

Torah Trope

Fall 2015

Objectives:

At the end of this class, the participant will have an understanding of the history of trope, the purpose of trope, and an awareness of trope melodies used on different occasions; know the names and melodies of the trope notes for Torah; be able to apply trope to a Torah portion; prepare a short portion to read from the Torah for a Shabbat morning service; understand the bimah “choreography” used during the Torah service.

Outline:

Terms

- a. Trope
 - b. Ta’am/ta’amei
 - c. K’ryiah
 - d. Leyning
1. What does trope look like? (V’ahavta/Haftarah blessing)
 2. When was trope “invented”?
 3. Importance of vowels
 4. What does trope do?
 - a. Accents
 - b. Phrasing
 - c. Melody
 5. Different melodies for different occasions (Torah, Haftarah, High Holidays, Five megillot (Esther, Lamentations, Song of Songs, Ecclesiastes, Ruth))
 6. Names, shapes, and meanings of trope notes.
 7. Learn melodies for each trope note
 8. Learn how to apply the melody to Hebrew words
 9. Preparing a Torah portion
 10. Review Torah blessings; bimah choreography

References and Resources:

1. Trope Trainer (Kinnor.com)
2. The Art of Torah Cantillation (Cantor Marshall Portnoy and Cantor Josee Wolff)
3. Chanting the Hebrew Bible (Joshua R. Jacobson)
4. Workshop notes from Cantor Neil Schwartz (newCAJE 2011)
5. Davka Writer (Davkawriter.com)
6. Siddur Sim Shalom (The Rabbinical Assembly, 1985)
7. Etz Hayim (The Rabbinical Assembly, 2001)
8. Flashcardmachine.com
9. <https://bethmeyer.org/content/bnai-mitzvah-resources-students>
<https://bethmeyer.org/content/torah-trope-class-resources>
10. Learntrope.com (hand signals)
11. Bible.ort.org
12. Parashat HaShavua (URJ Press)