

שנה טובה

from the

Talmud Torah

of the United Mashadi Jewish Community of America

Seder of Rosh HaShana 5771

Wednesday & Thursday Evenings, September 8 - 9, 2010

During the two nights of Rosh HaShana we have a “Seder”, which is a joyous and meaningful pre-meal ceremony. We start the Seder by eating a piece of apple dipped in honey, wishing each other to have a good and sweet year. Throughout the Seder we wish each other prosperity and peace, and we especially ask the Almighty to protect us from our enemies.

We associate the names of the foods or fruits we eat with a key word that alludes to each blessing. For example, when we eat dates (in Hebrew *temarim*) we ask HaShem to make all our enemies disappear (in Hebrew *itamu*). The Hebrew words for “dates” and “disappear” share the root *t-m*.

We also wish each other to be full of Mitzvot, good deeds, and merits, as the pomegranate is full of seeds.

One of the most traditional blessings comes directly from the Torah: “*shenihie lerosh velo lezanav*,” “May HaShem help us to be at the head (top of our potential as individuals and as a nation) and not at the bottom.” Today, because other animal parts (lungs, brain) are not easily available, it is customary to use tongue for this blessing.

There are also some slight differences in minhagim regarding the order of this Seder in relation to *hamotzi*. Some families say the blessings before, and other families say them after the *hamotzi*. The conclusion of our Religious Council is that both minhagim are acceptable, as well as variations in the order of the berakhot.

We present here the Seder as it is practiced by most families of our community.

Rabbi Yosef Bitton

Talmud-Torah of UMGCA

Beans רוביא

יהי רצון מלפניך, יהוה אלהינו ואלהי אבותינו שירבו זכותינו ותלבבנו:

May it be Your will, HaShem, our God and God of our forefathers, that our merits would increase, and that we will be loved by You.

ראש כבש (or Tongue) Head of Sheep

יהי רצון מלפניך, יהוה אלהינו ואלהי אבותינו שנהיה לראש ולא לזנב. ותזכר לנו עקדתו ואילו של יצחק אבינו עליו השלום, בן אברהם אבינו עליו השלום.

May it be Your will, HaShem, our God and God of our forefathers, that we will be at the head and not at the tail. Please, remember in our merit the sacrifice of Isaac son of Abraham our father, of blessed memory.

Before eating the meat we say (only when the Seder is done before haMotzi):

ברוך אתה יהוה אלהינו מלך העולם, שהפיל נהיה בדרך.

Blessed are You, HaShem, our God, King of the universe, by Whose word all things came to be.

רמון Pomegranate

יהי רצון מלפניך, יהוה אלהינו ואלהי אבותינו שנהיה מלאים מצוות פרמון.

May it be Your will, HaShem, our God and God of our forefathers, that we will be full of mitzvot (performing Your commandments) as (the seeds of) a pomegranate.

לשנה טובה תכתבו

לעילוי נשמת: Dedicated in loving memory of:

Haroun Kohanim (ז"ל) בן משיח אהרון

After the Kiddush and Shehecheyanu are recited, we proceed to the Seder of Rosh HaShana as follows:

תפוח ודבש Apple & Honey

We take a piece of apple, we dip it in honey and say the following blessing:

יְהִי רְצוֹן מִלְּפָנֶיךָ, יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ שֶׁתַּחַדֵּשׁ עֲלֵינוּ שָׁנָה טוֹבָה וּמְתוּקָה: מִרְאשִׁית הַשָּׁנָה וְעַד אַחֲרֵית הַשָּׁנָה.

May it be Your will, HaShem, our God and God of our forefathers, that You renew for us a good and sweet year, from the beginning of the year to the end of the year.

Before eating the piece of apple we say:

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוָה, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, בּוֹרֵא פְּרֵי הָעֵץ:

Blessed are You, HaShem, our God, King of the universe, Creator of the fruit of the tree.

כרתי Leek

We take a piece of leek, and we say the following blessing:

יְהִי רְצוֹן מִלְּפָנֶיךָ, יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ שֶׁיְכַרְתוּ אוֹיְבֶיךָ וְשׂוֹנְאֶיךָ וְכָל-מְבַקְשֵׁי רַעְתֵּינוּ: תָּרֵם יְדָךְ עַל-צָרֶיךָ וְכָל-אֹיְבֶיךָ יִכָּרְתוּ:

May it be Your will, HaShem, our God and God of our forefathers, that Your enemies and foes and all those who wish us harm be destroyed. May Your hand rise upon Your enemies, and all Your foes be destroyed.

Before eating the piece of leek we say (when the Seder is done after haMotzi, we do not say this Berakha):

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוָה, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, בּוֹרֵא פְּרֵי הָאֲדָמָה.

Blessed are You, HaShem, our God, King of the universe, Creator of the fruit of the land.

סלקא Beets

יְהִי רְצוֹן מִלְּפָנֶיךָ, יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ שֶׁיִּסְתַּלְקוּ אוֹיְבֶיךָ וְשׂוֹנְאֶיךָ וְכָל-מְבַקְשֵׁי רַעְתֵּינוּ: סוּרוּ מִמֶּנִּי כָּל-פְּעֻלֵי אֶנּוּ כִּי-שָׁמַע יְהוָה קוֹל בְּכִי: סוּרוּ סוּרוּ צָאוּ מִשָּׁם טִמְאָה אֶל-תַּגְּעוּ צָאוּ מִתּוֹכָהּ הַבְּרוּ נְשֹׂאֵי כָּלֵי יְהוָה:

May it be Your will, HaShem, our God and God of our forefathers, that Your enemies and foes and all those who wish us harm be removed.

תמרי Dates

יְהִי רְצוֹן מִלְּפָנֶיךָ, יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ שֶׁיִּתְמוּ אוֹיְבֶיךָ וְשׂוֹנְאֶיךָ וְכָל-מְבַקְשֵׁי רַעְתֵּינוּ: יִתְמוּ חַטָּאִים | מוֹהָאֲרָץ וְרָשָׁעִים | עוֹד אֵינָם בְּרַכִּי נִפְשֵׁי אֶת-יְהוָה: וּבְחִסְדְּךָ תִּצְמִית אֹיְבֵי וְהֶאֱבַדְתָּ כָּל-צָרָי נִפְשֵׁי כִּי אֲנִי עֲבָדְךָ:

May it be Your will, HaShem, our God and God of our forefathers, that Your enemies and foes and all those who wish us harm will disappear.

קרא Squash

יְהִי רְצוֹן מִלְּפָנֶיךָ, יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ שֶׁתִּקְרַע רוּעַ גִּזְרֵי דֵינֵנוּ וְיִקְרָאוּ לְפָנֶיךָ זְכוּתֵינוּ:

May it be Your will, HaShem, our God and God of our forefathers, that the decree of our bad sentence be torn apart, and may our merits be proclaimed before You.