

Hanukah Blessings and Songs

Hanukah Candle Lighting Ceremony Blessings:

- **1st blessing:**

Baruch ata Adonai Eloheinu melech ha-olam asher kidshanu b'mitz-vo-tav v'tzi-va-nu l'hadlik ner shel Chanukah.

We praise You, Adonai our God, Ruler of the universe, who hallows us with mitzvot and commands us to kindle the Chanukah lights.

- **2nd blessing:**

Baruch ata Adonai Eloheinu melech ha-olam she-a-sa ni-sim l'avoteinu ba-yamim ha-hem baz-man ha-zeh.

We praise You, Adonai our God, Ruler of the universe, who performed wondrous deeds for our ancestors in days of old at this season.

- **On the first night only:**

Baruch ata Adonai Eloheinu melech ha-olam she-hech-eyanu, v'ki-yimanu, v'higianu laz-man ha-zeh.

We praise You, Adonai our God, Ruler of the universe, for giving us life, for sustaining us, and for enabling us to reach this season.

- **To be sung after lighting the candles:**

תְּנִירוֹת הַלָּלוּ אֲנַחְנוּ מְדַלְקִין עַל הַנְּסִים וְעַל
תְּנִיפְלוֹת וְעַל הַתְּשׁוּעוֹת וְעַל תְּנַחְמוֹת שְׁעֵשִׂית
לְאֲבוֹתֵינוּ וְלָאֲבוֹתֵינוּ

בְּיָמִים הָהֵם בְּזָמַן תְּנָה עַל יְדֵי בְּהִנֵּךְ הַקְּדוֹשִׁים
וּבְכָל דְּוָרוֹת עַמְּךָ עַל כָּל אֱלֹהֵי שָׁהַדְּלִיקוּ
נִרוֹת הַשְּׂרָאָה הַקְּנֹה וְשָׁלוֹם:

וְכָל שְׂמוֹנֵת יָמֵי חֲנֻכַּה תְּנִירוֹת הַלָּלוּ קִדְשׁ הֵם
וְאֵין לָנוּ רְשׁוֹת לְהַשְׁתַּמֵּשׁ בָּהֶם אֶלָּא לְרִאוּתָם
בְּלִבְדּוֹ בְּדֵי לְהוֹדוֹת וּלְהַלֵּל לְשִׁמְךָ הַגָּדוֹל
עַל נְסִיךְ וְעַל נִפְלְאוֹתֶיךָ וְעַל יְשׁוּעָתְךָ:

These lights we kindle (to commemorate)
the saving acts, miracles and wonders
which You have performed for our forefathers,

in those days at this time,
through Your holy kohanim.
Throughout the eight days of Chanukah,
these lights are sacred,
and we are not permitted to make use of them,
but only to look at them,
in order to offer thanks and praise to
Your great Name
for Your miracles,
for Your wonders
and for Your salvations.

Songs for Chanukah:

- **Maoz Tzur**

*Ma'oz tzur yeshu'ati
Lecha na'eh leshabe'ach
Tikon bet tefilati
Vesham todah nezabe'ach
Le'et tachin matbe'ach
Mitzar ham'nabe'ach
Az egmor beshir mizmor
Chanukat hamizbe'ach.*

O mighty Rock of my salvation,
To praise You is a delight.
Restore my House of Prayer and there
we shall bring a thanksgiving offering.
When you will have prepared the slaughter for the blaspheming foe,
Then I shall complete with a song of hymn
the dedication of the Altar.

- **Mi Yimalel**

*Mi yimalel g'vurot Yisrael
otan mi yimneh
hane b'chol dor yakum hagibot
go-el ha'am (repeat)*

*Sh'ma, bayamim hahem baz'man hazeh
Macabee moshiya ufodeh
u'vyamenu kol am Yisrael
yitached yakum l'higael*

Who can retell the things that befell us,
Who can count them?
In every age a hero or sage
Came to our aid.

Hark, In days of old, in Israel's ancient land,
Brave Maccabee led his faithful band.
And now all Israel must as one rise,
Redeem itself through deed and sacrifice.

- **Sivivon**

*Sivee-von sov sov sov
Hanukkah hoo chag tov
Hanukkah hoo chag tov
Sivee-von sov sov sov*

*Chag simcha hoo la-am
Ness ga-dol ha-ya sham
Ness ga-dol ha-ya sham
Chag simcha hoo la-am*

Dreidel, spin, spin, spin,
Hanukkah is a good holiday,
Hanukkah is a good holiday,
Dreidel, spin, spin, spin.

It's a happy holiday for the people,
A great miracle happened there,
A great miracle happened there,
It's a happy holiday for the people.

- **Chanukah, Oh Chanukah**

Chanukah, Oh Chanukah, come light the Menorah
Let's have a party, we'll all dance the hora
Gather round the table, we'll all have a treat
Sivivon to play with, and latkes to eat.

And while we are playing
The candles are burning bright
One for each night, they shed a sweet light
To remind us of days long ago.
One for each night, they shed a sweet light
To remind us of days long ago.

- **I Have a Little Dreidel**

I have a little dreidel
I made it out of clay
And when it's dry and ready
Then dreidel I shall play!

(Chorus)

Oh dreidel, dreidel, dreidel
I made it out of clay
And when it's dry and ready
Then dreidel I shall play!

It has a lovely body
With legs so short and thin
And when my dreidel's tired
It drops and then I win!

(Chorus)

My dreidel's always playful
It loves to dance and spin
A happy game of dreidel
Come play now, let's begin!

(Chorus)