

NKANA--KITWE Jewish Cemetery(Northern Rhodesia)

Consecration Address...21st.July 1946

The solemn privilege of Consecrating this Jewish Burial Ground, has been given to us, and we do so according to the ancient custom and the hallowed rite of our Sacred Faith. Such a solemn celebration to-day can only help us to feel emancipated from a bondage to the material and the temporal things of life.; yes, from everything that may drag us down and prevent us from fullfilling the holy aspirations and noble endeavours of mankind.

To-day's solemn service can only bring home to us the most overwhelming fact of human existence...the transitoriness of human life. Listen to the words of the Rabbis of old "Life is a passing shadow, says Scripture, Is it the shadow of a Tower? of a Tree? A shadow that prevails a while? No! it is the shadow of a bird in its flight..away flies the bird and there is neither bird nor shadow". In other words, the consecration of a Cemetery brings us all face to face with death and with destiny, and inevitably turns our thoughts to our Creator, the Judge of the spirits of all flesh. says the Psalmist: --