

# A Prayer for Peace for Land and State ☆ תפילה לשלום הארץ והמדינה

neohasid.org (cc) 2022 למען ציון לא אקשה "For Zion's sake I will not be silent"

The traditional prayer for the state of Israel, which is literally titled "A Prayer for the Peace of the State" *tefilah lish'lom hamedinah*, was written in 1948 by the chief rabbis of what had until then been Palestine. The state was under direct attack by the Arab armies, and there was little distinction between peace, survival, and victory.

In the eighth decade after Israel's birth, it is time to make such distinctions. Israel and the Jewish people live in a much more complex reality today: within Israel, a democratic reality, where an election can change the outlook for peace, or the possibility of justice; outside the state but in much of our ancestral lands, a world where Israel's military rules over non-Jews. In our time, praying for peace for Israel must include praying for the rectification of its relationships with its neighbors, especially with the Palestinian people.

This prayer assumes that the best reality for the Jewish state is also the best reality for all of her citizens and for everyone who lives "in the land," no matter where they are in relation to the Green Line or Areas A, B and C.

(Underlined/bold phrases below are additions to the standard prayer in the *siddur*, which uses only half of the 1948 prayer).

Our Nurturer\* / Our Parent, in heaven & on Earth,  
Rock of Israel and its redeemer, bless the land of  
Israel with justice, so that the state may become  
the beginning of the flowering of our redemption.

Shield the land with Your embrace of love and  
spread over her Your sukkah-shelter of peace,  
and to the government send Your light and Your  
righteousness, to her heads, ministers, advisers,  
and judges, and to the nation that elects them.

Align them with the spirit of justice from You, as it  
says, Zion through justice will be redeemed and  
her captives through righteousness. (Isaiah 1:27)

Rescue all of Your land, from the Jordan River to  
the sea, from the spilling of blood, and all residing  
and sojourning there, under every government,  
from haters without and hatred within. Grant  
peace in the land, and secure calm to her  
defenders, lasting joy to all her inhabitants, and  
real hope for all her peoples. And say: Amen.

*Om'neinu/Avinu shebashamayim uva'aretz, Tzur Yisrael v'go'alo, bareikh et Eretz Yisrael shet'hei m'dinat Yisrael l'reishit tz'michat g'ulateinu. Hagein aleha b'evrat chasdekha, ufros aleha sukat sh'lomekha, uvam'dinah sh'lach orkha v'tzidkekha l'rasheha sareha yo'atzeha v'shofteha, v'lal'om shebocher bam, v'takneim b'ru'ach mishpat milfanecha, shene'emar, "Tziyon b'mishpat tipadeh v'shaveha bitz'dakah." Hatzeil na et kol ar'tzekha bein yardein layam mish'fichut damim, v'et kol hayoshvim v'hagarim bah, tachat kol shilton, mison'im bachutz umisin'ah bifnim, v'natata shalom ba'aretz v'shalvah lim'gineha, simchat olam l'khol yoshveha v'tikvah tovah l'khol ameha, v'nomar: Amen.*

What's left out: "Strengthen the hands of those who defend the land...and crown them with the crown of victory."

Why: This was the only phrase in the original prayer referring to the IDF. In a time of war, we need a complete prayer for the protection of soldiers, like the *Mi Shebeirakh* prayer the IDF actually uses. (<http://www.jr.co.il/prayers/hebrew-idf-prayer.htm>) In a other times, the IDF is included in the phrase "grant secure calm (*shalvah*) to her defenders," which also includes everyone else working for peace, justice, and security in the lands of Israel/Palestine and the state of Israel.

\**Om'neinu* is a gender-diverse alternative to *Avinu*, from *omenet*, one who breastfeeds (see Num 11:12, Rut 4:16, Esth 2:7).

אִמְנֵנו\* | אָבִינוּ שְׁבַשְׁמַיִם וּבְאָרֶץ,  
צוּר יִשְׂרָאֵל וְגוֹאֲלוֹ, בְּרַךְ אֶת אֶרֶץ יִשְׂרָאֵל,  
שֶׁתְּהֵא מְדִינַת יִשְׂרָאֵל לְרֵאשִׁית צְמִיחַת גְּאֻלְתָּנוּ.

הִגֵּן עָלֶיךָ בְּאַבְרַת חַסְדְּךָ, וּפְרַשׁ עָלֶיךָ סִכַּת שְׁלוֹמְךָ,  
וּבְמְדִינָה שְׁלַח אוֹרְךָ וְצִדְקָה לְרֵאשִׁיּוֹת שְׂרָיָה  
יִעֲצִיּוֹת וְשׁוֹפְטֵיּהָ, וְלִלְאָם שְׁבוּחַת בָּם  
וְתַקְנֵם בְּרוּחַ מְשַׁפֵּט מְלִפְנֵיךָ  
שֶׁנֶּאֱמַר "צִיּוֹן בְּמִשְׁפַּט תִּפְדֶּה וְשָׁבִיָּה בְּצִדְקָה."

הַצֵּל נָא אֶת כָּל אֲרָצְךָ בֵּין יַרְדֵּן לַיָּם מִשְׁפִּיכוֹת דָּמִים  
וְאֶת כָּל הַיּוֹשְׁבִים וְהַגֵּרִים בָּהּ תַּחַת כָּל שְׁלֹטוֹן  
מְשׁוֹנְאִים בְּחוּץ וּמְשׁוֹנְאָה בְּפָנִים.  
וְנַתַּת שְׁלוֹם בְּאֶרֶץ וְשְׁלוֹה לְמַגְנֵיּהָ,  
שְׂמַחַת עוֹלָם לְכָל יוֹשְׁבֵיָהּ וְתַקְוָה טוֹבָה לְכָל עַמִּיָּה,  
וְנֹאמַר אָמֵן.

תפילה לשלום הארץ והמדינה ~ למען ציון לא אהשה

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בְּרַחֵם אֶת אֶרֶץ יִשְׂרָאֵל, שְׁתֵּהא מְדִינַת יִשְׂרָאֵל  
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"For Zion's sake I will not be silent" ~ Om'neinu/Avinu shebashamayim uva'aretz, Tzur Yisrael v'go'alo, bareikh et Eretz Yisrael shet'hei M'dinat Yisrael l'reishit tz'michat g'ulateinu. Hagein aleha b'evrat chasdekha ufros aleha sukat sh'lomekha, uvam'dinah sh'lach orkha v'tzidkekha l'rasheha sareha yo'atzeha v'shofteha, v'lal'om shebocher bam, v'takneim b'ruach mishpat milfanekha, shene'emar, "Tziyon b'mishpat tipadeh v'shaveha bitz'dakah." Hatzeil na et kol ar'tzekha bein yardein layam mish'fichut damim, v'et kol hayoshvim v'hagarim bah, tachat kol shilton, mison'im bachutz umisin'ah bifnim, v'natata shalom ba'aretz v'shalvah lim'gineha, simchat olam l'khol yoshveha v'tikvah tovah l'khol ameha, v'nomar: Amen.

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הַגֵּן עָלֶיךָ בְּאַבְרַת חֶסֶדְךָ, וּפְרַשׁ עָלֶיךָ סֶכֶת שְׁלוֹמְךָ,  
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וְתַקְנָם בְּרוּחַ מְשָׁפֵט מְלַפְנֶיךָ  
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Prayer for Israel, Land and State neohasid.org (cc) 2020

Our Nurturer / Our Parent, in heaven and on Earth,  
Rock of Israel and its redeemer, bless the land of  
Israel, so that the state of Israel may become the  
beginning of the flowering of our redemption.

Shield the land with Your embrace of love and spread  
over her Your sukkah-shelter of peace, and to the  
government send Your light and righteousness, to her  
heads, ministers, advisers, and judges, and to the  
nation that elects them. Align them with a spirit of  
justice from You, as it says, *Zion through justice will  
be redeemed, and her captives through righteousness.*  
(Isaiah 1:27)

Rescue all of Your land, from the Jordan River to the  
sea, from the spilling of blood, and all residing and  
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without and hatred within. Grant peace in the land,  
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us say: Amen.

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## Prayer for Israel, Land and State (full page)

neohasid.org (cc) 2022 "For Zion's sake I will not be silent"

תפילה לשלום הארץ והמדינה ~ למען ציון לא אֶחְשֶׂה

אֲמַנְנוּ | אָבִינוּ שְׁבַשְׁמִים וּבְאֶרֶץ, צוּר יִשְׂרָאֵל וְגוֹאֲלוֹ,  
בְּרַךְ אֶת אֶרֶץ יִשְׂרָאֵל, שְׁתֵּהא מְדִינַת יִשְׂרָאֵל לְרֵאשִׁית צְמִיחַת גְּאֻלְתָּנוּ.

הִגְן עָלֶיךָ בְּאַבְרַת חֶסֶדְךָ, וּפְרֵשׁ עָלֶיךָ סִכַּת שְׁלוֹמְךָ,  
וּבְמְדִינָה שְׁלַח אוֹרְךָ וְצִדְקָךָ לְרֵאשִׁיּוֹת שְׂרִיָּה יוֹעֲצִיָּה וְשׁוֹפְטִיָּה, וְלִלְאָם שְׁבוּחַת בָּם  
וּתְקִינָם בְּרוּחַ מְשַׁפֵּט מְלַפְנֶיךָ שְׁנֵאמַר "צִיּוֹן בְּמִשְׁפֵּט תִּפְדֶּה וְשָׁבִיָּה בְּצִדְקָה."

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וְאֶת כָּל הַיּוֹשְׁבִים וְהַגְּרִים בָּהּ תַּחַת כָּל שְׁלֹטוֹן מְשׁוֹנְאִים בַּחוּץ וּמְשׁוֹנְאָה בְּפָנִים.  
וְנַתַּת שְׁלוֹם בְּאֶרֶץ וְשְׁלוֹה לְמַגְנִיָּה, שְׁמַחַת עוֹלָם לְכָל יוֹשְׁבֵי  
וּתְקוּהַ טוֹבָה לְכָל עַמִּיָּה, וְנֵאמַר אָמֵן.

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