

Birkat Cohanim: Talit over Child's Head

It is a custom for fathers to cover their sons' heads with their talit while the priests/cohanim bless the congregation.

REASON So the boys do not look at the Divine Presence (shechina) present at the priests'/cohanim's fingertips at that time.

NOTE The priests'/cohanim's hands should be covered by a talit anyway.

NOTE This custom applies to ANYTIME the priests/cohanim say birkat cohanim, whether on:

- Jewish festivals (the only time the priests/cohanim say this blessing outside of Eretz Yisrael), or
- Daily (as is done in Eretz Yisrael).