

Mourning on Shabbat, Festivals and other Holy Days

Ref: *Sefer Shoftim, Hilchot Evel, Chapters 10–11*

MOURNING ON SHABBAT AND YOM TOV

- *Shabbat* is counted as one of the days of mourning. However, all the public matters of mourning are nullified e.g. can wear clean cloths etc. The private matters e.g. marital relations are still not allowed.
- On *Yom Tov, Rosh Hashanah* and *Yom Kippur*, no mourning rites are kept.
 - If burial takes place before *Yom Tov*, the 7 days of mourning are nullified.
 - If burial takes place 7 days before *Yom Tov*, then the 30 days mourning become nullified.
 - When a person buries his dead on 2nd day of a *Yom Tov* which is final day of the Holiday, although he does not observe mourning restrictions because this is a *Yom Tov Derabanan*, nevertheless, he may already begin to count the 7 days of mourning. This is not the case with Rosh Hashanah.
 - Other more complicated factors affecting calculation of days of mourning.

MOURNING ON CHOL HAMOED (INTERMEDIATE DAYS OF YOM TOV)

Also

- *Chanukah*
- *Purim*
- *Rosh Chodesh*
- Wedding celebrations (7 days)

TEARING GARMENTS

Even although mourning rites do not take place on *Shabbat, Yom Tov* etc, on *Chol HaMoed* garments are torn if death takes place then. We also bring meal of comfort to the mourner. *Chanukah, Purim, Rosh Chodesh*.

We observe mourning rites but do not deliver eulogies (*hespedim*).

7 DAYS OF WEDDING

These are comparable to a *Yom Tov* i.e. 7 days of celebration should be completed before mourning starts. But thereafter full 7 days of mourning etc take place.

	<i>Shabbat</i>	<i>Yom Tov</i>	<i>Rosh Hashanah</i>	<i>Yom Kippur</i>	<i>Chol HaMoed</i>	<i>Chanukah</i>	<i>Purim</i>	<i>Rosh Chodesh</i>	<i>Sheva Brachot</i> (marriage – 7 days)
Public items of mourning observed i.e. not wearing clean clothes etc	x May wear shoes, greet people etc	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	

Private items of mourning observed e.g. washing with hot water, marital relations etc	✓	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓
Counted as a day of the mourning	✓	x but sometimes nullifies further days	x but sometimes nullifies further days	x but sometimes nullifies further days	x but sometimes nullifies further days	✓	✓	✓	
<i>Kriyah</i> (tearing)	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Bread of comfort	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	
<i>Hespedim</i> (eulogies)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Women lamenting (<i>meanot</i>)	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Women pounding hands (<i>metapchot</i>)	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	
<i>Hesped</i> for Torah scholar	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Death occurs in middle of <i>Yom Tov</i> or <i>Sheva Brachot</i>		No mourning <i>Yom Tov</i> but counts full 7 and 30 days after <i>Yom Tov</i>							Same as for <i>Yom Tov</i>