

Birkat haKohanim
"The Priestly Blessing"
Numbers 6:24-26

The following section is called, "The Priestly Blessing," because the Priests (in Hebrew, "Kohanim"), would, at this point in the Temple service following the sacrifice, bless the people as they were commanded to do in the book of Numbers (6:24-26). Outside of Israel, this blessing is read by the service leader except on festivals, when descendants of the Kohanim come before the congregation to carry out this ancient charge. In Israel it is done by Kohanim every Shabbat as well, and in Jerusalem, every day. This blessing is now said every week by parents as they bless their children. *Kohanim* and *b'not Kohanim* (daughters of Kohanim) remove their shoes, place a tallit over their heads, and make the letter "shin" (for Shalom) with their hands.

אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ וְאִמּוֹתֵינוּ
בְּרַכְנוּ בְּבִרְכָה הַמְּשֻׁלֶּשֶׁת הַכְּתוּבָה בַּתּוֹרָה

ElOheynu vElOhey avoteynu v'imoteynu
barchenu bab'rachah ham'shuleshet hak'tuvah baTorah:
Our G0d and G0d of our fathers and mothers,
bless us with the threefold benediction in the Torah:

Kohanim and b'not Kohanim:

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם
אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּקִדְּשָׁתוֹ
שֶׁל אַהֲרֹן וְצִוָּנוּ לְבָרֵךְ אֶת עַמּוֹ יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּאַהֲבָה

Baruch atah Ad0nai ElOheynu Melech ha'olam,
asher kid'shanu bik'dushato
shel aharon vitzivanu l'varech et amo Yisrael b'ahavah.

You are Praised, Ad0nai,
for consecrating us

with Aaron's sanctity and commanding us to bless Your people Israel lovingly .

יְבָרְכֶךָ וְיִשְׁמְרֶךָ

Y'vorechecha Ad0nai v'yishm'recha
Ad0nai blesses you and guards you.

Congregation:

כֵּן יְהִי רָצוֹן

Ken y'hi ratzon
Be this G0d's will!

יָאֵר יְיָ פָּנָיו אֵלֶיךָ וַיְחַנֶּנֶךָ

Ya'er Ad0nai panav elecha vichuneka
Ad0nai smiles graciously toward you.

Congregation:

כֵּן יְהִי רָצוֹן

Ken y'hi ratzon

Be this G0d's will!

יְשָׁא יי פָּנָיו אֵלֶיךָ וַיַּשֵּׁם לְךָ שְׁלוֹם

Yisa Ad0nai panav elecha v'yasem l'cha shalom.

Ad0nai pays attention to you and grants you peace.

Congregation:

כֵּן יְהִי רָצוֹן

Ken y'hi ratzon

Be this G0d's will!