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Basic Prayers

Modeh Ani

In the Modeh Ani prayer, we thank Hashem every morning for His generous gift of life. This shows Hashem's tremendous confidence in us that we will do the right thing today though we may not always have the best track record. This is especially meaningful to me on the day of my Bar Mitzvah, as I celebrate G-d's trust in me that I will do the right things as a Jewish adult.

I thank You O living and eternal King that you returned my life to me; abundant is Your faithfulness

Rayshis Chochmah

Raishis chuchmah is a brief prayer whose message is an important one to be said at the start of every day:

ראשית חָכְמָה יִרְאַת יִי, שֵׂכֶל טוֹב לְכָל עשׁיהֶם, תְּהִלְּתוֹ עוֹמֶדָת לְעַד. בָּרוּך שׁם בּבוֹד מַלְכוּתוֹ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד. כְּבוֹד מַלְכוּתוֹ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד.

The beginning of wisdom is fear of G-d; bringing good understanding to all who practice them, His praise lasts forever.

Al Neteelas Yodayim

Upon rising in the morning there is a custom to wash the hands with a washing cup in preparation for a new day.

After the washing we say this Bracha.

בָּרוּך אַתָּה יִי אֶלֹהִינוּ מֶלֶדְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִּדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתִיו, וְצִוְנוּ עַל נְטִילַת יָדְיִם.

Blessed are You Hashem, our G-d, King of the universe, Who has sanctified us with His mitzvahs and commanded us with the handwashing.

Birchas Hatorah

To paraphrase a famous saying, "More than the Jews have kept the Torah, the Torah has kept the Jews." The following blessing is an expression of appreciation to G-d for giving us our most treasured possession: the Torah.

בָּרוּדְ אַמָּה יִי אֶלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶדְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר בְּחַר בְּנוּ מִכָּל הָעַמִּים, וְנְתַן לְנוּ אֶת תוֹרָתוֹ. בָרוּדְ אַמָּה יִי, נוֹתֵן הַתּוֹרָה.

Blessed are You Hashem, our G-d, King of the universe, who has chosen us from among the nations and given us His Torah. Blessed are you Hashem, Giver of the Torah.

Shema

The Shema has been the Jewish declaration of faith throughout history. It has been said by Jews for three thousand years.

With the Shema we declare to the world that there is only one G-d; G-d is all-Powerful; G-d is good.

We say the Shema when we go to sleep at night and when we arise in the morning.

We say it when a baby is born and when someone returns his soul to his Maker. According to one view, it is a call to our father Israel, also known as Jacob:

Hear, O Israel, Hashem is our G-d, Hashem is one. Through thousands of years, we are telling our ancestor that his children are alive and well, and we still adhere to his beliefs. By saying this prayer twice a day, we continue our glorious chain of tradition.

My dear ancestor Jacob, today I form the next link in your chain. Today I say Shema Yisrael.

יִּיְבֶּע וְיִשְׂרָאֵל, יִיָּ וְ אֱלֹהֵינוּ, יִיָּ וְ אֶחְד. Hear O Israel: Hashem is our G-d, Hashem is the One and Only

IN AN UNDERTONE:

בְרוּך שֵׁם כְבוֹד מֵלְכוּתוֹ לְעוֹלְם וְעֶד. Blessed be the name of the glory of His kingship forever and ever וְאָהַרְתָּ אֵת יְיָ וּ אֵלֹהֶיךּ, בְּכָל וּ לְבָרְךּ, וּרְכָל נְפְּשִׁךּ, וּרְכָל מְאֹדֶךּ. וְהִיוּ הַדְּבְרִים הָאֵלָּה, אֲשֶׁר וּ אָנֹכִי מְצַוְּדְּ הַיּוֹם, עַל וּ לְבָבֶּךְ. וְשִׁנַּוְתָם לְבָנֶיךּ, וְדְבַּרְתִּ בָם, בְּשִׁרְתִּךּ בְּבִיתֶדְ, וּבְלֶכְתִּדְ בַגֶּרֶדְ, וּרְשָׁכְבְּדּ, וּבְקוּמֶדְ. וּקְשֵׁרְתִּם לְאוֹת וּ עַל יָדֶדְ, וְהָיוּ לְטֹטָפֹת בֵּין וּ עֵינֶידְ. וּכְתַבְתָם וּ עַל מְזִזוֹת בֵּיתֶדְ וּבִשְׁעַרֵיךְ.

And you shall love Hashem your G-d with all your heart, with all your life and with all your resources. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them to your children and speak about them, when you sit in your house, when you go on the way, and when you lay down and get up. And you shall bind them as a sign between your eyes and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Adon Olam

Adon Olam is a song about G-d. In it, we sing about His timelessness, His relationship with his creations, and His deep love and caring for each and every one of us. Please join me in singing the Hebrew, and I will follow with a translation so you can appreciate its meaning.

Adon olam Asher Molach Beterem Kol Yítzír Nívra אַדוֹן עוֹלָם אֲשֶׁר מָלַךְ, בְּטֶרֶם כָּל יְצִיר נִבְרָא.

Liate Nasa Becheftzo Kol Azai Melech Shemo Nikra

לְעֵת נַעֲשָׂה בְחֶפְצוֹ כֹּל, אֲזֵי מֶלֶךְ שְׁמוֹ נִקְרָא.

viacharei Kichlot Hakol Levado Yimloch Nora וְאַחֲרֵי כִּכְלוֹת הַכֹּל, לְבַדּוֹ יִמְלוֹךְ נוֹרָא.

Vehu Haya Vehu Hove Vehu Yyíheeyeh Beteefarah . ןהוא הָיָה, וְהוּא יִהְיָה, וְהוּא הָנָה, וְהוּא הָנָה,

Vehu Echad Veayn Shayní Lehamshílo Lehachbíra הוא אֶחָד וָאֵין שֵׁנִי, לְהַמְשִׁיל לוֹ לְהַחְבְּירָה.

Belí Rayshít Belí Tachlít Velo Ha'oz Vehamísra בְּלִי רֵאשִׁית בְּלִי תַכְלִית, וְלוֹ הָעֹז וְהַמְּשְׂרָה.

Vehu Ali Vechai Go'ali Vetzur Chevli Be'ais Tzara וְהוּא אֵלִי וְחֵי גֹּאֲלִי, וְצוּר חֶבְלִי בְּעֵת צְרָה.

Vehu Neesí umanos Lí Menas Kosí Beyom Ekra וְהוּא נָסִי וּמְנוֹס לִי, מְנָת כּוֹסִי בְּיוֹם אֶקְרָא.

Beyado Afkid Ruchi Beais Eeshan Veoeera בְּיָדוֹ אַפְקִיד רוּחִי, בְּעֵת אִישֵׁן וְאָעִירָה.

Ve'eem Ruchi Geviyati Adon-nay Li Velo Eera וְעָם רוּחִי גְּוִיָּתִי, יִי לִי וְלֹא אִירָא. The L-rd of the universe who reigned before anything was created.

When all was made by his will He was acknowledged as King.

And when all shall end He, the Awesome one, shall reign. He was, He is, and He shall be in glory.

And He is one, and there's no other, to compare or declare His equal.

Without beginning, without end and to Him belongs dominion and power.

And He is my G-d, my living G-d of redemption.

Rock of my pain in time of distress,

and He is my banner and my refuge,

The portion in my cup on the day I call.

To Him I will commit my spirit,
When I go to sleep – and I shall awaken
With my spirit shall my body remain
G-d is with me, I shall not fear.

Advanced Prayers

Yigdal

Yigdal is a song that poetically tells of the Thirteen Principles of Jewish Faith that were taught by one of our greatest Torah scholars over 1000 years ago, the Rambam - Maimonides.

יִגְדַל אֱלֹהִים חֵי וְיִשְׁתַּבַּח, נִמְצָא, וְאֵין עֵת אֶל מְצִיאוּתוֹ. אֶחְד וְאֵין יָחִיד כְּיִחוּדוֹ, נֶעְלָם, וְגַם אֵין סוֹף לְאַחְדּוּתוֹ. אֵין לוֹ דְמוּת הַגּוּף וְאֵינוֹ גוּף, לֹא נַעֲרוֹך אֵלְיו קְדָשְׁתוֹ. קַדְמוֹן לְכָל דָּבָר אֲשֶׁר נִבְרָא, רִאשׁוֹן וְאֵין רֵאשִׁית לָרָאשִׁיתוֹ.

הָנּוֹ אֲדוֹן עוֹלָם לְכָל נוֹצֶר, יוֹרֶה גְדֵלְתוֹ וּמַלְכוּתוֹ. שֶׁפַע נְבוּאָתוֹ נְתָנוֹ, אֶל אַנְשֵׁי סְגֵלְתוֹ וְתִפְאַרְתּוֹ. לֹא קָם בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל כְּמֹשֶׁה עוֹד, נְבִיא וּמַבִּיט אֶת חְּמוּנְתוֹ.

תּוֹרַת אֶמֶת נָתַן לְעַמּוֹ אֵל, עַל יַד נְבִיאוֹ נָאֶמֵן בֵּיתוֹ. לא יַחֲלִיף הָאֵל וְלֹא יָמִיר דָּתוֹ, לְעוֹלְמִים, לְזוּלָתוֹ.

צוֹפֶה וְיוֹדֶעַ סְתָרֵינוּ, מַבִּיט לְסוֹף דָּבָר בְּקַדְמָתוֹ. גּוֹמֵל לְאִישׁ חֶסֶד כְּמִפְעַלוֹ, נוֹתֵן לְרָשָׁע רַע כְּרִשְׁעָתוֹ.

יִשְׁלַח לְקֵץ הַיָּמִין מְשִׁיחֲנוּ, לִפְדּוֹת מְחַכֵּי קֵץ יְשׁוּעָתוֹ. מֵתִים יְחַיֶּה אֵל בְּרֹב חַסְדּוֹ, בָּרוּך עֲדֵי עַד שֵׁם תְּהַלָּתוֹ.

Exalted be the Living G-d and praised, He exists - unbounded by time in His existence.

He is One - and there is no unity like His Oneness. Inscrutable and infinite is His Oneness.

He has no semblance of a body nor is He corporeal; nor has His holiness any comparison.

He preceded every being that was created - the First, and nothing preceded His precedence. Behold! He is Master of the universe to every creature, He demonstrates His greatness and His

He granted His flow of prophecy to His treasured splendorous people.

sovereignty.

There never arose among the Jewish Nation anyone like Moshe, a prophet who perceived His vision clearly.

G-d gave His G-dly nation a Torah of truth, by means of His prophet, the most trusted of His household.

G-d will never amend nor exchange His law for any other one, for all eternity.

He scrutinizes and knows our hidden most secrets; He perceives a matter's outcome at its inception. He recompenses man with kindness according to his deed; He places evil on the wicked according to his wickedness.

By the End of Days, He will send our Mashiach, to redeem those longing for His final salvation. G-d will revive the dead in His abundant kindness - Blessed forever is His praised Name.

Olainu

Olainu talks of the privilege and responsibility of recognizing the truth of a one G-d; and expresses the hope for a time when everyone will unite in this recognition.

עָלֵינוּ לְשַׁבֶּחַ לַאֲדוֹן הַכּל לָתֵת גְּדֵלָּה לְיוֹצֵר בְּרֵאשִׁית. שָׁלֹּא עָשָׂנוּ כְּגוֹיֵי הָאֲרָצוֹת וְלֹא שָׂמְנוּ כְּמִשְׁפְּחוֹת הָאֲדָמָה. שָׁלֹא שָׁם חֶלְקְנוּ כָּהֶם וְגֹרָלֵנוּ כְּכָל הַמוֹנָם.

וַאָגַחָנוּ כּוֹרְעִים וּמִשְׁתַּחָוִים וּמוֹדִים לִפְנֵי מֶלֶךּ מַלְכֵי הַמְּלָכִים, הַקָּדוֹשׁ בָּרוּךְ הוּא.

שֶׁהוּא נוֹטֶה שָׁמְיִם וִיֹסֵד אָרֶץ, וּמוֹשַׁב יְקְרוֹ בַּשְּׁמְיִם שָׁהוּא נוֹטֶה שָׁמְיִם וְיֹסֵד אָרֶץ, וּמוֹשַׁב יְקְרוֹ בַּשְּׁמְיִם. מִמְּעַל, וּשָׁכִינַת עֻזּוֹ בְּגָבְהֵי מְרוֹמִים.

הוּא אֱלֹהִינוּ אֵין עוֹד. אֱמֶת מַלְבֵּנוּ אֱפֶס זוּלָתוֹ, כַּכְּתוּב בְּתוֹרָתוֹ: וְיָדַעְתָּ הַיּוֹם וַהֲשֵׁבֹתָ אֶל לְבָבֶדְּ, כִּי יְיָ הוּא הָאֶלהִים בַּשָּׁמִים מִמְעַל, וְעַל הָאָרֶץ מִתְּחַת, אֵין עוֹד. It is our duty to praise the Master of all, to acclaim the greatness of the One who forms all creation. For God did not make us like the nations of other lands and did not make us the same as other families of the Earth. He did not place us in the same situation as others, and our destiny is not the same as anyone else's.

And we bend our knees, and bow down, and give thanks, before the King, the King of kings, the Holy One, Blessed is He.

The One who spread out the heavens, and made the foundations of the Earth, and whose precious dwelling is in the heavens above, and whose powerful Presence is in the highest heights.

He is our God, there is none other. Our King is true, there is none but Him. As it is written in His Torah: "And you shall know today, and take to heart, that Hashem is the only God, in the heavens above and on Earth below. There is no other."

Ein Kelokainu

Ein Kelokainu is a hymn that is said at the end of the mornings Services on Shabbos and Holidays. It sings of our love and praise for Hashem, in a catchy poetic song, that has the word 'Amen' formed by the first letters of the beginning verses.

אֵין כָּאלהֵינוּ. אֵין כַּאדוֹנֵינוּ. אֵין כְּמַלְכֵּנוּ. אֵין כְּמוֹשִׁיעֵנוּ. מִי כָאלהֵינוּ. מִי כַאדוֹנֵינוּ. מִי כְמַלְכֵּנוּ. מִי כְמוֹשִׁיעֵנוּ. מִי כִאלהֵינוּ. מִי כָאדוֹנֵינוּ. מִי כְמוֹשִׁיעֵנוּ. נוֹדָה לֵאלהֵינוּ. נוֹדָה לְאלהֵינוּ. נוֹדָה לְמוֹשִׁיעֵנוּ. לְמוֹשִׁיעֵנוּ. לְמוֹשִׁיעֵנוּ.

בָּרוּך אֱלהֵינוּ. בָּרוּך אֲדוֹנֵינוּ. בָּרוּך מַלְכֵּנוּ. בָּרוּך מוֹשִׁיעֵנוּ. אַתָּה הוּא אֱלהֵינוּ. אַתָּה הוּא אֲדוֹנֵינוּ. אַתָּה הוּא מֻלְכֵּנוּ. אַתָּה הוּא אֲדוֹנֵינוּ. אַתָּה הוּא מֻלְכֵּנוּ. אַתָּה הוּא מוֹשִׁיעֵנוּ.

There is none like our God.
There is none like our Lord.
There is none like our King.
There is none like our Savior.

Who is like our God?! Who is like our Lord?! Who is like our King?! Who is like our Savior?!

Let us thank our God. Let us thank our Lord. Let us thank our King. Let us thank our Savior.

Blessed be our God. Blessed be our Lord. Blessed be our King. Blessed be our Savior.

You are our God. You are our Lord. You are our King. You are our Savior.

Oseh Shalom

These words, asking for peace, are found at the end of every Shemoneh Esrei-silent Amidah prayer as well as at the end of Kaddish. This makes it the most recurrent standard prayer.

עוֹשָׂה שָׁלוֹם בִּמְרוֹמִיו הוּא יַנְעַשָּׁה שָׁלוֹם עָלֵינוּ וְעַל כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל וְאִמְרוּ: אָמֵן

May the One who creates peace on high, bring peace upon us and upon all of Israel.

And let us say: Amen.

Am Yisroel Chai

Mark Twain said; "All things are mortal but the Jew; all other forces pass, but he remains."

In this song we celebrate our unique destiny:

The Jewish People lives on;

our Father in Heaven lives eternally!

עַם יִשְׂרָאֵל חַי. עוֹד אָבִינוּ חַי.

The Jewish People lives on; our Father in Heaven lives eternally!

Warmest

Warmest

Washes from

