

PRAYER FOR TU B'SHEBAT

This prayer was composed by the Ben Ish Hai to be said on Tu B'shebat. He writes that since this is the new year for trees, it befits one to recite these verses and the following prayer on the morning of Tu B'shebat. It is also well known that there is a tradition from Hazal that on Tu B'shebat a person should specifically pray that Hashem facilitate his acquisition of a beautiful etrog for Sukkot. It may be said on Shabbat as well. (Nitey Gabriel)

וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים, תְּדַשָּׂא הָאָרֶץ דְּשָׂא עֵשֶׂב מְזֵרֵעַ זֶרַע, עֵץ פְּרִי עֵשׂוּה פְּרִי לְמִינּוּ, אֲשֶׁר זֶרְעוּבּוֹ עַל־הָאָרֶץ, וַיְהִי־כֵן: וַתּוּצֵא הָאָרֶץ דְּשָׂא עֵשֶׂב מְזֵרֵעַ זֶרַע לְמִינֵהוּ, וְעֵץ עֵשׂוּה־פְּרִי אֲשֶׁר זֶרְעוּבּוֹ לְמִינֵהוּ, וַיֵּרָא אֱלֹהִים בְּיָטוֹב:

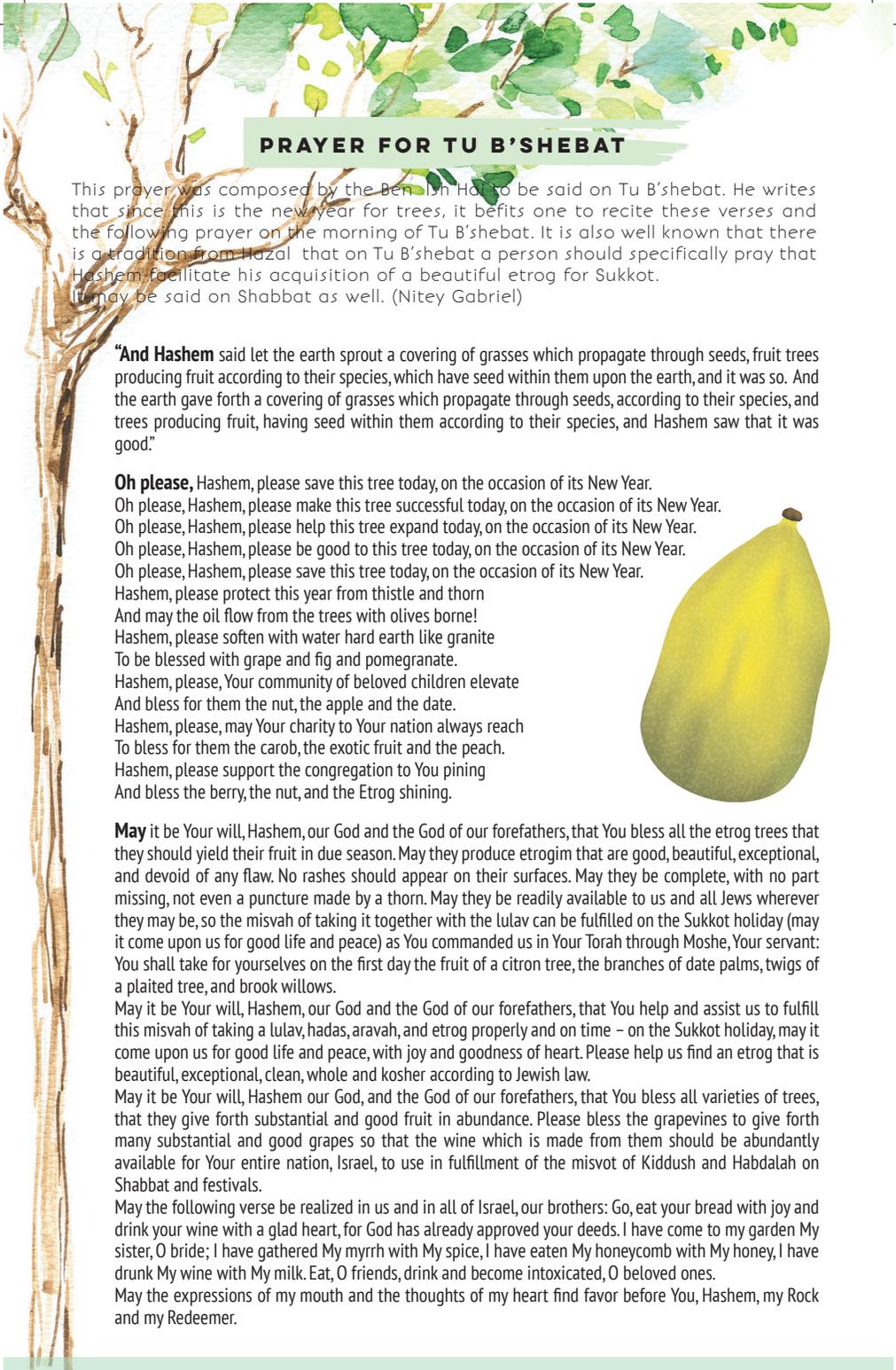


אָנָּא יְהוָה, הוֹשִׁיעֵה־נָּא הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה לְאֵילָן, הוּא רֹאשׁ הַשָּׁנָה. אָנָּא יְהוָה, הַצְּלִיחֵה־נָּא הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה לְאֵילָן, הוּא רֹאשׁ הַשָּׁנָה. אָנָּא יְהוָה, הַרְוִיחֵה־נָּא הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה לְאֵילָן, הוּא רֹאשׁ הַשָּׁנָה. אָנָּא יְהוָה, הַטִּיבֵה־נָּא הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה לְאֵילָן, הוּא רֹאשׁ הַשָּׁנָה. אָנָּא יְהוָה, בְּרַךְ־נָּא הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה לְאֵילָן, הוּא רֹאשׁ הַשָּׁנָה. אֵל נָא, פְּצֵה שָׁנָה זוֹ מִשְׁמִיר וְשִׁית, וּבְרַךְ עֵץ שֶׁמֶן וְחַיִּית. אֵל נָא, בְּמִטֵּר רוּחַ תְּרַבּוּנֵי יְשִׁימוֹן, וּבְרַךְ גִּפְן וּתְאֵנָה וְרִמּוֹן. אֵל נָא, רוּמֵם עֲצָרֵת עוֹלָלֵי טְפוּחִים, וּבְרַךְ אֶגּוֹז וְתַמָּר וְתַפּוּחִים. אֵל נָא, צִדְקָה מֵעַמּוּד בְּלִי־פֶסֶק, וּבְרַךְ חֲרוֹב וּקְרֶסֶטְמֵל וְאַפְרֶסֶק. אֵל נָא, חֲלֹץ קַהֲלָה אֲשֶׁר אֵלֶיךָ תַעֲרֹג, וּבְרַךְ הַתּוֹת וְהָאֶגּוֹז וְהָאֶתְרוֹג.

וַיְהִי רְצוֹן מִלְּפָנֶיךָ יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאַלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ, שֶׁתְּבָרֵךְ כְּלֵי־אֵילָנוֹת הָאֶתְרוֹג לְהוֹצִיא פְרוּתֵיהֶם בְּעֵתָם, וַיּוֹצִיאוּ אֶתְרוֹגִים טוֹבִים, זָפִים וּמֵהֲדָרִים וְנִקְיִים מִכָּל־מוּם. וְלֹא יַעֲלֶה בָּהֶם שׁוּם חֲזוּת, וַיְהִי שְׁלֵמִים, וְלֹא יִהְיֶה בָּהֶם שׁוּם חֶסְרוֹן, וְאַפְלוּ עֲקִיצַת קוֹץ, וַיְהִי מְצוּיִים לָנוּ וּלְכָל־יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּכָל־מְקוֹם שֶׁהֵם, לְקַיֵּם בָּהֶם מִצְוֹת נְטִילָה עִם הַלּוּלָב בְּחַג הַסֻּכּוֹת שֶׁיָּבֵא עֲלֵינוּ לְחַיִּים טוֹבִים וּלְשָׁלוֹם, כְּאֲשֶׁר צִוִּיתָנוּ בְּתוֹרַתְךָ עַל־יַד־מֹשֶׁה עַבְדְּךָ: "וַיִּלְקַחְתֶּם לָכֶם בַּיּוֹם הָרִאשׁוֹן, פְּרִי עֵץ הָדָר כַּפַּת תְּמָרִים וְעֵנָף עֵץ־עֵבֶת וְעַרְבֵי־נַחַל".

וַיְהִי רְצוֹן מִלְּפָנֶיךָ יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאַלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ, שֶׁתַּעֲזָרְנוּ וְתַסְיְעֵנוּ לְקַיֵּם מִצְוָה זוֹ שֶׁל נְטִילַת לּוּלָב וְהִדָּס וְעַרְבֵה וְאֶתְרוֹג כִּתְקֵנָה בְּזִמְנָה בְּחַג הַסֻּכּוֹת שֶׁיָּבֵא עֲלֵינוּ לְחַיִּים טוֹבִים וּלְשָׁלוֹם, בְּשִׂמְחָה וּבְטוֹב לֵבָב, וְתִזְמִין לָנוּ אֶתְרוֹג זָפֵה וּמֵהֲדָר וְנִקְיִי וְשֶׁלֶם וְכָשֶׁר כִּהְלַכְתּוּ.

וַיְהִי רְצוֹן מִלְּפָנֶיךָ יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאַלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ, שֶׁתְּבָרֵךְ כְּלֵי־מִינֵי הָאֵילָנוֹת, וַיּוֹצִיאוּ פְרוּתֵיהֶם בְּרַבּוּי, שְׂמָנִים וְטוֹבִים. וְתְבָרֵךְ אֶת־הַגִּפְנִים שֶׁיּוֹצִיאוּ עֲנָבִים הַרְבֵּה שְׂמָנִים וְטוֹבִים, כְּדִי שִׁיְהִיָּה הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה הַיּוֹצֵא מֵהֶם מִצְוֵי לְרַב לְכָל־עַמּוּד יִשְׂרָאֵל, לְקַיֵּם־בוֹ מִצְוֹת קְדוּשׁ וּמִצְוֹת הַבְּדִלָּה בְּשִׁבְתוֹת וַיְמִים טוֹבִים. וַיְתַקֵּם־בָּנוּ וּבְכָל־יִשְׂרָאֵל אַחִינוּ מִקְרָא שְׁפָתוֹב: "לֵךְ אֲכַל בְּשִׂמְחָה לְחֻמֶּךָ וּשְׂתֵה בְּלִבְיָטוֹב יַיְנֶךָ, כִּי כָּבֵד רָצָה הָאֱלֹהִים אֶת־מַעֲשֶׂיךָ: "בְּאֵתִי לִגְנוֹי אֶחָתִי כֻלָּה, אֶרְיִיתִי מוֹרֵי עַם־בְּשִׁמְי, [אֲכַלְתִּי יַעֲרֵי עַם־דְּבָשׁ], שְׁתִּיתִי יַיְנֵי עַם־חֲלָבִי, אֲכַלּוּ רַעִים שְׁתוּ וְשָׁכְרוּ דוֹדִים". וַיְהִי לְרְצוֹן אִמְרֵי־פִי וְהִגִּיוֹן לְבִי לְפָנֶיךָ, יְהוָה צוּרִי וְגֹאֲלִי:



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This prayer was composed by the Ben Ish Hai, to be said on Tu B'Shebat. He writes that since this is the new year for trees, it befits one to recite these verses and the following prayer on the morning of Tu B'Shebat. It is also well known that there is a tradition from Hazal that on Tu B'Shebat a person should specifically pray that Hashem facilitate his acquisition of a beautiful etrog for Sukkot. It may be said on Shabbat as well. (Nitey Gabriel)

"And Hashem said let the earth sprout a covering of grasses which propagate through seeds, fruit trees producing fruit according to their species, which have seed within them upon the earth, and it was so. And the earth gave forth a covering of grasses which propagate through seeds, according to their species, and trees producing fruit, having seed within them according to their species, and Hashem saw that it was good."

Oh please, Hashem, please save this tree today, on the occasion of its New Year.

Oh please, Hashem, please make this tree successful today, on the occasion of its New Year.

Oh please, Hashem, please help this tree expand today, on the occasion of its New Year.

Oh please, Hashem, please be good to this tree today, on the occasion of its New Year.

Oh please, Hashem, please save this tree today, on the occasion of its New Year.

Hashem, please protect this year from thistle and thorn

And may the oil flow from the trees with olives borne!

Hashem, please soften with water hard earth like granite

To be blessed with grape and fig and pomegranate.

Hashem, please, Your community of beloved children elevate

And bless for them the nut, the apple and the date.

Hashem, please, may Your charity to Your nation always reach

To bless for them the carob, the exotic fruit and the peach.

Hashem, please support the congregation to You pining

And bless the berry, the nut, and the Etrog shining.



May it be Your will, Hashem, our God and the God of our forefathers, that You bless all the etrog trees that they should yield their fruit in due season. May they produce etrogim that are good, beautiful, exceptional, and devoid of any flaw. No rashes should appear on their surfaces. May they be complete, with no part missing, not even a puncture made by a thorn. May they be readily available to us and all Jews wherever they may be, so the misvah of taking it together with the lulav can be fulfilled on the Sukkot holiday (may it come upon us for good life and peace) as You commanded us in Your Torah through Moshe, Your servant: You shall take for yourselves on the first day the fruit of a citron tree, the branches of date palms, twigs of a plaited tree, and brook willows.

May it be Your will, Hashem, our God and the God of our forefathers, that You help and assist us to fulfill this misvah of taking a lulav, hadas, aravah, and etrog properly and on time – on the Sukkot holiday, may it come upon us for good life and peace, with joy and goodness of heart. Please help us find an etrog that is beautiful, exceptional, clean, whole and kosher according to Jewish law.

May it be Your will, Hashem our God, and the God of our forefathers, that You bless all varieties of trees, that they give forth substantial and good fruit in abundance. Please bless the grapevines to give forth many substantial and good grapes so that the wine which is made from them should be abundantly available for Your entire nation, Israel, to use in fulfillment of the misvot of Kiddush and Habdalah on Shabbat and festivals.

May the following verse be realized in us and in all of Israel, our brothers: Go, eat your bread with joy and drink your wine with a glad heart, for God has already approved your deeds. I have come to my garden My sister, O bride; I have gathered My myrrh with My spice, I have eaten My honeycomb with My honey, I have drunk My wine with My milk. Eat, O friends, drink and become intoxicated, O beloved ones.

May the expressions of my mouth and the thoughts of my heart find favor before You, Hashem, my Rock and my Redeemer.