

## What is Kaddish?

- Kaddish is a very special *tefillah*. This *tefillah* is about Hashem's greatness and holiness. In this *tefillah*, we say that we hope the day will soon come when Mashiach will arrive, and everyone will recognize the greatness of Hashem. The name "קדוש" comes from the word "קדש" – to make holy. When someone says this *tefillah*, he fulfills the important mitzvah of *Kiddush Hashem*, especially as everyone listening hears about the greatness of Hashem.
- Saying Kaddish is like giving a gift to the *niftar*. After someone passes away, his children can do *mitzvos* – like learning Torah and giving *tzedakah* – so that the *zechus* of these *mitzvos* will help the *niftar* in *Shamayim*. By saying Kaddish, the son gives his parent the gift of the tremendous *zechus* that comes from the mitzvah of making a *Kiddush Hashem*.
- Many great *zechusim* come from saying Kaddish. It is a *zechus* for the one saying it because he creates a *Kiddush Hashem*. It is a *zechus* for those who hear Kaddish because they answer "Amein Yehei Shemei Rabba." Of course, it is a *zechus* for the *neshamah* of the *niftar* as well.

## How & When Kaddish is Said

- Kaddish is said by the son(s) of the *niftar*. It is always said with a *minyan*.
- Kaddish is said for the first time at the *levayah*. The son(s) continue to say Kaddish for their parent every day for 11 months.

- The text of the Kaddish recited at a *levayah* differs from that which is included here.
- Sons say Kaddish, while daughters do not.
- Often there is more than one person in *shul* who is an *aveil* who needs to say Kaddish for his loved one. Therefore, there will be many people saying Kaddish together. (In some communities, only one person says each Kaddish.)
- Kaddish is also said every year on the *yahrtzeit*, the date on the Hebrew calendar when the *niftar* passed away.
- *Chazal* teach us to say certain *tefillos* in Aramaic, the same language in which the Gemara was written. Kaddish is one of those *tefillos*.
- Kaddish is said while standing, with one's feet together.
- It is a good idea to practice saying the words of Kaddish either with a friend, *rebbe* or someone older, so that when it is said in *shul*, the words will be more familiar and easier to say.

## Types and Text of Kaddish

- There are two different types of Kaddish that are said by *aveilim*. They are *Kaddish Yasom* and *Kaddish D'Rabbanan*. The two are very similar, however *Kaddish D'Rabbanan* has a few more sentences than *Kaddish Yasom*. They are said at different points in the *davening*.

- Kaddish is said responsively. This means that the one saying Kaddish says a few words, and everyone listening responds by saying "Amein." At one point there is a response beginning with the words, "Amein yehei shemei rabba..." At another point there is a response of "brech hu."
- The full text and translation of these *Kaddeishim* are included here.

## TRUE STORY

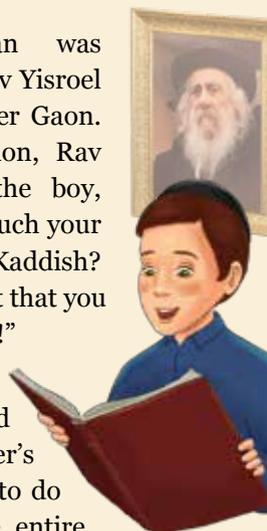
### The Most Precious Gift

A pious Jew passed away, leaving behind a five-year-old son. The boy felt embarrassed to recite the Kaddish prayer and could not be convinced to recite it by any means.

The young orphan was brought to Rav Yaakov Yisroel Kanievsky, the Steipler Gaon. With great compassion, Rav Kanievsky said to the boy, "Do you know how much your father wants your Kaddish? This is the greatest act that you can do for your father!"

The next day, the boy willingly recited Kaddish in his father's merit and continued to do so every day for the entire eleven months.

(L'Ilu Neshamah, p.127)



לע"נ אברהם יצחק בן חיים צבי ע"ה

# סדר קדיש

## THE KADDISH COMPANION



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IN CONJUNCTION WITH:



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# Kaddish Yasom

# קדיש יתום

# Kaddish D'Rabbanan

# קדיש דרבנן

May (Hashem's) great Name be made great and sanctified,  
(Everyone listening says: *Amein*.)

in the world that He created as He desired.

May His kingdom rule

[Some add at this point: and may He begin His redemption and bring His Mashiach near (Everyone listening says: *Amein*.)] during your lives and in your days, and during the lives of the whole family of Klal Yisrael; quickly and soon.

Now say: *Amein*.

(Everyone listening says: *Amein*. May His great Name be blessed forever and ever.)

May His great Name be blessed forever and ever.

Blessed, praised, glorified, exalted, extolled, honored, upraised, and lauded be the Name of (Hashem, Who is) the Holy One, Blessed is He. (Everyone listening says: Blessed is He.)

Lifted up (During the *Aseres Yemei Teshuvah* one says: higher and higher) above any blessing and song,

praise, and comforting words that are said in this world.

Now say: *Amein*. (Everyone listening says: *Amein*.)

May there be much peace from Heaven,

and [Some add at this point: good] life – for us and all of Klal Yisrael.

Now say: *Amein*. (Everyone listening says: *Amein*.)

*Take three steps back, similar to what is done when saying this sentence at the end of Shemoneh Esrei. When taking the three steps back, begin with your left foot.*

(Hashem) Who makes peace

(some say during the *Aseres Yemei Teshuvah*: the peace) up Above,

may He, in His mercy, make peace for us

and all of Klal Yisrael. Now say: *Amein*.

(Everyone listening says: *Amein*.)

*After this sentence is said, take three steps forward.*

Last day to say Kaddish \_\_\_\_\_  
Hebrew date of *yahrtzeit* \_\_\_\_\_

יִתְגַּדֵּל וְיִתְקַדֵּשׁ שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא,  
(קהל: אָמֵן.)

בְּעֲלָמָא דִּי בְרָא כְרַעוּתָהּ,  
וְיִמְלִיךְ מַלְכוּתָהּ

[נוסח ספרד: וְיִצְמַח פְּרֻקְנָהּ

וְיִקְרַב מְשִׁיחָהּ (קהל: אָמֵן)]

בְּחַיֵּינוּ וּבְיָוְמֵינוּ וּבְחַיֵּי  
דְּכָל בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל, בְּעֲגָלָא וּבְזָמַן קָרִיב,  
וְאִמְרוּ אָמֵן:

(קהל: אָמֵן. יְהִי שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא מְבָרַךְ  
לְעֵלָם וּלְעֲלָמֵי עֲלָמֵי־אֵל:

יְהִי שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא מְבָרַךְ לְעֵלָם וּלְעֲלָמֵי עֲלָמֵי־אֵל:

יִתְבָּרַךְ וְיִשְׁתַּבַּח וְיִתְפָּאֵר וְיִתְרוֹמַם וְיִתְנַשֵּׂא

וְיִתְהַדָּר וְיִתְעַלֶּה וְיִתְהַלָּל שְׁמֵהּ דְּקַדְשָׁא

בְּרִיךְ הוּא (קהל: בְּרִיךְ הוּא):

לְעֵלָא מִן כָּל (בעשׂיית: לְעֵלָא וּלְעֵלָא

מִכָּל) בְּרַכְתָּא וְשִׁירְתָּא

תְּשַׁבְּחַתָּא וְנִחְמַתָּא, דְּאִמְרִין בְּעֲלָמָא,

וְאִמְרוּ אָמֵן (קהל: אָמֵן):

יְהִי שְׁלָמָא רַבָּא מִן שְׁמַיָּא,

וְחַיִּים [נוסח ספרד: טוֹבִים]

עֲלֵינוּ וְעַל כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל,

וְאִמְרוּ אָמֵן (קהל: אָמֵן):

עֲשֵׂה שְׁלוֹם

(יש אומרים בעשׂיית: השְׁלוֹם) בְּמְרוֹמָיו,

הוּא יַעֲשֵׂה שְׁלוֹם עֲלֵינוּ

וְעַל כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְאִמְרוּ אָמֵן

(קהל: אָמֵן):

*While saying these words, bow toward the left.*

*While saying these words, bow toward the right.*

*While saying these words, bow forward.*

May (Hashem's) great Name be made great and sanctified,  
(Everyone listening says: *Amein*.)

in the world that He created as He desired.

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above any blessing and song,

praise, and comforting words that are said in this world.

Now say: *Amein*. (Everyone listening says: *Amein*.)

Now, about Klal Yisrael, the rabbis, their students,

all the students of their students,

and anyone who learns Torah –

whether in this place, or in any other place –

they and you should have much peace, favor, kindness, and mercy, long life, plenty of food, and redemption,

coming from their Father Who is in Heaven and on earth.

Now say: *Amein*. (Everyone listening says: *Amein*.)

May there be much peace from Heaven, and [good] life – for us and all of Klal Yisrael. Now say: *Amein*.

(Everyone listening says: *Amein*.)

*Take three steps back, similar to what is done when saying this sentence at the end of Shemoneh Esrei. When taking the three steps back, begin with your left foot.*

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וְאִמְרוּ אָמֵן (קהל: אָמֵן):

עַל יִשְׂרָאֵל וְעַל רַבְּנָן, וְעַל תַּלְמִידֵיהוֹן

וְעַל כָּל תַּלְמִידֵי תַּלְמִידֵיהוֹן,

וְעַל כָּל מָאן דְּעֻסְקִין בְּאִוְרֵיתָא,

דִּי בְּאַתְרָא הָדִין וְדִי בְּכָל אֲתֵר וְאַתֵּר.

יְהִי לְהוֹן וּלְכוּן שְׁלָמָא רַבָּא, חֲנָא וְחֻסְדָּא

וְרַחֲמִין, וְחַיִּין אַרְיִכִין, וּמְזוּנֵי רוּיְחִי, וּפְרֻקְנָא,

מִן קַדְשׁ אֲבוּהוֹן דִּי בְּשְׁמַיָּא וְאַרְעָא,

וְאִמְרוּ אָמֵן (קהל: אָמֵן):

יְהִי שְׁלָמָא רַבָּא מִן שְׁמַיָּא, וְחַיִּים [טוֹבִים]

עֲלֵינוּ וְעַל כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְאִמְרוּ אָמֵן

(קהל: אָמֵן):

עֲשֵׂה שְׁלוֹם

(יש אומרים בעשׂיית: השְׁלוֹם) בְּמְרוֹמָיו,

הוּא בְּרַחֲמֵיו יַעֲשֵׂה שְׁלוֹם עֲלֵינוּ

וְעַל כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְאִמְרוּ אָמֵן

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*After this sentence is said, take three steps forward.*