



SOUL NIDRE SUPPLEMENT 5786

A Prayer for the New Year

By Eyal Ziv (translated by Irit Burkeman)

Give us one year of real silence
A year of white blooms and green grass
A year of fervoured love and a toasty warm home
And that we should know only once 'what is good and pleasant'.

A year without the voices of hate and the cries of the bereaved
Without pictures of blood without the drums of war
Without the paralysing fear of the worst
Without missing the future laughter of the one who was buried

Afterall, we didn't ask for kingdoms' treasures
Nor subliminal happiness nor luxury cars
Only a pinch of real silence and white blooms
In which we could be adorned

As in the past to get excited from the autumn smells
To gallop to happiness as the whistle of the train
To build us a sukkah of peace now
And to be deserving of sitting in it

תן לנו שנה אחת של שקט אמתי
שנה של לובן הפריחות וירק הדשא
שנה של להט אהבות וחום תנור ביתי
ושנדע רק פעם מהו טוב ומה נעים

שנה ללא קולות שנאה וזעקות השכול
ללא מראות הדם ללא הלמות תפי המלחמה
ללא הפחד המשחק של הנורא מכל
ללא צחוקו של העתיד אשר נטמן באדמה

הן לא בקשנו לנו אוצרות של ממלכות
לא אשר עלאי ומכוניות פאר
קרטוב אחד של שקט אמתי ולובן של פריחות
אשר נוכל בהם בלאט להתהדר

להתרגש כפעם מריחות הסתו
לדהר אל האשר כשריקת רפכת
לבנות לנו סבת שלום עכשו
ולהיות בה ראויים לשבת

Nachman of Bratslav's Prayer for Peace

May it be Your will, Eternal God, that war and bloodshed be abolished from the world, that a great and wondrous peace rule forever; that never again shall nation lift up sword against nation, and never again shall they train for war. But may all who dwell on the earth recognize and understand the basic truth: that we have not come into this world for strife and division, nor for hate and jealousy, contrariness and bloodshed; but we have come into this world to recognize and know You, may You be blessed forever.

A Prayer for the Release of Captives

Words: based on the words of Kol Haneshamah Reform Congregation, Jerusalem

God of Abraham, the first who risked his life for the release of captives. God of Moses, Miriam and Aaron, whose words and actions brought us out of slavery. God of Elijah, who was comforted through his deep despair, by your still small voice. Be with those everywhere who are enslaved and captive. Our thoughts and prayers go to those still held hostage by Hamas. Grant strength and resilience to them, and their families yearning and working for their release. Give wisdom, courage and conviction to all those working to bring them home. Help us to understand what we too can do to hasten the release of captives and to support those in distress.

ברוך אתה יהוה אלהינו מלך העולם מתיר אסורים :

Baruch attah Adonai eloheinu melech ha-olam matir asurim.

Blessed are you our Living God, who frees captives.