

Hanukkah Against Hunger

A DEDICATION FOR OUR HANUKKAH LIGHTING

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1. LIGHT THE SHAMASH, SAY THE BLESSINGS, & CONSIDER:

The shamash is the helper candle; we don't count it among the candles which represent the days of the miracle, yet our Hanukkiyah places it highest of all. We cannot complete the mitzvah of lighting the Hanukkah candles without it.

Nearly 14% of Americans—more than 47 million people—face food insecurity. One in eight Americans relies on SNAP benefits to buy their groceries. You might be someone experiencing food insecurity and if not, you probably know someone who has been carrying this often all-consuming burden unseen.

This year, we are called to **hold the struggle of 47 million people up to the light** and dedicate ourselves to resolving food insecurity, so that we may complete the mitzvah of helping to sustain those who are in need.



Candlelighting

*Barukh atah Adonai eloheinu melekh haolam
asher kidshanu bemitzvotav vetzivanu
lehadlik ner shel Hanukkah.*

Blessed are You Adonai our God sovereign of time and space
who has provided us with a path to holiness through the observance of mitzvot
and has instructed us to kindle the lights of Hanukkah.

*Barukh atah Adonai eloheinu melekh haolam
sheasah nissim laavoteinu ul'imoteinu
bayamim hahem uvazman hazeh.*

Blessed are You Adonai our God sovereign of time and space
who performed miracles for our ancestors
in those days and at this time.

ON THE FIRST NIGHT ONLY:

*Barukh atah Adonai eloheinu melekh haolam
sheheheyanu vekiyemanu vehigianu lazman hazeh*

Blessed are You Adonai our God sovereign of time and space
for granting us life, for sustaining us, and for bringing us to this moment.

הַדְלַקְתָּ נֵרוֹת
בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם
אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו וְצִוָּנוּ
לְהַדְלִיק נֵר שֶׁל חֲנֻכָּה.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם
שֶׁעָשָׂה נִסִּים לְאַבּוֹתֵינוּ וְלֵאֲמֹתֵינוּ
בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם וּבַזְּמַן הַזֶּה.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם
שֶׁהֵחָיָנוּ וְקִיָּמָנוּ וְהִגִּיעָנוּ לַזְּמַן הַזֶּה.

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FOR HANUKKAH RESOURCES AND HOW-TO-LIGHT INSTRUCTIONS,

SCAN THE QR CODE OR CLICK HERE.



2. SING SONGS & SET YOUR INTENTIONS

After lighting the candles, we sing some Hanukkah songs. This year, we invite you to include “Banu Hoshekh,” written by Sarah Levi-Tanai, as a call to action.

Banu Hoshekh

Banu hoshekh legadesh

beyadeinu or vaeish.

Kol ehad hu or katan,

vekhulanu or eitan.

בָּאֲנֵנוּ חוֹשֶׁךְ

בָּאֲנֵנוּ חוֹשֶׁךְ לְגֶרֶשׁ

בְּיָדֵינוּ אֹר וְאֵשׁ.

כָּל אֶחָד הוּא אֹר קָטָן,

וְכָלֵנוּ אֹר אֵיתָן.

We came to drive away the darkness
in our hands is light and fire.

Everyone is a small light,
and together we are a strong light.

Surah hoshekh, halah shhor!

Surah mipnei haor!

סִיְרָה חוֹשֶׁךְ, הִלָּאָה שְׁחֹר!

סִיְרָה מִפְּנֵי הָאוֹר!

Fight darkness, further blackness!
Fight because of the light!

Isaiah 58:10 teaches us, “If you shall pour yourself out for the hungry and satisfy the desire of the afflicted, then shall your light rise in the darkness.”

How can you emulate the light of the Hanukkiyah this year?

3. LIGHTS, LATKES, LITTLE SPINNING TOPS ... & WRITING LETTERS

After lighting the candles, take a moment to enjoy them. Bask in the glow of the Hanukkiyah, eat some latkes, play dreidel...**and write a postcard.**

Did you know... that 95% of food assistance comes from federal programs, compared to only 5% from charitable programs?

Join us and our partners at *MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger* in writing **one postcard each night of Hanukkah** to call for the protection of the basic needs programs that help 47 million Americans put food on their tables—or gather with family and friends for a postcard party to each write all eight postcards at once!

Together, we'll send 47,000 postcards—one for every one thousand people who rely on SNAP benefits—to the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

THIS HANUKKAH, LET'S DEDICATE OUR LIGHT TO ONE SIMPLE MESSAGE:

NO ONE DESERVES TO GO HUNGRY—NO EXCEPTIONS.



SCAN THIS QR CODE
TO SUBMIT A DIGITAL POSTCARD

or



SCAN THIS QR CODE
TO REQUEST BLANK POSTCARDS BY MAIL
TO WRITE YOUR POSTCARDS BY HAND



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