


Chevra Kadisha Committee  
of Young Israel Congregation  
of North Netanya

# Burial in Netanya



«In times of sorrow  
a kind word and a helping hand  
can bring much-needed comfort»

As a congregation we know the help we can give to all persons in mourning, be it by attending the funeral, visiting the mourners while they are sitting Shiva, attending services at the Shiva house or helping with meals for the mourners. The care shown at this time is greatly appreciated and is its own satisfaction.

Members have asked  
to be made aware of the  
procedure and customs surrounding  
the unfortunate event of the passing away  
of a dear relative.

They have also expressed some concern as to the practice of the Chevra Kadisha of Netanya concerning "burial in depth" (also referred to as "layer burial") in the cemetery at Vatikim, Netanya.

This booklet aims to help members deal with logistical concerns, advise them of the rights, burial costs and any other relevant details, and provide information about customs and laws surrounding burial and mourning.

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## First steps in event of death

**1** The family should inform Eze Silas or Alan Gold or in absence of both call Ken Bender. Phone numbers below. The YINN Chevra Kadisha will get in touch with the Chevra Kadisha of Netanya and arrange for their representative to see the family as soon as possible. *(more on page 7)*

**2** If death occurs at home call Magen David Adom: Phone **101**) *(more on page 10)*

## The YINN Chevra Kadisha Committee

Eze Silas	09-862 8737 054 459 3209
Alan Gold	050 215 0697
Ken Bender	053 373 3865
Phyllis Carr	077 456 3798 052 379 0740
Vivienne Simenoff	09 884 1557 054 761 2763



## Burial in Depth and Single Burial



Because of lack of space in the cemetery the Chevra Kadisha started burial in depth from January 2012. New regulations were brought into effect around Succot 2020. The double burial scheme which existed until Succot 2020 has been extended to three graves on top of one another, which will be further extended to four graves. A suggested alternative of burial in walls is not accepted by the Chevra Kadisha.

It is not possible to reserve a plot in one's lifetime. The choice of reservation only applies on the death of the first of a married couple or on the death of a single person. An exception may be made in rare circumstances e.g. a person with no relatives who can arrange his/her burial after death.

If members already have a reserved plot or plots these will be honoured by the Chevra Kadisha and burials will take place in the reserved plot or plots.

In the case of married couples, the present practice of the Chevra Kadisha, when they are called to deal with the funeral arrangements of the first spouse to die, is to tell the family that there is no longer a choice of burial side by side. The Chevra are subject to regulations made by the Iriya which allows only the following alternatives:

- (a) The deceased will be buried in a grave twelve feet below ground with reservation of the top tier for the surviving spouse. The present reservation fee for the top tier is ₪ 6,400.
- (b) The deceased can be buried in a single plot at a cost of ₪ 20,000. The plot next to the burial plot cannot be reserved. When the surviving spouse dies, he/she can choose to be buried in a separate plot elsewhere in the cemetery costing ₪ 20,000 (or more if the cost of a single plot has gone up in the interim) or buried free of charge in a double plot with someone of the same gender and of the same level of observance e.g. a Shomer/Shomeret Shabbat in the grave of another Shomer/Shomeret.

*Decision on the alternatives must be made at the time of planning the first burial.*

In the case of a single person, the present practice of the Chevra Kadisha is that there is the choice of burial in a single plot at a cost of ₪ 20,000 or to be buried free of charge in a double plot with someone of the same gender and of the same level of observance e.g. a Shomer/ Shomeret in the grave of another Shomer/Shomeret.

## Notes

- 1 The Mitzva of Tahara is not carried out by members of the Congregation. It is carried out by the Chevra Kadisha of Netanya.
- 2 There is no charge for burial in Netanya of citizens of Netanya or for Jewish visitors who die in Netanya. This is a different matter to fees for graves as mentioned above.
- 3 Visitors who die in Netanya must satisfy the Chevra Kadisha of their Jewish identity. When the Jewish

## Notes (continued)

identity is established, the visitor is buried free in a multiple plot. If the visitor is a single Israeli and dies in Netanya he/she is buried free in a multiple plot. If he/she is married, a double plot will be made available at a cost of ₪ 7,400 and the plot above can be reserved for the spouse at a cost of ₪ 6,400 .

- 4 If a resident of Netanya or a person who dies in Netanya wishes to be buried in another city e.g. Jerusalem, arrangement has to be made with the Chevra Kadisha of that city, and such payment made to them as may be required.
- 5 A resident of another city in Israel who dies outside of Netanya may be buried in Netanya only if he/she has an immediate relative e.g. a spouse, parent, sibling or child buried in the cemetery. Burial will be in a multiple plot costing ₪ 20,000. If that person has a spouse who also wishes to be buried in the cemetery, then a separate double plot will be made available for the couple at a further cost of ₪ 9,000. This must be arranged at the time of the first burial.
- 6 A person who dies abroad will only be eligible to be buried in the Netanya cemetery if he/she has an immediate relative e.g. a spouse, parent, sibling or child buried in the cemetery, The burial will be in a multiple plot costing ₪ 48,000. If the person has a spouse who wishes to be buried in the cemetery the couple can be buried in a double plot costing ₪ 96,000. This must be arranged at the time of the first burial.
- 7 In the case of 5 and 6, the money does not have to be paid immediately. There must be an initial payment and the rest secured in some way e.g. a bank guarantee or credit card.

- 8 All payments mentioned above can be made in five installments by postdated cheques or credit card.
- 9 All figures mentioned above are those currently in force and are subject to change.
- 10 The family should keep all receipts and certificates issued.
- 11 The main car park of the cemetery is always open. Access on foot to the graves is possible at all times. For cars to go into the sections of the graves, the opening hours are:

*In summer:*

Sunday to Thursday: 8.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m.

Friday and Erev Yom Tov: 8.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m.

*In winter:*

Sunday to Thursday: 8.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

Friday and Erev Yom Tov: 8.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.



## Tombstones



Customs vary regarding the time to set the tombstone. The choice of the stonemason is that of the family. For those who require English-speaking stonemasons the following are available:

Mr. Benny Winkler	09 832 1299 and 09 882 4710
Mr. Yehuda Akiva	050 762 5325
Mr. Yochanan Nalkin	09 862 5834 and 054 464 1752

The stonemason advises on the tombstone's type and height, which is acceptable to the Chevra Kadisha. Catalogues are also available to assist in the choice.

In addition to the cost of the tombstone, the stonemason charges a fee of ₪ 600 for setting a single tombstone in the cemetery. For a tombstone where there is to be a burial in depth, the charge is ₪ 1000. If a tombstone is already on a double plot, the second tombstone is charged at ₪ 500. The stonemason requires the family to pay the fee when the stone is ordered.

**Note:** The above fees are subject to change

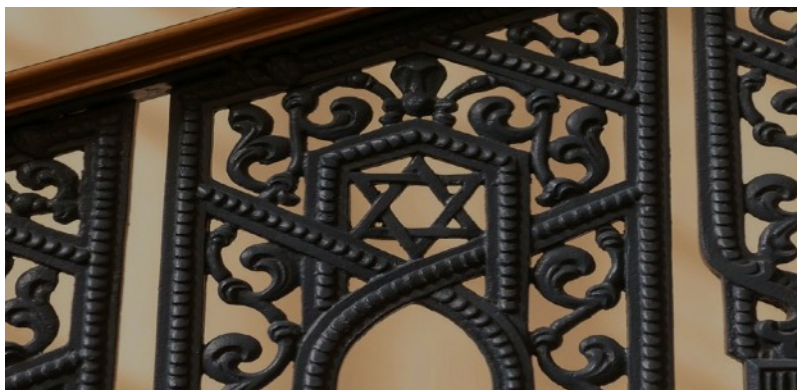
The cost of the tombstone itself is separate depending on each family's choice, and is paid to the stonemason. Before



ordering the tombstone it could be helpful for the family to go to the cemetery and take photographs of the types available, their lettering and wording. You can then discuss these with the stonemason to help decide on the one you require.

In the case of a burial in depth, on the death of the surviving spouse the tombstone will need to be lifted by the stonemason who originally set the tombstone to enable that burial, which will be replaced after the second burial. The family must make these arrangements with the stonemason and pay the fee which they agree with him.

## Procedure and Customs



- 1 In the event of a death, the family should inform me or Alan Gold or in the absence of both of us the contact is Ken Bender. We contact the Chevra Kadisha and arrange for their representative to see the family as soon as possible to sign the papers for the burial. The family need to have available the Teudat Zehut of the person who has died.
- 2 The family should be prepared to give the following information to the Chevra Kadisha at the time a funeral is being arranged:

- (i) Whether there is a reserved plot in the cemetery
- (ii) Whether the deceased is a Cohen or the wife of a Cohen
- (iii) If wheelchair access to the grave is required by any member of the family

In cases (ii) and (iii), this will enable the Chevra Kadisha to arrange a plot adjoining a pathway so family members can access the grave

- (iv) The election of single or double burial - see **Burial in Depth and Single Burial** above
- (v) If there is a special reason for a delay in the funeral e.g. a close member of the family travelling from abroad

3 The Chevra Kadisha require a certificate that the deceased is Shomer/Shomeret Shabbat if it is desired for the person to be buried in the religious section of the cemetery. I, or another Committee member, will arrange for the Rabbi of the Shul to provide this certificate

4 Instead of a member of the family having to obtain the Certificate of Burial from the Iriya and going to the offices of the Chevra Kadisha to make the arrangements for a funeral, we contact an individual who, for a fee of ₪ 400, does all this and makes the arrangements after discussion with the family (and the Rabbi of the Shul if he is able to attend)

5 The Shul lays out ₪ 300, which it has been the custom to give to the gravediggers, and recovers it from the family later

6 There are no other payments for the burial unless the family wish to have the body brought to the Synagogue

or the deceased's home before the burial (for hespedim or for any other reason) before being taken to the cemetery. The Chevra Kadisha's present charge is ₪ 1000 for this service.

- 7 Keri'ah is normally cut at the cemetery just before the funeral. For a parent the keri'ah is on the left side of the garment (over the heart). For other relatives keri'ah is on the right side of the garment. After the initial cut, the mourner should tear the garment downward approx. 8 centimeters (approx. 3.5 inches). For reasons of modesty, a woman may pin up or cover the tear or crudely sew up the incision. It is also permissible for keri'ah for a woman to be performed in the privacy of her home before departure for the cemetery.
- 8 Burial is not in a coffin. The deceased is wrapped in shrouds, placed on a pallet, and then draped until arrival at the graveside.

## Death in Hospital



- (i) If the person dies in a hospital or a bet avot in Netanya, the Chevra Kadisha remove the body for Tahara and bring it to the cemetery without charge.
- (ii) If the person dies in a hospital outside of Netanya, the charges for an ambulance to bring the body to Netanya are:

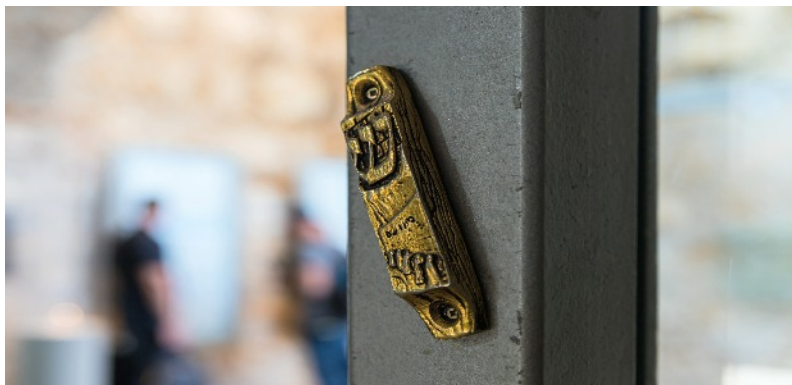
- ₪ 610 from Meir Hospital, Kfar Saba
- ₪ 645 from Ichilov Hospital, Tel Aviv
- ₪ 710 from Sheba Tel Hashomer Hospital, Ramat Gan
- ₪ 730 from Beilinson Hospital, Petach Tikva
- ₪ 530 from Hillel Jaffe Hospital, Hadera

If elsewhere, the charges need to be checked at the time.

In the case of all deaths, the fee for the person who assists us in this service and other matters (see below: **Death at Home**) should be paid by the family at the time of making the burial arrangements, but if this is inconvenient the person trusts us to get the money from the family later and pass it on to him.

**Note:** All charges above are subject to change

## Death at home



*Shutterstock Dmitriy Feldman svarshik*

Call **Magen David Adom (phone 101)** if a death occurs at home. Do not be surprised if MDA call the Police. This is a necessary precaution when a death occurs at home. The body should not be moved until after the Police have issued a certificate. When they have the certificate, the family should call me, Alan or Ken in that order (if they have not already notified us when the death has occurred)



to arrange for the Chevra Kadisha to come to the home. The body should not be moved but only covered until the Chevra Kadisha arrive to take away the body.

The Chevra Kadisha will remove the body for Tahara and bring it to the cemetery at no charge if this is between the hours of 4.00 p.m. and 8.00 a.m.

From 8.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. we contact an individual who provides this service privately, for which he charges ₪ 450. The procedure is then as in Procedure and Customs above.

## Death at home on Shabbat or Yom Tov



*Torah.org*

If the death occurs at home on Shabbat or Yom Tov the body should not be moved (it can be covered) and the same procedure of Magen David Adom and Police has to be followed.

After the Police give their certificate, if there is only a short time to the end of Shabbat or Yom Tov the body should not be moved but only covered until one of our Committee can call the Chevra Kadisha.

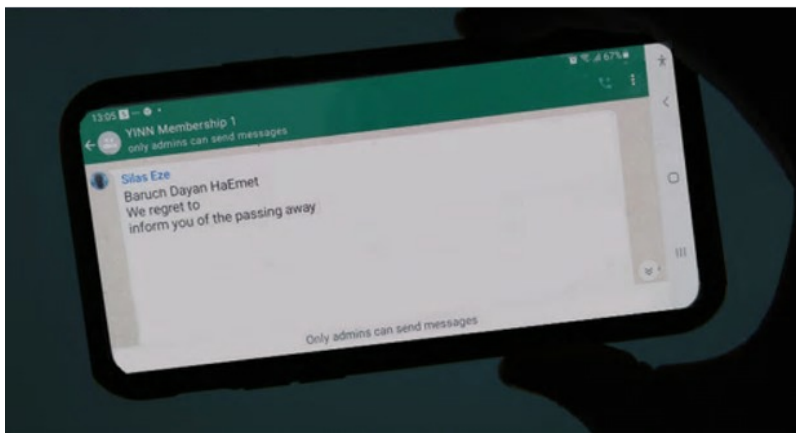
If, however, there is a long time till the end of Shabbat or Yom Tov e.g. Friday night or Shabbat and Yom Tov following

one another, the family may, if they wish, call the Shabbat goy of the Chevra Kadisha and he will arrange to remove the body to the Laniado Hospital mortuary (cold room).

The Shabbat goy is Eitan - phone no. **050 930 2121**. If he does not answer the telephone, call his brother on **050 883 7588**. One should try and get a non-Jew to make telephone calls on Shabbat and Yom Tov. The Bituach Leumi pay for this removal service.

After Shabbat or Yom Tov the family should call a Committee member who will arrange for the Chevra Kadisha to come and make the funeral arrangements.

## Funeral and Shiva Notices



*Notice by WhatsApp*

English notices of the funeral and Shiva and times of services at the Shiva house are prepared by the Committee and also appear on the Shul website. If the family wishes to have Hebrew notices, they can request this from the Chevra Kadisha when the funeral arrangements are made. Notices to appear in the Jerusalem Post should be sent to them by e-mail: [ads@jpost.com](mailto:ads@jpost.com) or by telephone: 03 761 9002 or by fax: 03 561 0771. The internet site address for the Jerusalem Post is [www.jpost.com/ads](http://www.jpost.com/ads).

## Coach

If the family require a coach to take people to the cemetery, one of our Committee can arrange this. The cost of a coach to Vatikim cemetery is presently ₪ 700 (sometimes an additional amount is charged for Fridays or for funerals at night) plus a tip of ₪ 50 for the driver. The Shul lays this out for re-imbursement by the family after the Shiva or Shloshim.

## Stone Setting



To make arrangements for a stone setting please contact a Committee member. The family should also contact the Rabbi to arrange a suitable time if his presence is required. The family should ensure the tombstone's wording is correct before the stone is prepared.

The stonemason requires the family to sign off the approved wording before preparing the stone. The family should also be in touch with the stonemason to ensure the stone is in position before the ceremony and, if possible, attend at the cemetery before the date of the stone setting to make sure that the stone is in order.

English notices of the stone setting are prepared by the Committee and posted on the Shul notice boards. The

notice also appears on the Shul website ([www.yinn.org](http://www.yinn.org)). A WhatsApp notice is also sent to the community informing them of the details of the stone setting. A coach can be arranged by the Committee if desired by the family. The cost of a coach for the stone setting is the same as mentioned above for a funeral.

After a stone setting ceremony, the family can have a L'Chaim in the Shul lobby or the hall. Arrangements should be made with Betty Wahnnon (Tel: 054 789 5887) who will advise on the charge for the hall (there is no charge for the lobby) and for the provision of refreshments.

## Death Certificate



- ☆ The Misrad Ha'pnim (Ministry of Interior) normally send the certificate by post to the family's address a month after the funeral.  
If required earlier, a family member can obtain the certificate and certified copies from the Misrad Ha'pnim (2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Beit Remez, Remez Street, Netanya) a week or two after the shiva.
- ☆ The members of the family must take their Teudat Zehut with them.
- ☆ The certificate should be checked thoroughly as there have been mistakes that have had to be rectified later.



☆ One should ask for as many copies as anticipated may be required. Copies are provided free of charge.

☆□ If one needs a copy of the certificate in English, a translation can be obtained:

(1) free from H.O.B in Netanya

(2) free from the American Embassy for American citizens

(3) from an attorney for a fee

Some countries e.g. The United Kingdom require to see the original certificate which they will then return.

## Shiva Customs



*The Mourners (Sitting Shiva) by Emmanuel Levy (1900–1986)*

*Courtesy of the Ben Uri Collection, London.*

*Copyright the Estate of the artist.*

Customs vary in different communities. Mourners should refer to the book of customs on death and mourning which we provide for each Shiva.

I hope that this explanation will allow members and their family to discuss their wishes between themselves at their own convenience to be able to make decisions when the time comes. This will avoid the pressure of having to decide when the family is distressed from losing a loved one.

Members should know that the Committee is here to help with all arrangements at these unfortunate times. We try and remove as many anxieties as possible by supporting aveilim and their families from the time a death is reported up to the end of the Shiva and again in connection with any stone-setting held locally. Our support services include arranging funeral times, sending a WhatsApp message and a message on the Shul website ([www.yinn.org](http://www.yinn.org)), informing members of a funeral and Shiva



details, posting notices in the Shul and on our website, and booking a coach if required. In the summer months a pergola is available to shade people attending tombstone settings.

We also provide the meal for the mourners after the funeral, and meals for them during the Shiva if required.

Please contact me if any member would like me to visit them to discuss these matters, or speak to them over the telephone.

I would like to thank everyone who assists the Committee in its work.

I also thank everyone who has helped with their comments and suggestions and for their work in producing this booklet.

Eze Silas  
Chairman of the YINN Chevra  
Kadisha Committee  
February 2024 / Adar א 5784

# The Vatikim Cemetery of Netanya



Parking area



Meeting point



Levayah timetable



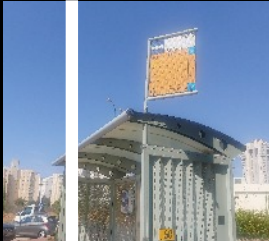
Funeral hall



Rear of Funeral Hall



נְטִילַת יְדֵיִים



Good bus connections...



... from/to YINN



Car access to the graves

This booklet has been sponsored by Vivienne and Charlie Simenoff and dedicated in memory of the Kleemann family of Wurtzburg as well as all those who perished in the Holocaust and were not given the dignity of a proper burial.



# The Vatikim Cemetery - how to get there



Chevra Kadisha Committee of  
Young Israel Congregation of North Netanya

Phone: 054 45 93 209

email: silaseze@gmail.com website: <https://www.yinn.org/>