



*Kohenet Yaya*

**Liberation Priestess + Facilitator**

*Live Fully, Live Free!*

# **Building a Pluralistic, Multiracial, Multiethnic Jewish Community**

**Dedicated to the Memory of  
Vilma Haydee Rosado-Torres, Geraldine Haydee Rodriguez-Torres  
& Marcelina Rodriguez-Torres**







**Also dedicated to my children Ariana Katherine Felix & Manuel Jeremiah Arroyo II. Whose courage and boldness to live courageously, boldly, and unapologetically inspire me every day and are the expression of a lineage of revolutionaries!**

**Chazak, Chazak, V'nitchazeik-**

**Be strong, be strong, and we will be encouraged!**



**Kohenet Ya (Angelique) transparently and irreverently is a Liberation Priestess and Facilitator. Passionate about justice, equity, and healing, she brings a unique framework to support collective healing. Revealing the path to healing and a shift in consciousness, recognizing that we all have spheres of influence that impact each other. Her passion is teaching practices that help us heal from trauma, decolonize, and embody liberation.**

**Kohenet-Hebrew Priestess Institute reclaims and innovates embodied, earth-based feminist Judaism. Kohenet's spiritual leadership training, ordination programs, publications, and community offerings center ritual as a transformative practice.**



## *Framework: Stages of Decolonization by Poka Laeuni*



**Image:**  
Three interlocking gold and purple circles.  
One circle says recovery & rediscovery.  
Another, Mourning & Dreaming and the last commitment & action. In the center is Jewish Identity.



# *Mourning & Dreaming*

As we acknowledge the different narratives in our Jewish identity it brings us to a place of mourning. Mourning for what has been lost to us as a community. The richness of our multiethnic/racial identities. This is the place where we ask, what is the grief that you are holding about your Jewish identity and community. It is very difficult to get to the place of equity and justice when we have not yet taken response-ability and account-ability for the harm done and the places of grief and mourning.







# *Wall of Mourning*





# *Your Torah*

What is your story, your relationship to your Jewish identity/community?

This is the part where we don't make it pretty if there is pain we name it if there is isolation we name it!

# *Writing Your Midrash (Your Commentary)*

**Midrash-**An an ancient commentary on part of the Hebrew scriptures, attached to the biblical text. The earliest Midrashim come from the 2nd century AD, although much of their content is older.

The retelling of your belonging, in this exercise we want to retell the story including all the aspects of ourselves. Bring all of yourself into this retelling, this commentary on a Jewishness that is multiethnic, multiracial, and inclusive. One in which your belonging is not contingent on approval or where you have to constantly fight for your voice & beingness to be respected. Gather three words from your writing that embodies your essence.



*Next : Commitment & Action*