being, with careful supervision. In this prayer, we also pray for peace - from apparently the only One Who can guarantee it - peace between nations, peace between individuals, and peace of mind.

Paradoxically, this is, in fact, the only true comfort in the case of the loss of a loved one. That is, to be able to view the passing of the beloved individual from the perspective that that person's soul

was gathered in, so to speak, by the One Who had provided it in the first place.

As Beruriah, the great wife of Rabbi Meir, consoled her husband, upon the death of their two sons, with words to this effect, "A soul is comparable to an object which was given to us - to each individual, to his or her parents and loved ones, to guard and watch over for a limited time. When the time comes for the object to be returned to its rightful owner, should we not be willing to return it? With regard to our sons, let us therefore consider the matter as 'The L-rd gave, and the L-rd took back, may the Name of the L-rd be Blessed!' "