**FULL JEWISH LIFE VOCABULARY LIST**

*This list is in alphabetical order, by the column with transliteration.*

*Items in “quotations” are literal translations.*

*\* Terms with an asterisk are part of the Hebrew Through Movement vocabulary lists*

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| **Hebrew** | **Transliteration** | **Translation/Description** |
| יהוה | *Adonai* | God |
| אֲפִיקוֹמָן | *afikoman\** | Dessert; hidden *matzah* that is searched for during *seder* |
| עַל רֶגֶל אַחַת | *al regel ahat* | “On one foot”;Meaning: without/little forethought. |
| עֲלִיָּה | *aliyah* | Ascend/go up;move to Israel |
| עֲלִיָּה לַתּוֹרָה | *aliyah la’torah* | Calling up to the *bimah*to recite Torah blessings or read from Torah |
| עַם יִשְׂרָאֵל | *Am Yisra-el* | People of Israel |
| עַם יִשְׂרָאֵל חַי | *am Yisra-el hai* | “The people of Israel live” |
| אֲרוֹן הַקֹּדֶשׁ | *aron hakodesh\** | Holy Ark |
| אַשְׁכְּנַזִּי | *Ashkenazi* | From Eastern European Jewish descent |
| עַצְמָאוּת | *atzma-ut* | Independence |
| אוּיפרוּף | *Aufruf*colloquially pronounced:*oof-roof* | (Yiddish: “calling up”)Pre-wedding honor and blessing at services |
| בְּהַצְלָחָה | *b’hatzlahah* | Good luck |
| בְּמִדְבָּר | *B’midbar* | Numbers;“in the desert” |
| בְּנֵי מִצְוָה | *B’nai Mitzvah* | Plural of *Bar Mitzvah*;“children of the commandment” |
| בְּנוֹת מִצְוָה | *B’not Mitzvah* | Plural of *Bat Mitzvah*; “daughters of the commandment” |
| בְּרָכָה | *b’rakhah* | Blessing |
| בְּרֵאשִׁית | *B’reishit* | Genesis;“in the beginning” |
| בְּרִית מִילָה | *B’rit milah* | “Covenant of circumcision” |
| בְּשָׂמִים | *b’samim* | Spices |
| בְּסֵדֶר | *b’seder* | Okay;“in order” |
| בְּתֵאָבוֹן | *b’tey-avon* | Bon appetite;enjoy your meal |
| בְּצֶלֶם אֱלֹהִים | *B’tzelem Elohim* | In the image of God |
| בְּבַקָּשָׁה | *b’vakashah* | Please; you are welcome |
| בָּר מִצְוָה | *Bar Mitzvah* | A boy’s coming of age according to Jewish tradition, often celebrated with ceremony;“son of the commandment” |
| בָּרוּךְ | *barukh* | Blessed; praised |
| הַשֵּׁם בָּרוּךְ | *barukh hashem* | Thank God |
| בְּשָׂרִי | *b’sari* | Meat |
| בַּת מִצְוָה | *Bat Mitzvah* | A girl’s coming of age according to Jewish tradition, often celebrated with ceremony;“daughter of the commandment” |
| בֵּית הַמִּקְדָּשׁ | *Beit Hamikdash* | The Temple – center of Jewish worship in Jerusalem over 2000 years ago;“the holy house” |
| כְּנֶסֶת בֵּית | *beit k’nesset* | “House of gathering”; synagogue |
| בֵּית מִדְרָשׁ | *beit midrash* | “House of study” |
| בֶּית תְּפִילָה | *beit t’fillah* | “House of prayer”; sanctuary |
| בֵּיצָה | *beitzah\** | Egg |
| בִּכּוּרִים | *bikkurim\** | First fruits |
| בִּיקוּר חוֹלִים | *bikkur holim* | Visiting the sick |
| בִּימָה | *bimah\** | Raised area or platform in synagogue; can also refer to the pulpit; stage |
| בִּרְכַּת הַמָּזוֹן | *Birkat Hamazon* | Grace/blessing of thanksgiving after eating |
| בְּרִית | *b’rit* | Covenant; contract |
| תּוֹרָה דְּבָר | *d’var Torah* | Sermon; “words of Torah” |
| דְּבָרִים | *D’varim* | Deuteronomy;“words” |
| דְּבַשׁ | *d’vash\** | Honey |
| דַּיֵּינוּ | *dayeinu* | It would have been “enough for us”; a song in the *haggadah* |
| דֶּגֶל | *degel\** | Flag |
| דֶּרֶךְ אֶרֶץ | *derekh eretz* | “Way of the land”;Meaning: the common way that people act |
| דְּרָשָׁה | *d’rashah* | Interpretation or explication of Torah |
| אֵלוּ וְאֵלוּ | *eilu v’eilu* | Both this and that |
| אֱלֹהִים | *Elohim* | God |
| אֶרֶץ | *eretz* | Land; country |
| יִשְׂרָאֵל אֶרֶץ | *eretz Yisra-el* | Land of Israel |
| עֵרוּב | *eruv* | Public area designated as “private domain” by wire boundary that permits activities usually forbidden publically on Shabbat (i.e. carrying) |
| אֵשׁ | *esh* | Fire; flame |
| אֶתְרוֹג | *etrog\** | Citron; lemon-like fruit |
| עֵץ חַיִּים | *etz hayim* | Wooden handles of Torah scroll;“Tree of life” |
| עֵץ | *etz\** | Tree |
| עֵצִים | *etzim\** | Trees |
| גְּלִילָה | *g’lilah* | Dressing the Torah |
| גְמַר חֲתִימָה טוֹבָה | *g’mar hatimah tovah* | May you finish (Yom Kippur) by being inscribed (in the Book of Life) for Good *(meaning that it should all end well)* |
| גְּמִילוּת חֲסָדִים | *g’milut hasadim* | Acts of loving kindness |
| גַּבַּאי | *Gabbai* | One who helps with Torah service |
| גְּמָרָא | *Gemara* | Rabbinic commentary on the *Mishnah*;second part of *Talmud* |
| הַגבָּהָה | *hagbahah* colloquially pronounced: *hagbah* | Raising of the Torah scroll |
| הַגָּדָה | *haggadah\** | Book used at *Pesah* *seder;* “telling” |
| הַקָּפָה | *hakafah* | Going around or circling with Torah scrolls; Torah procession; marching/dancing with Torah |
| הַקָּפוֹת | *hakafot\** | Multiple rounds of marching/dancing with Torah |
| הַכְנָסַת אוֹרְחִים | *hakhnasat orhim* | Welcoming guests |
| הַכֹּל בְּסֵדֶר | *hakol b’seder* | Everything is okay;“Everything is in order” |
| הַכֹּתֶל | *Ha-Kotel* | The Western Wall of The Temple in Jerusalem |
| הֲלָכָה | *halakhah* | Jewish law;“the way to go” |
| הַמּוֹצִיא | *Hamotzi* | Blessing said over *hallah*/bread/food |
| הַר סִינַי | *Har Sinai\** | Mount Sinai |
| הַשֵּׁם | *Hashem* | God; “The Name” |
| הַתִּקְוָה | *Hatikvah* | Israeli national anthem;“The Hope” |
| הַבְדָּלָה | *Havdallah\** | Ceremony at the end of *Shabbat;* “separation” |
| שָׂמֵחַ חַג | *hag same-ah\** | Happy holiday |
| חַג אוּרִים שָׂמֵחַ | *hag urim same-ah* | Happy *Hanukkah;* *“*Happy holiday of lights” |
| חַי | *hai* | Life; alive; living |
| חֲלָבִי | *halavi* | Dairy |
| חַלָּה | *hallah\** | Sweet braided bread eaten on *Shabbat* and holidays |
| חַלוֹת | *hallot\** | *Hallah*, plural |
| חָמֵץ | *hametz\** | Food containing grains forbidden on *Pesah* |
| חֲנֻכִּיָה | *Hanukiyah\** | Menorah with 8 branches plus one for the*shamash*/helper candle |
| חֲנֻכָּה | *Hanukkah* | Festival of Lights |
| חֲרוֹסֶת | *haroset\** | A mixture that represents the mortar used by the Israelites in Egypt |
| חַבְרוּתָא | *havrutah* | (Aramaic)friendship, study partner, traditional rabbinic style of Talmud study in pairs |
| חַיָּל | *hayal* | Soldier |
| חֲיָּלִים | *hayalim* | Soldiers |
| חַזָּן | *Hazzan* | Cantor |
| הֶכְשֶׁר | *hekhsher* | Kosher certification approval |
| חֶסֶד | *hesed* | Kindness |
| חֵטְא | *het* | Sin |
| חֹדָשִׁים | *hodashim* | Months |
| חֹדֶשׁ | *hodesh* | Month |
| טוֹב חֹדֶשׁ | *hodesh tov* | “A good month” |
| חוֹל | *hol\** | Profane; normal |
| חוּמָשׁ | *humash\** | Five Books of Moses in book form |
| חֻפָּה | *huppah* | Wedding canopy |
| חֻצְפָּה | *hutzpah* | Nerve; guts; the quality of over-stepping boundaries with no shame |
| קְעָרָה | *k’arah\** | Seder plate |
| קְהִלָּה | *k’hillah* | Community |
| כְּתוּבָּה | *k’tubah* | Marriage contract, agreement |
| כְּתוּבִים | *K’tuvim* | Writings (section of the Bible) |
| קַבָּלַת שַׁבָּת | *Kabbalat Shabbat* | Friday night service;“receiving *Shabbat*” |
| קַדִּישׁ | *Kaddish* | Prayer said in remembrance of those who died; also used as a divider between sections of a service as words of praise |
| קַדִּישׁ יָתוֹם | *Kaddish yatom* | Mourner’s Kaddish; prayer said in remembrance of those who died |
| קָדוֹשׁ | *kadosh* | Holy |
| כָּחֹל | *kahol\** | Blue |
| כַּרְפַּס | *karpas\** | Leafy greens |
| כָּשֵׁר | *kasher* | To make kosher; to make fit for use |
| כַּשְׁרוּת | *kashrut* | Laws concerning status of food for eating and ritual; kosher |
| כָּבוֹד | *kavod* | Respect |
| קִבּוּץ | *kibbutz* | Communal settlement in Israel |
| קִדּוּשׁ | *Kiddush\** | Blessing over wine;“sanctification” |
| כִּפָּה | *kippah\** | (Yiddish: *Yarmulke*)ritually-worn head covering |
| כִּתָּה | *kitah* | Classroom |
| קֹדֶשׁ | *kodesh\** | Holy; sacred |
| כֹּל הַכָּבוֹד | *kol hakavod* | Good job;“all the respect to you” |
| כָּל נִדְרֵי | *Kol Nidre* | Prayer recited at evening service of *Yom Kippur*; “all vows” |
| כּוֹס קִדּוּשׁ | *kos kiddush\** | Cup of wine over which the *Kiddush* blessing is recited |
| קוּמְזִיץ | *kumzitz* | (Yiddish)The “event” of people enjoying a campfire;“come sit” |
| לְהַדְלִיק נֵר | *l’hadlik ner\** | “To light candles” |
| לְחַיִּים | *l’hayim* | Cheers;“to life” |
| לְהִתְרָאוֹת | *l’hitra-ot* | Bye; see you later |
| לְשָׁנָה טוֹבָה | *l’shanah tovah* | Happy new year;“to a good year” |
| לַבְּרִיאוּת | *lab’ri-ut* | Bless you;after a sneeze: “to health” |
| לַ״ג בָּעוֹמֶר | *Lag Ba’omer* | 33rd day of the Omer |
| לָשׁוֹן הָרַע | *lashon hara* | Gossip;“evil tongue” |
| לָבָן | *lavan\** | White |
| לוּלָב | *lulav\** | A “bouquet” of palm, myrtle, willow branches, plus an *etrog* |
| מְדִינַת יִשְׂרָאֵל | *M’dinat Yisra-el\** | State of Israel |
| מְדוּרָה | *m’durah* | Campfire |
| מְגִלָּה | *m’gillah\** | Book in scroll form |
| מְגִילַת אֶסְתֵּר | *M’gillat Esther* | The scroll (book) of Esther |
| מְחִיצָה | *m’hitzah* | Partition; division for separation between men and women,usually during prayer |
| מְזוּזָה | *m’zuzzah* | Scroll placed on door frame with words from the Torah inside |
| מַעֲרִיב | *Ma’ariv* | Evening service |
| מַדְרִיךְ | *madrikh\** | Guide;used as: teen assistant (male) |
| מַדְרִיכָה | *madrikhah\** | Guide;used as: teen assistant (female) |
| מַדְרִיכִים | *madrikhim\** | Guides;used as: teen assistants(male or mixed gender) |
| מַדְרִיכוֹת | *madrikhot\** | Guides;used as: teen assistants (female) |
| מַפְטִיר | *maftir* | Concluding section of Torah reading;last Torah reader |
| מַחְזוֹר | *mahzor\** | High Holiday prayerbook |
| מַלְכָּה | *malkah\** | Queen |
| מַרְחֶשְׁוָן | *Mar-Heshvan* | “Bitter *Heshvan*,” labeled as such due to the month’s lack of holidays |
| מָרוֹר | *maror\** | Bitter herb |
| מַשְׁגִיחַ | *mashgi-ah* | One who oversees *kashrut* status of kitchen |
| מָתַן תּוֹרָה | *matan Torah* | Giving of the Torah |
| מַצָּה | *matzah\** | Unleavened bread |
| מַזָּל טוֹב | *mazal tov* | Congratulations;“good fortune” |
| מֶלֶךְ | *melekh\** | King |
| מֶענְטְשׁ | *mensch* | (Yiddish)A good person |
| מִי שֶׁבֵּרַךְ | *Mi Sheberakh* | Blessing for those in need of healing;“One who blesses” |
| מִדוֹת | *middot* | Values; virtues |
| הַמָקוֹם מִנְהַג | *minhag hamakom* | “Custom of the place” |
| מִנְחָה | *Minhah* | Afternoon service |
| מִנְיָן | *minyan* | Prayer group of at least 10 people |
| מִשְׁלוֹחַ מָנוֹת | *mishloah manot\** | *Purim* baskets; gifts for friends and family |
| מִשְׁנָה | *Mishnah* | Rabbinic writings of Jewish Oral Law; first part of *Talmud* |
| מִצְרַיִם | *Mitzrayim* | Egypt |
| מִצְוָה | *mitzvah* | Commandment |
| מִזְרָחִי | *Mizrahi* | From Middle Eastern Jewish descent |
| מוֹעֲדִים לְשִֹמְחָה | *mo-adim l’simhah* | Happy Holiday; said as a greeting during the middle days of *Sukkot*;“seasons of joy” |
| מוֹהֵל | *mohel* | One who performs ritual circumcision |
| מוֹרָה | *morah\** | Teacher (female) |
| מוֹרֶה | *moreh\** | Teacher (male) |
| מוֹרִים | *morim\** | Teachers (male or mixed gender) |
| מוֹרוֹת | *morot\** | Teachers (female) |
| מוּסָף | *Mussaf* | Additional service on *Shabbat*, holidays, *Rosh Hodesh* (the beginning of a Hebrew month) |
| נְסִיעָה טוֹבָה | *n’siyah tovah* | “Have a good trip” |
| נְבִיאִים | *N’vi’im* | Prophets (section of the Bible) |
| תָּמִיד נֵר | *ner tamid\** | Eternal light |
| נֵר | *ner\** | Candle |
| נֵרוֹת | *nerot\** | Candles |
| נֵס גָּדוֹל הָיָה פֹּה | *nes gadol hayah poh* | A great miracle happened *here* (said by those in Israel) |
| נֵס גָּדוֹל הָיָה שָׁם | *nes gadol hayah sham* | A great miracle happened *there* (said by those outside of Israel) |
| עֹמֶר | *Omer* | Period of counting seven weeks between *Pesah* and *Shavu’ot* |
| אוֹרְחִים | *orhim\** | Guests |
| אֳזְנֵי הָמָן | *oznei haman\**[First syllable is “oh”] | (Yiddish: *Hamentashen*)triangular pastries;“Haman’s ears” |
| פְּרִי | *p’ri\** | Fruit |
| פָּרָשָׁה | *parashah* | Portion of Torah |
| פָּרָשַׁת הַשָׁבוּעַ | *parashat**hashavu-a* | Torah portion of the week |
| פַּרוֶוה | *parve* | (Yiddish)Neutral; neither meat nor dairy |
| פֶּסַח | *Pesah* | Passover |
| פִּרקֵי אָבוֹת | *Pirkei Avot* | Text about relationships and ethics; “Ethics of Our Sages” |
| פּוּרִים | *Purim* | Holiday of “lots” |
| רְפוּאָה שְׁלֵימָה | *r’fu-ah sh’leimah* | Feel better;“a full recovery” |
| רַעֲשָׁן | *ra’ashan\** | (Yiddish: *grogger*)noisemaker |
| רַב | *Rav* | Rabbi |
| רֹאשׁ הַשָּׁנָה | *Rosh Hashanah* | New Year; “head of the year” |
| רֹאשׁ חֹדֶש | *Rosh Hodesh* | New Month, considered a minor holiday;“head of the month” |
| סְפָרִים | *s’farim\** | Books |
| סְפִירַת הָעֹמֶר | *s’firat ha’omer* | Counting the *Omer* |
| סְכָךְ | *s’khakh\** | Covering on the roof of a *sukkah* |
| סְלִיחָה | *s’lihah* | Excuse me |
| סְלִיחוֹת | *S’lihot* | Service preceding Rosh Hashanah;“forgiveness” |
| סְבִיבוֹן | *s’vivon\** | (Yiddish: *Dreidel*) spinning top |
| סֵדֶר | *seder\** | “Order”; ritual meal (a *Tu Bish’vat* or *Pesah* *seder*) |
| סֵפֶר | *sefer\** | Book |
| סְפָרַדִּי | *S’faradi* | From Spanish orNorth African Jewish descent |
| שֶׁהֶחֱיָנוּ | *Sh’heheyanu* | Blessing of praise for first times and joyous occasions |
| שְׁלִיחַת צִבּוּר | *sh’lihat tzibur* | Prayer leader (female) |
| שְׁלוֹשִׁים | *sh’loshim* | Thirty days following a death |
| שְׁמוֹת | *Sh’mot* | Exodus;“names” |
| שַׁבָּת | *Shabbat* | Sabbath; day of rest |
| שַׁבָּת שָׁלוֹם | *Shabbat Shalom* | ‘A good *Shabbat’* |
| שַׁחֲרִית | *Shaharit* | Morning service |
| שְׁלִיחַ צִבּוּר | *shali-ah tzibur* | Prayer leader (male) |
| שָׁלוֹם | *shalom* | Hello; farewell;“peace” |
| שַׁמָּשׁ | *shamash\** | Helper (candle) |
| שָׁנָה | *shanah* | Year |
| שָׁנָה טוֹבָה וּמְתוּקָה | *shanah tovah u’m’tukah* | “a good and sweet year” |
| שָׁבוּעַ טוֹב | *Shavu-a tov* | ‘A good week’ |
| שָׁבוּעוֹת | *Shavu’ot* | Feast of Weeks |
| שִׁעוּר | *shi-ur* | Lesson |
| שִׁבְעָה | *shivah* | Week of mourning following a death |
| שְׁלוֹם בַּיִת | *sh'lom bayit* | Peace of the home |
| שׁוֹאָה | *Sho-ah* | Holocaust |
| שׁוֹפָר | *shofar\** | Ram’s horn |
| סִדּוּר | *siddur\** | Prayerbook |
| סִדּוּרִים | *siddurim\** | Prayerbooks |
| סִפְרִיָּה | *sifriyah* | Library |
| שִׂמְחָה | *simhah\** | Happiness |
| שִׂמְחַת בַּת | *Simhat bat* | Girl’s naming ceremony;“celebration of the daughter” |
| שִׂמְחַת תּוֹרָה | *Simhat Torah* | Holiday for restarting Torah reading cycle; “joy of Torah” |
| סֻפְגָּנִיָּה | *sufganiyah\** | Donut |
| סֻכָּה | *sukkah\** | Hut; temporary dwelling |
| סֻכּוֹת | *Sukkot* | Festival of Booths |
| תְּפִלִּין | *t’fillin\** | Phylacteries; the small black boxes worn on a person’s head and arm during weekday morning services |
| תְּפִילָּה | *t’fillah* | Prayer; services; worship |
| תְּשׁוּבָה | *t’shuvah\** | Repentance |
| תַּעֲנִיוֹת | *Ta’aniyot* | Fast days |
| תַּכְלִית | *takhles* (note the pronunciation difference from the Hebrew) | (Yiddish)Details; essence; bottom line |
| טַלִּית | *tallit\** | Prayer shawl |

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| תַּלְמוּד | *Talmud* | Rabbinic books of legal codes, stories, debates, made of *Mishnah* and *Gemara* |
| תנ"ך | ***T****a****n****a****kh*** | Hebrew Bible –***T****orah,* ***N****’vi’im,* ***K****’tuvim* |
| תַּפּוּחַ | *tapu-ah\** | Apple |
| תַּפּוּחִים | *tapuhim\** | Apples |
| תַּשְׁלִיךְ | *Tashlikh* | Throwing away of sins |
| תִּיקוּן עוֹלָם | *tikkun olam* | Repairing the world |
| תִּשְׁעָה בְּאָב | *Tisha B’Av* | 9th of Av |
| תּוֹדָה | *todah* | Thank you |
| תּוֹרָה | *Torah\** | Law/teaching,Five Books of Moses in scroll form |
| טוֹב | *tov\** | Good |
| טְרֵײף | *treif* | (Yiddish)Not kosher |
| ט"וּ בִּשְׁבָט | *Tu Bish’vat* | 15th (day) of (the Hebrew month) *Sh’vat* |
| צְדָקָה | *tz’dakah\** | Charitable giving |
| צָבָא | *tzavah* | Army |
| צֶדֶק | *tzedek* | Justice |
| צִיצִית | *tzitzit\** | Fringes with knots tied onto *tallit* |
| צוֹם | *tzom\** | Fast (not eating or drinking) |
| קַל צוֹם | *tzom\* kal* | “An easy fast” |
| אֻשְׁפִּיזִין | *Ushpizin* | (Aramaic)Guests; ancestors who are metaphorically welcomed into a *sukkah* |
| וַיִּקְרָא | *Vayikra* | Leviticus;“and he called” |
| יְרוּשָׁלַיִם | *Y’rushalayim\** | Jerusalem |
| יָד | *yad\** | Torah pointer;“hand” |
| יָמִים נוֹרָאִים | *Yamim nora-im* | High holy days |
| יָרֵחַ | *yare-ah* | Moon |
| יאָרצײַט | *Yartzeit* | (Yiddish)Year-anniversary of a death |
| יִישַׁר כֹּחֶךְ | *yashar kohekh*colloquially pronounced:*yasher ko-hekh* | Statement made to a female in response to something done well, especially after a Torah reading or *d’var Torah*;“May your strength be made straight” |

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| יִישַׁר כֹּחֲךָ | *yishar ko-h’kha*colloquially pronounced:*yasher ko-ah* | Statement made to a male in response to something done well, especially after a Torah reading or *d’var Torah*;“May your strength be made straight” |
| יִשְׂרָאֵל | *Yisra-el\** | Israel |
| יוֹפִי | *yofi\** | Beautiful; nice |
| יוֹם הַשׁוֹאָה | *Yom**Hasho-ah* | Holocaust Memorial Day |
| יוֹם הָעַצְמָאוּת | *Yom Ha’atzma-ut* | Independence Day |
| יוֹם הַזִּכָּרוֹן | *Yom Hazikaron* | Memorial Day (for Israel’s fallen soldiers) |
| **יוֹם הוּלֶדֶת שָׂמֵחַ** | *yom huledet same-ah* | Happy birthday |
| יוֹם כִּפּוּר | *Yom Kippur* | “Day of Atonement” |
| זְרוֹעַ | *z’ro-ah\** | Shank bone |
| זִכָּרוֹן | *zikaron* | Memory |
| זִכְרוֹנָה לִבְרָכָה | *zikhronah livrakhah* | “May her memory be a blessing” |
| זִכְרוֹנוֹ לִבְרָכָה | *zikhrono livrakhah* | “May his memory be a blessing” |