

A special blessing to say after eating in the Shmita year

Listen to it sung at neohasid.org/abundancefarm/shmita/

May the merciful One turn our hearts toward the land, so that we may dwell together with her in her sabbath-rest, the whole year of Shmita.

הַרְחֵמֵנוּ הוּא יְשִׁיב לִבֵּינוּ אֶל הָאָרֶץ
לְמַעַן נִשְׁבַּח יַחַד עִמָּה בְּשַׁבְּתָהּ, כָּל שְׁנַת הַשְּׁמִיטָה

*Harachaman hu yashiv libeinu el ha'aretz
l'ma'an neisheiv yachad imah b'shovtah, kol sh'nat hash'mitah!*

A blessing of intention for planting and harvest in the Shmita year

from abundancefarm.org and neohasid.org

In this year of Shmita,
we acknowledge
that everything the land
brings forth as gift
is provided for all creatures,
free to all, and the land belongs
to none but the Creator.
Therefore,

בְּשְׁנַת הַשְּׁמִיטָה הַזֹּאת
מוֹדִים אֲנַחְנוּ וְיֹדְעִים
שְׁכֹל פְּרוֹת הָאָרֶץ
שְׁמוּצִיאָה בְּנִדְבָה
הֵם לְכֹל בְּרִיּוֹתֶיהָ וְהֶפְקֵר לְכוֹלָם
וְאִינוּ בְּעַל לָהּ תַּחַת הַבוֹרָא
וּלְכוּ...

May it be so: that the land
receives such divine seeds and
sprouts into its bosom to
nurture, and that
we receive in gratitude what
God creates and the Earth
ripens. May we lift our faces
toward the land and turn
in love toward all her creatures,
and may all our actions become
ripe with justice and love.

יְהִי רְצוֹנְךָ שֶׁתִּקְבַּל הָאָרֶץ
הַזְרָעִים וְהַנְּטִיעוֹת הָאֵל
בְּחִיקָה לָזוֹן וְנִקְבַּל בְּהוֹדָא
כָּל מָה שֶׁבָרָא אֱ"ל לְהֵימֵן
וְהַבְּשִׁילָה הָאָרֶץ
וְכוּ שְׁנִשְׂא פְּנֵינוּ אֶל הָאָרֶץ
וְנִפְנֶה בְּאַהֲבָה
אֶל כָּל בְּרִיּוֹתֶיהָ
וְיִהְיוּ כָּל מַעֲשֵׂינוּ
בְּשָׁלִים בְּצַדֵּק וּבְאַהֲבָה

Bishnat hashmitah hazot, modim anachnu v'yod'im, shekol peirot ha'arets shemotsi'ah bin'davah, heim l'khol b'riyoteha v'hefker l'kulam, v'ein ba'al lah tachat haborei. Ulakhen... Y'hi r'tsonakh shet'kabeil ha'arets hazera'im v'haneti'ot ha'eil b'cheikah lazun, un'kabeil b'hoda'ah kol mah shebara Elohim v'hivshilah ha'arets, v'khen shenisa paneinu el ha'arets v'nifneh b'ahavah el kol b'riyoteha, vihyu kol ma'aseinu b'sheilim b'tsedek uv'ahavah

Shmita is a time when nothing that grows from the Earth is owned and all is shared, when the land we call Israel could rest from being plowed and sown. Shmita is a year of radical equity and mutual support, and a time to learn patience and generosity from the land.