



Baby Naming Ceremony for Noa Sylvie (Sivan) F
October 28, 2007

- Noa Sylvie (Sivan) was born on August 22nd, 2007 or 8 Elul 5767.
- **Leila** opens by providing a brief description of the Jewish tradition of naming a baby, and the importance of a Hebrew name.
- **A Blessing of the Senses** - Leila (Ayal, Bobbi & Renen also participate)

- **TOUCH:** (the baby's hands are washed)

Reader: May you always feel gentle touch as you go through life and may your touching of others always be loving and gentle.

- **VISION:** (the baby is wrapped in the *tallit* of Bobbi's grandpa Irving)

Reader: As the rainbow is the first sign of a new world of peace and harmony, so may you delight in the colors in all Life before you. We wrap you and your family in light and colors as shelter and protection.

- **SOUND:** (A song is sung to the baby)

Hinei ma tov u-ma na'im shevet achim gam yachad!

How good and pleasant it is for brothers and sisters to dwell together!

Reader: May the sounds you hear be harmonies for all the melodies of your life. May the sound of blessing flow through your ears and reach into your heart.

- **TASTE:** (The baby is given a taste of sweet grape juice)

Reader: May sweetness and joy and this sharing of the fruit of the vine awaken in you a taste for life.

- **SMELL:** (The baby is given a whiff of a spice box)

Reader: May the fragrance of beauty and peace surround you.

- **Why Noa Sylvie**

1. Meeting her: "She looks like Noa." – Bobbi
2. Her middle name, Sylvie – Ayal and Malke

- **The Story of Five Daughters (in the Book of Numbers)**

After 40 years of wandering in the desert, the people of Israel prepared to enter the Promised Land. Everyone was to have a piece of land, except the women. That was the law and no one questioned it. No one except the daughters of Zelophehad. Noa was one of the five "daughters of Z."

Just prior to entering the Promised Land, the sisters decided to address the law because their father had passed away and they had no brothers. They went to their leaders to ask for "what is just and right." Judges refused their plea. The daughters then went to Moses who chose not to make a decision. Instead, he called on the sisters to take their plea to God. God heard Noa and her sisters' plea and said it was just.

And so, according to God's command to Moses, "If a man dies without leaving a son, his property shall belong to his daughter." Noa and her sisters spoke to God and helped make a new law for all the people.

- **The Significance of 8**

During the 8th month, Noa was born shortly after 8AM. She weighed 8 pounds (and was 20 inches). By some coincidence, the number of letters in her first and last name is also 8. And so, we can proudly say that on the 8th day, Noa was created. What is the significance of the Number 8 in Judaism:

- 8 is 7 plus 1. If 7 is completion, and the 7th Day is the Sabbath, the sanctity inherent in the world, 8 is "beyond nature" and going beyond the world.
- The origin of this meaning is to be found in the work of the Creation. The material world created in six days received with the seventh day a day of remembrance of and bond with its Creator, and thereby its completed consummation. **The symbolism of the number eight:** starting afresh on a higher level, an octave higher. With the creation of Israel, God laid the groundwork for a fresh, higher mankind and a fresh higher world, for new heavens and the new earth for which Israel and its mission is to be the beginning and instrument.

- **Short Commentary on the name Noa - Leila**

- **A Blessing from the Talmud - Bobbi**

May you live to see your world fulfilled,
May your destiny be for worlds still to come,
And may you trust in generations past and yet to be.
May your heart be filled with intuition
and your words be filled with insight.
May songs of praise ever be on your tongue
and your vision be on a straight path before you. May your eyes shine with the
light of holy words and your face reflect the brightness of the heavens.
May your lips ever speak wisdom
and your fulfillment be in righteousness
even as you ever yearn to hear the words of the Holy Ancient One
of Old.

- **Grandparents' reading**

Susyn and Steve: Our God and God of all generations, we are grateful for new beginnings and for the bond of new life that links one generation to another. We are thankful for the blessings of family, for the love and care that bring meaning and happiness to our lives, we rejoice with you at the birth of our granddaughter, Noa.

Malke and Ivan: May they grow together as a family in health and in strength, in harmony, wisdom and love, their home filled with words of Torah and acts of kindness. May we be enabled to share in the joy of seeing these children grow into adulthood, a blessing to their family, their people and all humanity.

- **Sisters' Blessing - Leslie and Michal**

May you Noa, daughter of Bobbi and Ayal,
find support and friendship,
warmth and love within your extended family and community.
Along with your parents,
may we be blessed to be your guides along life's journey.
We promise to offer you challenge and affection,
forgiveness and praise.
We will celebrate with you in joyful times
and comfort and support you in difficult times,
for in each moment of life, you are one of us.

We will strive to teach you values of justice and compassion,
and share with you our respect for Judaism and the Jewish people.
We will also strive to help you learn about
and cherish the gifts that all humans bring,
so that the rainbow of diversity that is humankind
will stretch out before you
in all its glory.

- **Official announcement of the Hebrew name - Leila**

- **Bringing Noa into the Covenant - Everyone**

Baruch ata Adonai Eloheinu melech ha-olam asher kidshanu b'mitzvotav
v'tzivanu l'hachnisa b'vritam shel Avraham avinu v'Sarah imeinu, v'am
Yisrael.

Blessed are You, our God, guiding spirit of the universe, who has made us holy with Your commandments and commanded us to bring our daughter into the covenant of Abraham our father, Sarah our mother and the covenant of the people of Israel.

Amen.

- **Shehechyanu Blessing - Everyone**

Baruch ata Adonai Eloheinu melech ha-olam, Shehechyanu v-'kiymanu v'higyanu lazman hazeh.

Praised be You, Eternal our God, Ruler of the universe, who has kept us alive, sustained us and permitted us to reach this season.

Amen.



Born 22 August 2007 – 8 Elul 5767

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Bringing Noa into the Covenant

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוָה, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו וְצִוָּנוּ
לְהַכְנִיסָהּ בְּבְרִיתֶם שֶׁל אַבְרָהָם אָבִינוּ וְסָרָה אִמֵּנוּ וְעַם יִשְׂרָאֵל.

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