

## CHAPTER 7: The Cohanim

1. The Cohanim males can enter the cemetery but cannot approach near a grave or near the dead body. They need to keep a distance of approximately 7 feet (4 Amot) from a lifeless body or grave. Likewise, it is forbidden for them to be under a roof or even under a tree, which covers a lifeless body, even though, the distance might be more than 7 feet.

2. In some Jewish cemeteries there is usually a special area where all the Cohanim remain while the ceremony takes place. In our community cemetery, the Cohanim stand during the burial ceremony on the sidewalk, behind the bushes. Depending the time of the year, in the community cemetery (New Montefiore) the tree branches cover the whole avenue of aces to the gravesite. in that case, the Cohanim should stay away or find an alternative route of access by one of the lateral streets.

3. In case that one of the seven direct family members dies (father, mother, son, daughter, brother, single sister and spouse), the Cohen comes near the lifeless body and he is allowed to have contact with it or the coffin until the end of the burial ceremony.

4. The ladies who are daughters of a Cohen or married with a Cohen, do not have any restriction regarding access to the cemetery or being in contact with a dead body.