

Tisha B'Av is not primarily about the Temple – *Chaza"l*, the rabbis, figured out how to live without the Temple long ago. Rather, *Tisha B'Av* is about homelessness, fleeing from war into famine, being thrown into a hostile world without shelter or protection – things all too present in our world. It's an opportunity empathize, to confront the ways we abuse our power, as individuals, as a society, as a people, and as a species, turning other people, and other species, into refugees.

This year, *Tisha B'Av* is especially weighty. Deaths from the COVID plague increase wherever political leadership is slow to face reality. So many suffer the loss of community, wealth, and mental well-being. In the U.S., many believe letting elders die is an acceptable cost for revving the economy. And as the world struggles to face racism, the U.S. government concentrates brown immigrants and refugees in detention camps, where their lives are endangered by COVID, while the corrosive legacy of slavery is still killing Black people in the U.S. And with all this, as Jews we face growing anti-Semitism.



New this year from neohasid: Use the Omer Counter app to count the seven weeks and Sefirot between *Tisha B'Av* and *Rosh Hashanah*. For info go to:

neohasid.org/omer/apps/

Stop KKL-JNF from making the Sumarin family in East Jerusalem homeless!

Find out more: neohasid.org/sumarin/

Laments איכה

Translations of *Eikhah* for our world

<http://neohasid.org/resources/laments>



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www.margaretadamsparker.com
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This work is dedicated to all refugees

