

Friends and Colleagues;

Having been present at countless baby namings, where the infant is given his or her *Hebrew* name;

Having heard gabbaim ask for one having an aliyah, to share their *Hebrew* name;

Having read about making MiShebeirachs for Bikur Cholim and for others, that referred to asking people for their *Hebrew* name;

***Hebrew* name is merely the counterpart to *English* name.**

Being always concerned with the overtones, elegance and dignity of the language we use in ritual situations, I suggest that;

It would be much richer to use the term Covenant name, instead of *Hebrew* name.

Thus for example at a baby naming;

The baby girl is given her covenant name.

**אלהינו ואלהי אבותינו ואמותינו, קים את הילדה
הזאת לאביה ולאמה ויקרא שמה בישראל**

God of our mothers and fathers, Sustain this child. We declare her covenant name in Israel to be

Kol Tuv to all of you who bear Covenant names

Yaakov Tzvi ben Shmuel v'Sarah