

Shabbat against Genocide in Palestine

Siddur



Kindling Lights

The Candles

As the sun sets and Shabbat begins, the candles are lit and these words are recited:

**בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה אֲדֹנָי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו
וְצִוָּנוּ לְהַדְלִיק נֵר שֶׁל שַׁבָּת**

Baruch ata adonai, eloheinu melech ha'olam,
asher kidshanu bemitzvotav vitzivanu
l'hadlik ner shel Shabbat.

We bless the Source of all Existence, who shows us paths to holiness, and inspires us to kindle the Shabbat lights.

Kabbalat Shabbat

Welcoming the Shabbat

Hineh Mah Tov

**הִנֵּה מַה טוֹב וּמַה נְעִים
שַׁבֵּת כָּלָם גַּם יַחַד**

Hineh mah tov umah na'im
Shevet kulam gam yachad

*Behold how good and sweet it is to
be together with our community*

Justice Blessing

We set our kavanah (intention) for our service

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוָה, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ
בְּמִצְוֹתָיו, וְצִוָּנוּ לְרַדּוֹף צְדָקָה

Baruch atah adonai, eloheinu melech ha'olam, asher
kid'shanu b'mitzvotav v'tsivanu lirdof tzedek.

*Blessed are we, who follow paths of holiness, and command
ourselves to pursue justice.*

What is Home?

Mosab Abu Toha

What is home:

it is the shade of trees on my way to school
before they were uprooted.

It is my grandparents' black-and-white wedding
photo before the walls crumbled.

It is my uncle's prayer rug, where dozens of ants
slept on wintry nights, before it was looted and
put in a museum.

It is the oven my mother used to bake bread and
roast chicken before a bomb reduced our house
to ashes.

It is the café where I watched football matches
and played—

My child stops me: Can a four-letter word hold
all of these?

Mah Tovu

מֵה־טֹבוֹ אֱהָלֶיךָ אַבְרָהָם, אֱהָלֶיךָ שָׂרָה
מִשְׁכְּנֹתֶיךָ חֲבֵרִים
וְאֲנִי בְּרֹב חַסְדְּךָ אָבוֹא בֵּיתְךָ אֲשַׁתְּחֹוּהָ
אֶל־הֵיכַל־קֹדֶשְׁךָ בִּירְאָתְךָ:

Mah tovu ohaleicha Avraham, ohaleicha
Sara, mishkenoteicha chaverim
Va'ani berov chasdecha avo veitecha,
eshtachaveh el heichal kodshecha
beyiratecha

*How fair are your tents, O Abraham, O
Sarah, Your dwellings, O friends
But I, through Your abundant love, enter
Your house;
I bow down in awe at Your holy temple.*



Portrait of Shatzi Weisberger by Micah Bazant

Social Action

by Rabbi Jack Riemer (adapted)

We cannot pray to You, O God, to banish war,
for You have filled the world with paths to
peace,
if only we would take them.

We cannot pray to You
to end starvation,
for there is food enough for all,
if only we would share it.

We cannot merely pray for prejudice to cease,
for we might see the good in all
that lies before our eyes,
if only we would use them

We cannot merely pray "Root out despair,"
For the spark of hope already waits within
the human heart,
for us to fan it into flame.

We must not ask of You, O God,
to take the task that You have given us.
We cannot shirk, we cannot flee away,
Avoiding obligation for ever.

Therefore we pray to You, instead O God,
For wisdom, will, and courage.
To do instead of just to pray
To become instead of merely to wish.

Lecha Dodi

*Come, my beloved, let us welcome the
Shabbat presence*

לְכָה דוּדֵי לִקְרַאת כָּלָה Lecha dodi likrat kala,
פְּנֵי שַׁבַּת נִקְבְּלָה p'nei Shabbat n'kab'lah!

שְׁמֹר וְזָכוֹר בְּדַבּוּר אֶחָד Shamor v'zachor b'dibur echad,
הִשְׁמִיעֵנוּ אֵל הַמֵּיּוּחָד Hishmi'anu el ha'meyuchad.
ה' אֶחָד וְשֵׁמוֹ אֶחָד Adonai echad u'shmo echad;
לְשֵׁם וּלְתִפְאֵרֶת וּלְתִהִלָּה L'shem ul'tiferet v'l'tehila.

לִקְרַאת שַׁבַּת לְכוּ וְנִלְכָה Likrat Shabbat l'chu v'nelcha,
כִּי הִיא מְקוֹר הַבְּרָכָה Ki hi m'kor ha'bracha.
מֵרֹאשׁ מִקְדָּם נְסוּכָה Me'rosh mi'kedem n'sucha;
סוֹף מַעֲשֵׂה בְּמַחֲשָׁבָה תְּחִלָּה Sof ma'aseh b'mach'shava t'chila.

הִתְעוֹרְרִי הִתְעוֹרְרִי Hit'oreri, hit'oreri,
כִּי בָּא אוֹרֵךְ קוּמִי אוּרִי Ki va orech, kumi ohri.
עוּרִי עוּרִי שִׁיר דַּבְּרִי Uri, uri, shir daberi;
כְּבוֹד ה' עָלֶיךָ נִגְלָה K'vod Adonai alai'yich nigla.

*Stand for
this verse:*

בֹּאֵי בְּשָׁלוֹם עֲטֹרֶת בַּעֲלָה Bo'ee v'shalom, ateret ba'ala,
גַּם בְּשִׂמְחָה וּבִצְהֵלָה Gam b'simcha uv' tzhala.
תּוֹךְ אֲמוּנֵי עַם סִגְלָה Toch emunei am segula;
בּוֹאֵי כָּלָה בּוֹאֵי כָּלָה Bo'ee chala, bo'ee chala.



A Jewish Prayer for Nakba Day

לְיוֹם הַנִּכְבָּה / יוֹם הַנִּכְבָּה

by Sara M (adapted)

אלהנו ואלהי אבותינו,
שענה לאברהם בעת עקדת בנו,
שפקד את שרה בפתח אהלה,
שמצא את הגר במדבר בדרך אל שור,
וששמע את צעקת בנה במדבר בְּאֵר שֶׁבַע,
תזכור נא את אחינו ואחיותינו הפלסטינים,
שנהרגו,
שנעקרו,
שברחו,
שנאסר עליהם לחזור לביתם,
ושעומדים היום לאבד את בתיהם.

Our God, and God of our ancestors,
who answered Avraham when his son was bound on the altar,
who remembered Sarah's prayers in her tent for a child,
and who found Hagar in the wilderness on the road to Shur,
and who heard the cries of her child in the wilderness of Be'er Sheva,
may God remember our Palestinian siblings
who were killed,
who were expelled,
who fled,
who were not allowed to return home,
and those who are still at risk of losing their homes.

שמע תפילותיהם
לְאִיחוד משפחות מופרדות באדמת אבותיהם
והם יכולים לחזור באושר לארצם
שנכתב "בשמחה" לביתם
ובששון" לעירם".

May their prayers be heard
so that families be re-united in the land of their ancestors,
and they can return in happiness to their land
and in joy to their homes,
in the cities, in the villages, and outside the villages.

"וישבתם על הארץ לבטח"
ולעלות בשלום לעיר קודשך
ותן שנגור ביחד
בְּצִדְקָה וּבְמִשְׁפָּט
"ובְחֶסֶד וּבְרַחֲמִים".

May they dwell securely in the land, without fear of being uprooted,
and may they be free to go up to Your holy city
and may we all dwell together
with righteousness and with justice
and with kindness and with mercy.

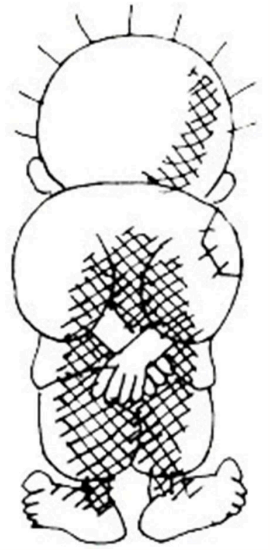
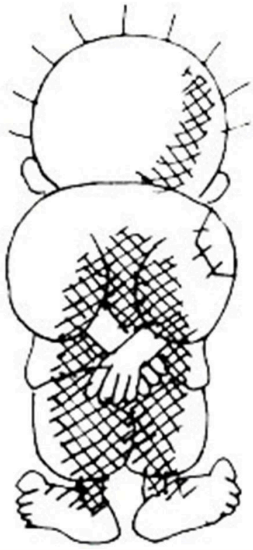
שים רוח אחוה וחמלה עלינו
שנאמר "והסרתי את לב האבן מבשרכם
ונתתי לכם לב בשר."
"ונאמר "אמן"

Help us all to have compassion for one another,
as it is written, "and I will take your heart of stone,
and replace it with a heart of flesh."
and we will say, **Amen.**"

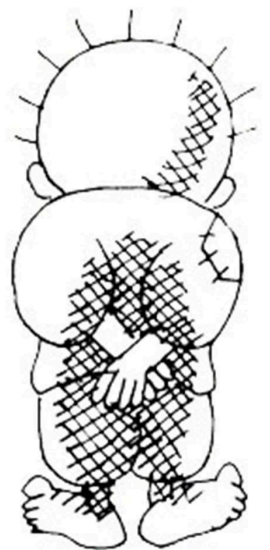
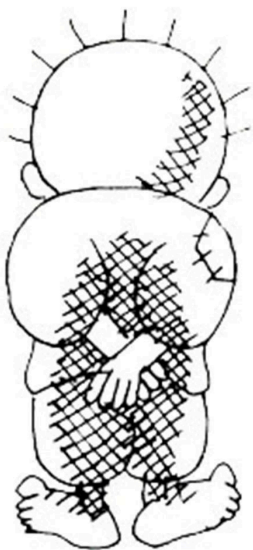


We Already Know This

Tariq Luthun



There is more to us than
What was taken from us.
A place to call
home. Land of olive trees,
and their branches.
Palestine. There.
I've said it. I want to be sure
that everyone knows
from where my parents
hail. Everyone needs a place
to call home. Genocide: everyone,
I would hope, knows that it did not start
and did not end with the
Holocaust. I haven't forgotten that
everyone needs a place on this planet. And I,
I prefer to live where I can leave
the doors unlocked —
or live without the doors —
or hell. I don't even care
for walls. But, I do care
for the blues: water; the sadness
that comes when it is not within
sight. I don't know if there is
a child, anywhere on this earth, that wasn't,
at least once, held by their mother. Again,
water: where my mother held me
until I was given to land. O firm land — how my father holds
me — folks keep calling for blood, to dress you in it.



Handala: a symbol of
Palestinian defiance by Naji
al-Ali: "Handala was born 10
years old,... It was at that age
that I left my homeland."

I don't think any of them
know, truly, how much of it
the body can take; how much of it
the body can lose.

Either Stand or remain sitting. Some cover their eyes while saying the Sh'ma

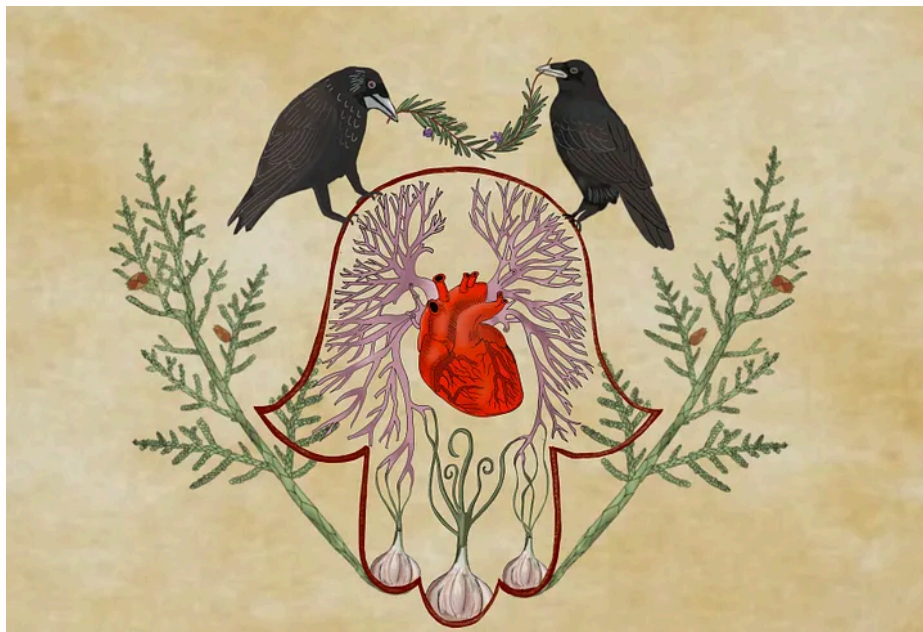
Sh'ma

Hear!

שְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ יְהוָה אֶחָד
בְּרוּךְ שֵׁם כְּבוֹד מְלֻכּוּתוֹ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד

Sh'ma Yisra'el, Adonai eloheinu, Adonai echad
Baruch shem k'vod malchuto l'olam va'ed

*Hear O' Israel, Adonai is our God, Adonai is One
Blessed is God's glorious majesty forever and ever.*



Art by Wendy Elishveva Somerson

V'Ahavta

And You shall Love...

V'Ahavta by Aurora Levins Morales

Say these words when you lie down and when you rise up,
when you go out and when you return.

In times of mourning and in times of joy.

Inscribe them on your doorposts,
embroider them on your garments,

tattoo them on your shoulders,

teach them to your children,

your neighbors, your enemies,

recite them in your sleep, here in the cruel shadow of empire:

Another world is possible.

Prayer for the Diaspora

Shekhinah, Great Mystery, you have come with us on our journeys through the earth, forced from place to place.

Great Mystery, may you bless us in this place, here, now. On a stolen land we don't claim, we build a new home, forged and bound together, in struggle and in joy with our neighbours.

Shekhinah, who guided our ancestors, may you guide us as we embrace our doikayt, our hereness, and all those standing in opposition to colonialism, nationalism and assimilation.

Great Mystery, twist these threads of home: our commitment to what is and is not ours, the strangeness of others, and our strangeness to others

Shekhinah, as we forge strong coalitions, wrap us in your diaspora, so we may be home wherever we land



Doikayt fun Undzer Tsayt (Hereness of Our Times).

Yiddish text reads: “dos land gehert nisht tsu undz, mir shafn a heym tsuzamen / mir darfn an etishn golus/ in farband mit undzere shkhenim (we don't own the land, we create home together / we need an ethical diaspora / united/bound together with our neighbors). Artwork by Etai @tsukunst

Shechinah, soften our hearts and the hearts of our enemies. Help us to dream new paths to freedom, so that the next sea-opening is not also a drowning; so that our singing is never again their wailing. So that our freedom leaves no one orphaned, childless, gasping for air

Mi Chamocha

מִי כְּמֹכָה בְּאֵלִים יְהוָה
מִי כְּמֹכָה נְאֻדָר בְּקֹדֶשׁ
נֹרָא תְהִלַּת עֲשֵׂה פְּלֵא

Mi chamocha ba'eilim Adonai?
Mi chamocha ne'dar bakodesh?
Nora t'hilot oseh feleh.

A Prayer for Gaza's Children

God who is the creator of all children, hear our prayer this accursed day.
God whom we call Blessed, turn your face to these,
the children of Gaza, that they may know your blessings, and your shelter,
that they may know light and warmth,
where there is now only blackness and smoke,
and a cold which cuts and clenches the skin.

Almighty who makes exceptions, which we call miracles,
make an exception of the children of Gaza.
Shield them from us. Spare them. Heal them.
Let them stand in safety.
Deliver them from hunger and horror and fury and grief.

Restore to them
their stolen childhoods, their birthright,
which is a taste of heaven.

Allah, whose name we call Elohim,
who gives life, who knows the value and the fragility
of every life, send these children your angels.
Save them, the children of this place,
Gaza the most beautiful, and Gaza the damned.

In this day, when the trepidation and rage and
mourning that is called war, seizes our hearts and
patches them in scars, we call to you, God, whose name is Peace:

Bless these children, and keep them from harm.

Turn Your face toward them, God.
Show them, as if for the first time, light and kindness,
and overwhelming graciousness.

Look up at them, God. Let them see your face.
And, as if for the first time, grant them peace.



FREE, FREE, FREE PALESTINE!

Stand during
the Amidah

The Amidah

“The Standing Prayer”

אֲדֹנָי שְׁפָתַי תִּפְתָּח וּפִי יַגִּיד תְּהִלָּתְךָ

Adonai s'fatai tiftach, ufi yagid t'hilatecha

Eternal one, open my lips, so that my mouth may declare Your praise

“Hate evil and love good, and establish
justice in the gate... Let justice well up
like water, righteousness like an
unfailing stream”
Amos 5:15,24

“Anyone who is able to protest
against the transgressions of the
entire world and does not is punished
for the transgressions of the entire
world”
Shabbat 54b

***For the Amidah we take a moment for silent prayer and reflection.
You may focus on the prophetic quotes on this page or on the
following kavanah (intention):***

***When has your relationship to home been defensive, a silo,
possessive; and how could you make your relationship to home one
that is a welcoming sanctuary to invite in neighbours and strangers?***

“Woe to those who make unjust laws, to those
who issue oppressive decrees, to deprive the poor
of their rights and withhold justice from the
oppressed of my people”
Isaiah 10:1

“Shun evil and do good,
seek amity and pursue it”
Psalm 34:15

“You shall not stand idly by
the blood of another”
Leviticus 19:16

“You have been told, O mortal, what is
good, And what God requires of you:
Only to do justice, And to love goodness,
And to walk wisely with your God”
Micah 6:8

Lo Yisa Goy

Don't stop after beating the swords into ploughshares, ***don't stop!*** Go on beating and make musical instruments out of them. Whoever wants to make war again will have to turn them into ploughshares first. – Yehuda Amichai

Lo yis-a goy el goy cherev

לא ישא גוי אל גוי חרב

Lo yilm'du od milchama.

לא ילמדו עוד מלחמה.

*Nation shall not take up sword against nation,
They shall never again know war.*

Spatial Apartheid

Disha Govender (extracts)

It was with violent effort that the colonial and apartheid governments divided us, in a way to keep us divided long after the demise of apartheid, by corrupting our sense of being and belonging. The rights of people of colour to the land were made unrecognisable by a legal system that worked with the oppressive state to legalise the apartheid project of segregation and subjugation.

People of colour were removed from central Cape Town in a project to make the specific space “whites only”. Our grandfathers and grandmothers were rendered stateless. It impoverished the black and coloured majority of the city and created high levels of inequality with devastating and long-lasting consequences which we are forced to live with to this day.

Constitutional democracy brought hope and promises of change. Yet, not a single affordable housing unit has been built in central Cape Town since democracy, with no real explanation why. How can there be redress and spatial justice without affordable housing as a means of accessing and returning to areas from which people of colour were so brutally excluded?

Spatial apartheid must be redressed, it must be intentionally undone.



Artwork by Roan Boucher

Ahava/Alhub

*Love and Compassion,
Kindness and Peace*

אַהֲבָה וְרַחֲמִים
חֶסֶד וְשָׁלוֹם

ahava v'rachamim
chesed v'shalom

الحب والرحيم
اللطيف والسلام

alhub warahma
alateef wasalaam

Blessing of the Lulav

The lulav is held up in the right hand, and the etrog is held pitom end (pointy side) down in the left hand. Recite the blessing. Then turn the etrog up and shake the entire bundle three times in each of six directions: straight ahead, right, back, left, up, and down.

As we shake the lulav, commit to an action you will take within your congregation or community to work towards justice here in South Africa, Palestine, and the World



Baruch atah, Adonai
Eloheinu, Melech haolam,
asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav
v'tzivanu al n'tilat lulav

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יְהוָה
אֱלֹהֵינוּ, מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,
אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו
וְצִוָּנוּ עַל נְטִילַת לֻלָב

*We bless the Source of all Existence, who
shows us paths to holiness, and inspires us to
take up the Lulav*



Aleinu

“It is upon us”

A Prayer for Reparation and Restoration

by Rabbi Brant Rosen

To the One who demands justice:
inspire us to become *rodfei tzedek*,
pursuers of justice
in our lives and in our communities.
Give us the strength to resist power
wielded with fear and dread;
fill us with the vision and purpose
to build a power yet greater,
a power rooted in solidarity,
liberation and love.

Grant us the courage to dismantle
systems of oppression –
and when they are no more,
let us dedicate our wealth and resources
toward the well-being of all.

May we abolish all forms of state violence
that we might make way for a world
free of racism and militarisation,
a world where no one profits
off the misery of others,

a world where the bills owed those
who have been
colonised, enslaved and dispossessed
are finally paid in full.

Inspire us with the knowledge
that real justice is indeed at hand,
that we may realise
the world we know is possible,
right here, right now,
in our own day.

May our thoughts and our hopes,
our words and our deeds
guide us toward a future of reparation,
of restoration, of justice,
al kol yoshvei teivel
for all who dwell on earth,
amen.

Mi Shebeirach

Mi Shebeirach avoteinu

M’kor habrachah l’imoteinu

May the source of strength Who blessed the ones before us

Help us find the courage to make our lives a blessing,

*And let us say, **Amen.***

Mi Shebeirach imoteinu

M’kor habrachah la’avoteinu

Bless those in need of healing with r’fuah sh’leimah

The renewal of body, the renewal of spirit,

*And let us say, **Amen.***

Mourner's Kaddish

The Mourner's Kaddish is
written in Aramaic, an
ancestor language to
both Hebrew and Arabic

(רַבָּא שְׁמֵיהּ יִתְקַדֵּשׁ יִתְגַּדַּל [אמן]) Glorified and sanctified by God's great name.....)

Yitgadal v'yitkadsh sh'mei raba

b'alma div'ra chirutei v'yamlich malchutei

B'chayeichon uvyomeichon uvchayei d'chol ha'olam,

ba'agala uvizman kariv, v'im'ru: **Amen**

Y'hei sh'mei raba m'varach l'alam ul'almei almaya.

Yitbarach v'yishtabach, v'yitpa'ar v'yitroman v'yitnaseh,

V'yithadar v'yit'aleh v'yithalal sh'mei d'kud'sha, **b'rich hu,**

L'eila minkolbirschata v'shirata, tushb'chata v'nechemata –

da'amiran b'alma, v'im'ru: **Amen**

Y'hei shlama raba min-sh'maya v'chayim aleinu v'al-kol-ha'olam, v'im'ru: **Amen**

Oseh shalom bimromav, hu ya'aseh shalom aleinu

v'al kol ha'olam, v'imru: **Amen**



Artwork by Andrea Marcos

Oseh Shalom

עוֹשֵׂה שְׁלוֹם בְּמִרְמֵי
הוּא יַעֲשֶׂה שְׁלוֹם עָלֵינוּ
וְעַל כָּל הָעוֹלָם
וְאָמְרוּ: אָמֵן

Oseh Shalom bimromav,
Hu ya'ase shalom aleinu
V'al kol ha'olam,
V'imru Imru. Amen

*May the one who makes
peace in heaven,
make peace for all who
inhabit the earth*



Artwork by Natasha Vally

Kiddush

for before the meal...

haGafen: Wine or Grape Juice

raise the cup and recite:

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם בּוֹרֵא פְּרֵי הַגֶּפֶן

Baruch ata Adonai, Eloheinu Melech ha'olam,

borei peri hagafen.

*We bless the Compassionate One,
Who creates the fruit of the vine.*

haMotzei: Challah

recited over two loaves of bread or kitke:

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם הַמוֹצִיא לֶחֶם מִן הָאָרֶץ

Baruch ata Adonai, Eloheinu Melech ha'olam,

hamotze lechem min ha'aretz.

*We bless the Foundation of the World,
Who creates bread from the earth.*

