

Hebrew Kirtan

Hebrew Kirtan – inspired by a form of devotional prayer developed in India – is continual call-and-response, participatory chant where short, sacred phrases from the Jewish tradition are treated as powerful, universal meditations. It is at once contemplative, ecstatic and simply fun.

Longer:

The practice of Kirtan originated in India. Its intention was to bring sacred chanting out of the temple precincts and into the streets for everyone to experience. Its form is nearly always in the call-and-response format. Rabbi Hahn himself characterizes Hebrew Kirtan as, “fully participatory call-and-response chant where short, sacred phrases from the Jewish tradition are treated as powerful, universal meditations. It is at once contemplative, ecstatic, and ...simply fun.” Many religious experts feel that Kirtan is particularly suited to these times, when so many people seek to participate in uplifting, communal experiences.