

TREE OF LIFE SHOFAR SOUNDS

This art is inspired by the sounding of the shofar on *Rosh Hashana*.

Kabbalah discusses the deep spiritual significance of this pattern of sounds blown since ancient times.

The four different shofar sounds are: *tekia*, *shevarim*, *terua* and *tekia gedola*.

1 triangle represents the single sound of *tekia*.

3 triangles represent the 3 shorter sounds of *shevarim*.

9 triangles represent the 9 very short sounds of *terua*.

The sounds correspond to states of consciousness.

One *kavana* (meditation) of shofar blowing associates the sounds with giving, receiving, balance and oneness:

tekia -----1 long sound-----giving
shevarim -----3 shorter sounds-----receiving
terua -----9 very short sounds-----balance
tekia gedola -----1 very long sound-----oneness

The whole long sound of *tekia* expresses inner joy and thankfulness.

The three broken cries of *shevarim* express brokenness.

The sound of *terua*, so broken it is whole, is the prayer from the depths of our heart revealing the always flowing divine goodness.

The very long sound of *tekia gedola* represents unconditional love and oneness.

The depiction of the sounds begins with the triangle at the top right and descends towards the bottom. The next sounds begins with the third triangle from top right and descends towards the bottom. The next sounds begins with the second triangle from the top right and descends towards the bottom. This concludes 90 sounds. The next 9 sounds are depicted at the bottom of these three columns also right, left and center, corresponding to giving, receiving and balance. The mapping repeats ten times reflecting the ten *Sefirot* of the Tree of Life. The ten sets shares the extra long sound of *tekia gedola* represented by the large triangle at the bottom.

Shofar sounds correspond to particular aspects of consciousness. Each progressive sound represents deeper levels of love and spiritual awareness.

Tzfat Gallery of Mystical Art

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