

HAVAYA CIRCLE

The Kabbalah explains how the Divine name *Shem Havaya* ה-ו-ה-י , describes our spiritual reality and aspects of consciousness at the root of all creation.

There are 12 different possible permutations, or ordering of the letters, of the *Shem Havaya*. These 12 permutations are associated with, among other associations, 12 aspects of our inner self, the 12 months of the year, the 12 hours of the day, and 12 hours of the night.

This painting depicts the 12 permutations of the *Shem Havaya*. They are painted in the shape of a circle, reflecting the holiness of the circle dance. When dancing around in a circle, each person dances in the place of every other person, representing the realization of our oneness.

When the permutations of the *Shem Havaya* are associated with the months of the year, they are each also associated with a specific verse in the Torah which contain the permutation hidden in the 1st or last letters of words in the verse. The vowels in the painting come from the vowels under the letters in these corresponding verses from the Torah. In the inner spiritual learning of the Torah, it is described how each of the Hebrew vowels represent specific states of expanded consciousness. The 12 permutations of the *Shem Havaya* and the associated vowels are used in meditation, although we do not pronounce the *Shem Havaya* with the vowel points.

There is a tradition in the Kabbalah, to meditate on the permutation corresponding to the month, when praying G-d's name in the central blessing of the *Musaf* prayer celebrating the new month.

The word for MONTH in Hebrew שדח, also means NEW. Every new moon signifies the beginning of the new Hebrew month, and comes with the energy of spiritual renewal. The Divine Name ה-ו-ה-י is the numerical equivalent of 26 ($26=5+6+5+10=ה+ו+ה+י$). The total number for all 12 of the permutations is 312 ($26 \times 12=312$). שדח is the numerical equivalent of 312 ($312=300+4+8=ש+ד+ח$).

The number 13 is associated with all 12 aspects of our self unified in oneness. The Hebrew word דחא ONE is in its numerical equivalent 13 ($13=4+8+1=ד+ח+א$). When we have a pregnant year with the 13th month of *Adar 2*, it is associated with the ultimate realization of oneness and is associated with all 12 of the permutations of the Divine Name together in complete harmony.

The month of *Nisan* is associated with the normal order of G-d's name ה-ו-ה-י, and is depicted at the top center of the painting. The names then follow counterclockwise and follow in the order of the months of the year.

The Kabbalah explains that the cycle of the year is a microcosmic map of our progression of spiritual development. Each month contains a particular spiritual energy. This energy is a healing for a particular aspect of our inner self. The Kabbalah discusses the particular spiritual energy of each of the months, and how to spiritually work with this energy to elevate ourselves spiritually. Our spiritual elevation involves the details of working to attain the state of pure unconditional love and truly caring for one another.