

B'rakhot for Hanukkah's Lights

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,

אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו וְצִוָּנוּ לְהַדְלִיק נֵר שֶׁל חֲנֻכָּה.

*Barukh Atah Adonai Eloheinu Melekh haOlam asher kid-sha'nu
b'mitz-votav v'tzi-vanu l'hadlik ner shel Hanukkah.*

Blessed are You, Eternal our God, Sovereign of the Universe,
who sanctified us as a people through God's commandments,
and commanded us to kindle the lights of Hanukkah .

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,

שֶׁעָשָׂה נִסִּים לְאַבּוֹתֵינוּ בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם בְּזֶמַן הַזֶּה.

*Barukh Atah Adonai Eloheinu Melekh haOlam,
sh'a-sah nisim la'avo-tei-nu ba-yamim ha-hem baz'man ha-zeh.*

Blessed are You, Eternal our God, Sovereign of the Universe,
who performed miracles for our ancestors during those days at this season.

On the first night only:

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,

שֶׁהַחֲנִיּוֹת וְקִיּמָנוּ וְהַגִּיעָנוּ לְזֶמַן הַזֶּה.

*Barukh Atah Adonai Eloheinu Melekh haOlam,
sh'be-he-ya-nu v'ki-y'ma-nu v'hi-gi-a-nu laZ'man haZeh.*

Blessed are You, Eternal our God, Sovereign of the Universe, for the gift of
our lives, for all that sustains us, and for enabling us to reach this season.

On Hanukkah we remember the miracles of faith, of our people's
perseverance, and of life's daily wonders. We remember the *Maccabees* and
the conflict of ancient days while we honor the victory of faith, and of
Judaism's ideals. Hanukkah's light represents spiritual strength, not only
physical prowess. Our Hanukkiyot represent God's light, a path of peace
and goodness that must endure for all time.

הַנֵּרוֹת הָלָלוּ אֶנְחָנוּ מְדַלִּיקִים עַל הַנִּסִּים
וְעַל הַנִּפְלְאוֹת וְעַל הַתְּשׁוּעוֹת וְעַל הַמִּלְחָמוֹת,
שֶׁעָשִׂיתָ לְאַבּוֹתֵינוּ בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם בְּזֶמַן הַזֶּה,
עַל יְדֵי כַהֲנִיד הַקְּדוֹשִׁים. וְכָל שְׁמוֹנֶת יָמֵי חֲנֻכָּה
הַנֵּרוֹת הָלָלוּ קֹדֶשׁ הֵם, וְאִין לָנוּ רְשׁוּת
לְהִשְׁתַּמֵּשׁ בָּהֶם, אֶלָּא לְרְאוּתָם בְּלִבָּד,
כְּדֵי לְהוֹדוֹת וּלְהַלֵּל לְשִׁמְךָ הַגָּדוֹל
עַל נִסֶּיךָ וְעַל נִפְלְאוֹתֶיךָ וְעַל יְשׁוּעָתֶךָ.

*HaNerot Hallalu anahnu madlikim, al ha-nisim, v'al ha-nif-laot,
v'al ha-t'shuot, v'al-ha milhamot, she-asita-la'avoteinu ba-ya-mim ha-hem,
bazman ha-zeh al y'dei kohanekha hak'doshim. V'khol sh-mo-nat y'mei
Hanukkah haNerot hallalu kodesh hem, ve'in la-nu r'shut l'hish-ta-mesh
ba-hem, eleh li'rotom bilvad, k'day l'hodot u'l'halel l'Shimkha ha-Gadol
al nisekha v'al niflotekha v'al y'shuatekha.*

How the lights are kindled:

One candle is lit in the Hanukkah menorah for each night. For the first night, one
candle, the second night, two candles, and so on until eight candles are kindled
on the eighth night. The candle for the first night is placed on the right side of
your Hanukkiyah. On each subsequent night an additional candle is placed to
the left of the preceding night's candle. The lighting proceeds from left to right
so that the new candle is kindled first each night. No practical use may be made
of the Hanukkah lights such as illuminating the room. Therefore, according to
Jewish tradition, a special extra candle known as the *Shamash* is used to light
the others and to provide light. On Friday night the Hanukkah lights are lit before
the *Shabbat* candles, prior to sunset. On Saturday night, be sure the sun has set
before lighting the Hanukkah candles.