

Welcome to <aleph-pnai-or>, the ALEPH members' discussion list.

Please read the following information. Your decision to subscribe to this list implies agreement to abide by the terms and conditions described below. We suggest you either print this message or save it on your computer for future reference.

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## I. PURPOSE OF THE ALEPH-PNAI-OR LIST:

The ALEPH-PNAI-OR member listserve is a program of ALEPH: Alliance for Jewish Renewal. Like all ALEPH programs, this list is subject to the Mission, and Principles of ALEPH and all relevant policies and procedures. The list is monitored and managed by ALEPH staff.

THE MISSION OF THIS LIST is to serve as:

1. A gateway to Jewish Renewal and specifically to the programs, events, resources and affiliated projects and communities of ALEPH, and
2. A dedicated space for ALEPH members from around the world to share their spiritual journeys, resources, perspectives and wisdom on topics relevant to Jewish Renewal as defined below.

An evolving definition:

JEWISH RENEWAL is worldwide, trans-denominational movement grounded in Judaism's prophetic and mystical traditions. Jewish Renewal carries forward Judaism's perpetual process of renewal. Jewish renewal seeks to bring creativity, relevance, joy, and an all-embracing awareness to spiritual practice, as a path to healing our hearts and finding balance and wholeness —tikkun halev. Jewish renewal acts to fully include all Jews and to respect all peoples. Jewish renewal helps to heal the world by promoting justice, freedom, responsibility and caring for all life and the earth that sustains all life —tikkun olam.

## II. TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATION:

Jewish Renewal does not represent the full range of Jewish expression and ALEPH does not presume to represent all of Renewal. We do, however, reserve the right to confine postings on this list to topics that

are relevant to our Mission and consistent with the 18 Affirmations of ALEPH, and the ALEPH Code of Ethics.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT LISTMEMBERS FAMILIARIZE THEMSELVES WITH THE ALEPH MISSION AND 18 Affirmations WHICH CAN BE FOUND ON THE ALEPH WEBSITE.

There are many worthy topics that are not appropriate to introduce on this list. It is NOT the purpose of this list to host debate on the core values and principles of ALEPH or Jewish renewal or to host discussion on topics that are tangential or irrelevant to Jewish Renewal as ALEPH defines it. If you are unsure about whether a message you wish to post is appropriate, please consult the list manager <rabjeff@echonyc.com> or ALEPH staff <alephajr@aol.com>. ALEPH reserves the sole right to determine the appropriateness of topics or postings for its lists.

SPECIFIC RULES AND GUIDELINES INCLUDE:

1. PLEASE OBSERVE GOOD “NETIQUITE.” Refrain from:

- “Flaming” or other inflammatory, threatening or demeaning language. This includes postings that exclude or demean groups or individuals on the basis of race, religion, national origin, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation or other factors as specified by ALEPH policies.
- Spamming—culling addresses from this list to add without consent to other lists, posting irrelevant messages for commercial or other purposes or repeatedly posting the same messages. This also includes persistently contacting other list members off list if requested to stop.

3. PLEASE OBSERVE GOOD TECHNOLOGY HABITS.

Always post to the list via a NEW email message, addressed to [aleph-pnai-or@shamash.org](mailto:aleph-pnai-or@shamash.org).

DO NOT:

- Use the “reply” function of your email server.
- Forward messages to the list (also see third party postings below).
- Send hyperlinks or attached files to the list.

Because we all use different browsers and email servers, these practices can result in lengthy strings of “computer garbage”-- previous messages, html and other coding-- appearing on the list, particularly on the digest

version. This makes the list very hard to read and is unfair to other members whose posts are “lost” amidst the “computerese.”

A note about contacting ALEPH staff: The “reply” button on your email server will not put you in touch with ALEPH staff. It will post your message to the whole list, with the problems described above. To contact ALEPH staff email [alephajr@aol.com](mailto:alephajr@aol.com), or use the address of the specific staff member posted as the contact for an ALEPH program. For technical problems related to the list, contact Rabbi Jeff Marker, list manager, at [rabjeff@echonyc.com](mailto:rabjeff@echonyc.com).

4. NO THIRD PARTY POSTINGS. This list is for ALEPH members only. If there is a relevant and appropriate item you wish to call to the attention of the list, please briefly summarize it, telling why you think it is important and where it can be accessed. Short quotes (under 100 words) are permissible. In addition to their sometimes excessive length, these third party postings invite more of the same, resulting in the “forwarding” problem described above. They discourage original, personal commentary, which is usually more thoughtful and conducive to community building. By all means, share interesting articles with others using these guidelines, but more importantly, share yourself!
5. NO MISSIONARY ACTIVITY for other religions, including "Messianic Judaism." For our policy on same, see <http://www.aleph.org/html/faq.html>. Discussion about this phenomenon and how to counter it is welcome, as is discussion about interfaith relations or what we have learned from other faith communities on our spiritual journeys. We particularly welcome Jews who have been involved in other faiths and are seeking a new or renewed connection to their roots within a community that honors their spiritual journey. Also welcome are people of other faiths who sincerely want to learn more about Judaism. Overt anti-Jewish missionary activity, however, will result in immediate removal from the list.
6. Other restrictions as may be determined from time to time by the ALEPH Board and staff.
  - a. A note on “minority threads.” Occasionally a “thread” gets started that is of intense interest to a few list members but

either objectionable or irrelevant to most others. The problem may be simply that postings become so long and/or frequent that other threads are “lost.” ALEPH reserves the right to terminate these threads, while encouraging those who wish to continue them to do so privately among themselves.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

We welcome appropriate announcements about resources, events and programs offered by other Jewish (or Jewish-friendly interfaith) teachers or organizations with the caveat that they be brief, relevant and contain clear information as to who the sponsors are and how to contact them. You must make it clear, when posting such announcements that they are not sponsored by ALEPH so that list members won't contact ALEPH staff for information. Again, if you are not sure of the appropriateness of your posting, please consult us.

ALEPH staff will periodically post reports and announcements from ALEPH programs and affiliates. Program notices will be posted through the ALEPH administrative offices, along with appropriate contact information. Please respond using this information, not to the whole list.

We hope that your experience as a member of this list is pleasant, informative and helpful to you on your spiritual path.