A PRAYER FOR THE HOSTAGES AND THE IDF AFTER LIGHTING SHABBAT CANDLES

In memory of the fallen soldiers and civilian victims of the massacre in the south of Israel and the ensuing war with our enemies

"The glory of Shabbat is its candles. If one observes [the mitzva of] Shabbat candles, I will show you the candles of Zion.... It will In ot be necessary for you to use the light of the sun to see; rather I will provide illumination for you with My glory.... In the future, the nations will walk by your light.... Why do you deserve all of this? Because of the candles you light for Shabbat."

— YALKUT SHIMONI, BEHAALOTEKHA

Two candles should be lit before the start of Shabbat. After lighting the candles, extinguish the match, cover your eyes and say the following blessing:*

בַּרוּךָ אַתַּה ה' אֵלֹקֵינוּ מֵלֶךְ הַעוֹלַם אֲשֶׁר קדִשָׁנוּ בִּמְצִוֹתַיו וִצְוַנוּ לְהַדְלִיק נֵר שֵׁל שַׁבַּת.

BLESSED ARE YOU, LORD OUR G-D, KING OF THE UNIVERSE, WHO HAS SANCTIFIED US WITH HIS COMMANDMENTS, AND HAS COMMANDED US TO LIGHT SHABBAT CANDLES.

It is customary to add prayers and personal supplications after lighting. The following is a special prayer for the captives, the IDF, the injured and the entire Jewish nation:

יָ**הִי רָצוֹן** מִלְפָנֶיךָ ה' אֶלקִינוּ וָאֱלֹקֵי אַבוֹתֵינוּ, שַׁתִּתְמַלֵּא בָּרַחֵמִים עַלֵינוּ וְעַל כָּל עַמְּךְ יִשְׂרָאֵל וָתַצִּילֵנוּ וְתוֹשִׁיעֵנוּ מִיַּד כַּל אוֹיְבֵינוּ וְשוֹנְאֵינוּ, וּמְכַּף ָכָּל מִבַּקּשֵׁי רַעַתֵנוּ, הַפֶּר עֲצַתַם וְקַלְקֵל מַחְשָׁבוֹתַם, ולא תעשינה ידיהם תושיה, וכמו שנאמר עצו ָעֶצָה וִתְפַר, דַבְּרוּ דָבָר וִלֹא יָקוֹם, כִּי עִמָּנוּ אֱ־ל. וָנֵאַמַר, ה' הַפִּיר עֲצַת גוֹיִים הניא מחשבות עמים, ויהי רצון שחרבם תבוא בלבם וקשתותם תשברנה.

May it be Your will, Lord our G-d and G-d of our ancestors, that You be compassionate and have mercy on us and on all Your nation of Israel. Please rescue and save us from the hands of all our enemies and adversaries, and from those who seek to harm us. Thwart their plans and frustrate their schemes, so that they may not achieve success. May their evil intentions come to nothing, and may they not triumph. As it is said, 'They devise plans, but they do not succeed; they speak words, but they are in vain, for G-d is with us.' And it is said, 'The Lord thwarts the plans of nations and brings to naught the schemes of peoples.' May it be Your will that their swords enter their own hearts, and may their bows be broken. >>>

*For Shabbat times or more information on candle lighting, visit Aish.com or Chabad.org. For sponsorship and other inquiries, please WhatsApp +972-545444932.

אָנָא ה' יֶהֶמוּ נָא רַחֲמֶיךְּ עָלֵינוּ וְעַל כָּל עַמְּךְּ יִשְׂרָאֵל,
עֲמֹד נָא מִכָּסֵא הַדִּין וְשֵׁב עַל כָּסֵא הַרַחֲמִים, וְתְכָּנֵס
לָנוּ לְפָנִי וְלְפְנִים מִשׁוּרַת הַדִּין, וּתְבַטֵּל מֵעְלֵינוּ כָּל
גְּזֵרוֹת קָשׁוֹת וְרָעוֹת, וְתִגְזֹר עָלֵינוּ גְּזֵרוֹת טוֹבוֹת,
יְשׁוּעוֹת וְנֶחָמוֹת, לְמַעַן רַחֲמֶיךְ, וְתִקְרַע רֹעַ גְּזַר
דְנֵינוּ וְיִקְרָאוּ לְפָנֶיךְ זְכוּיוֹתֵינוּ.

"קוּמָה עֶזְרָתָה לָנוּ וּפְדֵנוּ לְמַעַן חַסְדֶּךְ"

Please, Lord, let Your mercy be upon us and upon all Your people, Israel. Arise, now, from the throne of judgment and sit on the throne of mercy, and come before us and act with compassion rather than strict justice. Nullify all harsh and evil decrees against us, grant us favorable decrees, salvation, and consolation for the sake of Your mercy. Tear up the evil decree of our judgment. May our merits be proclaimed before You.

'Arise to our aid, and redeem us for the sake of Your kindness.'

אָנָא ה' שְׁמֹר וְהָגֵן עַל עֲבָדֶיךָּ צֹאן מַרְעִיתְךְּ,
הַנְּמְצָאִים בַּשִּׁבְיָה בְּעַזָּה, הָגֵן עַל חַיָּלֵי הַצְּבָא
וְכוֹחוֹת הַבִּּשָּׁחוֹן, הַצִּילֵם מִפַּח יָקוּשׁ, לֹא תְּאֻנֶּה
אֲלֵיהֶם רָעָה, וְנָגַע לֹא יִקְרֵב בְּאָהֱלֵיהֶם, וְתַצִּילֵם
מִּכָּל מִינֵי פֻּרְעָנֻיּוֹת וּתְאוּנוֹת הַמִּתְרַגְּשׁוֹת לָבוֹא
בְּעוֹלְם, וּשְׁלַח נָא רְפוּאָה שְׁלֵמָה לְכָל חוֹלֵי עַמְּךְ,
לְכָל הַפְּצוּעִים, וּשְׁמַע נָא אֶת קוֹל תְּחִנָּתֵנוּ, כִּי אַתְּה
שׁוֹמֵע תְּפִלָּה. יִּהְיוּ
שׁוֹמֵע תְּפִלָּה. יִּרְוּךְ שׁוֹמֵע תְּפִלָּה. יִהְיוּ
לַרְצוֹן אִמְרֵי פִי וְהַגִּיוֹן לָבִי לְפַנֵיךְ ה' צוּרִי וְגֹאֵלִי.

ה' עֹז לְעַמּוֹ יִתֵּן ה' יְבָרֵךְ אֶת עַמּוֹ בַשָּׁלוֹם, אָמֵן וְאָמֵן.

Please, Lord, watch over and protect Your servants, Your flock, who are held captive in Gaza. Protect the soldiers of the army and security forces, save them from any peril and harm. Let no evil befall their tents, and save them from the calamities and disasters that trouble the world. Please heal all the sick among Your people, and all the wounded, and hear the voice of our supplication, for You are the One who hears every prayer. Blessed is the One who hears prayer. May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable before You, Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.

The Lord will give strength to His people; the Lord will bless His people with peace. Amen and Amen.