

## SUPPLEMENT

### *A KINOS PROGRAM FOR TISHA B'AV*

Because Tisha B'Av falls out on a Sunday this year, those coming to shul should have more time to spend reciting Kinot. This presents an opportunity to participate in a very simple Kinot program that may be prove to be very meaningful. Instead of rushing through the Kinot and reciting all of them, a shul can select about 20 of the Kinot to be recited in the following manner. Assign two people to each Kinah to read the Kinot aloud line by line. The first will read each line in Hebrew. The second one will read the English translation for that line. Two editions of the Kinot with English translations are available; the Rosenfeld and the Artscroll. All that is needed to run this program is one copy of either book. If possible someone should present a short introduction to each Kinah<sup>5</sup>. If there is a demand for it, a room can be set aside for women to present a similar program for themselves. I recently posted this suggestion on a Jewish Adult Education Listserv, Dibburim, and received some worthwhile feedback. As you can read from the responses, this type of program is being presented at locations around the world and has met with success.

Hello! Regarding your post about Tish'ah B'av, my experience at Camp Stone in Sugar Grove, Pa., suggests that this format can work very well. I've only been there these past two summers, but I'd encourage you to e-mail Yehuda and Adina Rothner to see how long the camp has been using/developing this format, and how its succeeded so far.

This has been done for a few years already here in Manchester England - very successfully. The crowds attending grow larger each year. It is run by Rabbi Pinny Brandeis head of the OurKids movement here in Manchester. Both men and ladies come and the service ends at chatzos. Certainly injects a lot of meaning into the kinnot reading and enriches the spiritual experience of the day.

I live in a chareidi community where it doesn't matter on which day of the week Tisha B'Av falls, it is always taken just as seriously and at the same pace. The shul is packed on both sides of the michitza for Eicha, but in the morning, women do not usually attend. There are women who would like to do something in addition to fasting and many daven and read some kinot on their own, but some have wanted to do something together, so, for the

5. If the Ribbono Shel Olam provides me the time and the strength, I will try to prepare a short introduction for some selected Kinot.

past several years we have gotten together in the late morning to read Eicha out loud in English along with some selected kinos, in English. We go around the room, each taking a turn for a perek or a paragraph. Usually someone facilitates it and leads a bit of discussion too. It is amazing how many readers break down in tears as they say the words and that helps everyone else cry too. The younger mothers don't usually attend so the room is filled with women from about 40-80 years of age. By that life stage everyone has suffered significantly and most of us have shared in others suffering as well. We cry for what we read as we think about women who were desperate enough to eat their own children, and for what we are going through, and for what we know lies ahead. And we are thankful to be in a community where we can cry together.

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Perhaps if we make an attempt to understand and appreciate the Kinos, the רבוננו של עולם will hasten the coming of the גאולה במהרה בימינו.

אמן. כן יהי רצון.