PRAYER POINTS

EIS RATZON-THE CHUPAH / MINCHAH

All who are present at a *chupah* are in the presence of the *Shechinah* as well. The *chupah* creates an atmosphere charged with sanctity, crackling with spiritual potential. Whether one prays for the welfare of the new couple, for someone seeking a relationship, for one's own children, or for any other need, the *chupah* is an *eis ratzon* (a spiritual moment in time) available to all who are fortunate enough to be there.

Even with our busy lives when we "grab" a few minutes in our day to pray it becomes our most important prayer of the entire day. The strength to break away from one's activities, in order to pray more than compensates for the hurriedness in which the prayer may be said. For this reason, this moment is most beloved.

POINTS TO PONDER

At their chupah, the bride and groom are in a state of complete purity, and the Shechinah rests with them.

The Shechinah's presence creates a favorable time for all the prayers said at the chupah.

One Jewish writing states that Shabbat Minchah (final prayer of the day) is an eis ratzon when the Almighty acknowledges the devotion of His people – Israel.

Psalm 72:17 May his name be eternal; while the sun lasts, may his name endure; let men invoke his blessedness upon themselves; let all nations count him happy.

18 Blessed is the LORD God, God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things;
19 Blessed is His glorious name forever; His glory fills the whole world. Amen and Amen.
20 End of the prayers of David son of Jesse. (TNK)