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Yahr·zeit 🕯️ (yär tsīt', -zīt')

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n.

Judaism

The anniversary of the death of a relative, observed with mourning and the recitation of religious texts.

[Yiddish, anniversary, from Middle High German *jārzīt* : *jār*, year (from Old High German; see **yēr-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#)) + *zīt*, time (from Old High German; see **dā-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#)).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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The Indo-European appendix covers nearly half of the Indo-European roots that have left their mark on English words. A more complete treatment of Indo-European roots and the English words derived from them is available in our [Dictionary of Indo-European Roots](#).

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