

שמחת תורה Simkhat Torah (Joy of The Word)

Simkhat Torah is a rabbinic holiday appended to Sukkot. The main theme of Sukkot is rejoicing in the ingathering of the harvest, which is celebrated for seven days. The end and the new beginning of the agricultural cycle are acknowledged.

Simkhat Torah takes it one step further, in that the yearly cycle of Torah readings is now finished, and restarted, so we rejoice in last year's provisions of Torah-wisdom and revelation, and look forward to more insight and blessing raining upon us the next year. As Messianics, we joyfully acknowledge the Torah (in a broad sense, the Torah includes the whole of the Old and New Covenants) as our source of life in G-d, as it not only points richly and profoundly to the Messiah, but is, indeed, Yeshua the Son of G-d. "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with G-d, and the Word was G-d. He was with G-d in the beginning . . . The Word became a human being and lived with us, and we saw his Sh'khinah, the Sh'khinah of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth." Yochanan (John) 1: 1,14

