

Conversion Service

ברוך ה'א בשם ה' ברכנוכם מביח ה' :

Blessed be you who come in the name of the Lord:
We bless you from the House of the Lord.

Our God and God of our fathers, You who endow all flesh with spirit, who called Abraham to make Your sovereignty known among mankind, and summoned Moses to teach Your word. You bring all people, both near and far, closer to You.

We ask Your blessing upon _____ who stands before the Ark of Your Torah. She stands before it as the people of Israel stood at Sinai, choosing to accept Your sovereignty and the discipline of Your Torah with love.

May she live as a true and righteous member of Your people Israel by embracing the heritage of our past, finding joy in the fulfillment of Your Torah and enduring satisfaction in the practice of Judaism.

May the Lord, God of Israel, under whose wings she has come, grant her a blessed and fulfilled life. Let us say: Amen.

statement

Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.

Praised be His sovereign glory for ever and ever.

שמע ישראל ה' אלהינו ה' אחד.

ברוך שם כבוד מלכותו לעולם ועד.

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your might. These words which I command you this day shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children. You shall talk about them at home and away, night and day. You shall bind them as a sign upon your hand; they shall be as frontlets between your eyes; and you shall inscribe them upon the doorposts of your homes and upon your gates. Then you will remember and fulfill all My commandments, and be holy before your God.

ואהבת ה' את יהוה אלהיך בכל לבבך ובכל נפשך
לימאדך. והיו הדברים האלה, אשר אנכי מצוך היום,
ללבבך. ושונתם לבגידך, ודברת בם בשבתך בביתך,
כתך בדרך, ובשכבך ובקומך. וקשרתם לאוזן על ירך,
לטטפת בין עיניך. וכתבתם על מזוזות ביתך ובשעריך.
והיו עשיתם את כל מצותי, והייתם קדשים
להיכם.

God, You are my God;
I search for You,
my soul thirsts for You,
my body yearns for You,
as a parched and thirsty land that has no water.
I shall behold You in the sanctuary,
and see Your might and glory,

Truly Your faithfulness is better than life;
 My lips declare Your praise.
 I bless You all my life;
 I lift up my hands, invoking Your name.
 I sing praises with joyful lips
 when I call You to mind upon my bed,
 when I think of You in the watches of the night;
 for You are my help,
 and in the shadow of Your wings
 I shout for joy.
 My soul is attached to You;
 Your right hand supports me.

(Psalm 63:1-9)

מי שבִּרְךְ אֲבוֹתֵינוּ אֲבָרָהִם יִצְחָק וְיַעֲקֹב, שָׂרָה רִבְקָה
 רָחֵל וְלֵאָה הוּא יְבָרֵךְ אֶת־אֲחוֹמֵנוּ _____ בֵּת אֲבָרָהִם
 אֲבֵינוּ בְּבוֹאָהּ לַחֲסוֹת מַחַת כַּנְפֵי הַטְּכִינָה וְלִהְיוֹתָם בְּיַחְלָת
 יִשְׂרָאֵל וּבְהִמְנוּחָהּ עַל גְּרֵי הַיָּצֵדֵק בְּחוּךְ עִם אֱלֹהֵי אֲבָרָהִם.
 יְהִי רָצוֹן שְׂמֵחֵלִים בְּרַחֲמֶיךָ וּתְרַאֲהוּ בְּכָל־מַעֲשֵׂה יְרֵיָה.
 וְנֹאמֵר אָמֵן.

May He who blessed our ancestors, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel, and Leah, bless who has cast her lot with the people Israel. She is a true proselyte among the people of the God of Abraham. May she prosper in all her worthy endeavors; may the work of her hands be blessed. And let us say: Amen.

עֲלֵינוּ לְשַׁבַּח לְאֲדוֹן הַכֹּל, לַחַת גְּדֻלָּה לְיוֹצֵר בְּרֵאשִׁית,
 שְׁלֵא עֲשָׂנוּ כְּגוֹיֵי הָאָרְצוֹת, וְלֹא שָׁמְנוּ כְּמִשְׁפָּחוֹת הָאֲדָרְמָה;
 שְׁלֵא שָׁם חִלְקֵנוּ כְּהֵם, וְגִרְלָנוּ כְּכָל־הַמוֹנָם.
 וְאֲנַחְנוּ כּוֹרְעִים וּמְשַׁתְּחָוִים וּמוֹדִים לְפָנֶי מֶלֶךְ מַלְכֵי
 הַמַּלְכִּים, הַקְּדוֹשׁ בְּרוּךְ הוּא,

May the time not be distant, O God, when Thy name shall be worshipped in all the earth, when unbelief shall disappear and error be no more. Ferrently we pray that the day may come when all men shall invoke Thy name, when corruption and evil shall give way to purity and goodness, when superstition

shall no longer enslave the mind, nor idolatry blind the eye, when all who dwell on earth shall know that to Thee alone every knee must bend and every tongue give homage. O may all, created in Thine image, recognize that they are brethren, so that, one in spirit and one in fellowship, they may be forever united before Thee. Then shall Thy kingdom be established on earth and the word of Thine ancient seer be fulfilled: The Lord will reign for ever and ever.

On that day the Lord shall be One and His name shall be One.

May God strengthen you in the solemn choice you have made. As a Rabbi in Israel, and with the consent of these witness, I welcome you warmly and joyously into our faith; and I confer upon you the Hebrew name _____

יְהוָה יְיָ וְיִשְׁמְרֵךְ:

יְאֵר יְיָ פְּנֵי אֱלֹהֵיךָ וְיִחַנְךָ:

יֵשָׂא יְיָ פְּנֵי אֱלֹהֵיךָ וְיִשֵּׂם לְךָ שְׁלוֹם:

Let not your genealogy be deprecated in your own sight. If we (born Jews) trace our genealogy to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, you are related to Him who created the world, for thus it is clearly in Isaiah 44:5: 'One will say I am the Lord's, and another will call himself with the name of Jacob.' Since you have entered under the wings of the Shekhina and are joined with Him, there is no difference at all between us and you, and all the miracles that were done are as if they were done for you as well as for us. Thus Scripture say: 'Let not the stranger who is joined unto the Lord say, "God has set me apart from His people."' (Isa. 56:3) There is no difference at all between us and you in any matter. There is no question but that you must read the blessing: "who has chosen us," and "who has given us as an inheritance," and "who has set us apart," because the Creator has already chosen you and set you apart from the Gentiles and given you the Law; for the Torah was given both to us and to the proselytes, as it is said: 'As for the congregation, one statute there is for you and for the proselyte, an eternal law for your generation, for you and for the proselyte before the Lord; one law and judgment shall be for you and for the proselyte' (Num 15:15-16) Know thou that our fathers who came out of Egypt were, the majority of them, idolators. In Egypt they intermingled with the Gentiles and learned their ways, until the Holy One, blessed be He, sent Moses, on whom be peace, the teacher of all prophets, and set us apart from the other peoples and brought us under the wings of the Shekhina, for us and for all the proselytes, and gave us all one Law.

(Maimonides to Obadiah)