



PhiloTorah D'var Torah

SHEB'CHOL DOR VADOR

V'HI SHE-AMDA LAAVOTEINU V'LANU...

It has sustained our ancestors and us. For not only one enemy has risen against us to annihilate us, but in every generation people rise against us. But the Holy One, Blessed be He, saves us from their hand.

What is "it"?

**BARUCH SHOMEIR HAVTACHATO
L'YISRAEL...**

Blessed be He who keeps His promise to Israel; blessed be He.

It is His promise that we will not be destroyed. It is His promise that we will flourish...

Par'o rose up against the soon-to-be nation of Israel - in fact, he was the first to call us AM B'NEI YISRAEL. It was a very difficult period for our People. Babies killed. Our People enslaved and oppressed. According to our tradition, most of the Israelites did not make it out of Egypt.

Yet two to three million of our ancestors did leave Egypt. Did cross through the Sea. Did stand at Har Sinai as one person

with one heart. Did receive the Torah...

Amalek rose up against us. And we successfully repelled their attack. Sadly, that battle continues through the generations. But we survive.

Fast forward, and skip various episodes in Jewish History.

Haman rose up against us with his desire and plot to kill every man, woman, and child - the nation of Mordechai.

He, Baruch HaShem failed miserably.

Fast forward again, past pogroms, inquisitions, forced conversions... The toll was often heavy... but we survive - and become stronger...

Fast forward again. The Sho'ah. The Holocaust. We have plenty to ponder and contemplate about that.

Then we have a number of wars and attacks, with our enemies wanting to drive us into the sea.

And now, almost seven months into a war against Hamas that began with the incredible horrors of October 7th...

**SHE-B'CHOL DOR VADOR OMDIM
ALEINU L'CHALOTEINU...**

Terrible. Painful. Costly. But...

**V'HAKADOSH BARUCH HU MATZILEINU
MIYADAM, and the Holy One, Blessed be
He, saves us from their hand.**

This is a statement of historic fact, seen over and over throughout our history.

And this is also a fervent prayer of HaShem. Do it again, G-d, do it again. Save us from their hand. We are doing our HISHTADLUS, our efforts. IDF on the battle field and the People too, with unity, with purpose, with acts of Chesed, with caring.

Yom HaSho'ah is not just to mourn what happened 80 years ago. It is not just to marvel at the countless acts of strength and courage - physical and spiritual - that took place back then. Yom HaSho'ah is also to mourn the losses we have suffered these last seven months - no, not just seven months, 76 years of Statehood. But it is also a time to thank G-d for the many miracles interwoven with the tragic events and to admire the bravery and courage of our Chayalim and security forces. And to be thankful for the outpouring of Chesed and kindnesses that are continually being performed during this difficult time.

At the same time that we acknowledge and bless G-d as the SHOMEIR HAVTACHATO, the Keeper of His Promise, let us also say to Him that we beseech Him and need Him to keep that promise yet again. The help end this war successfully, to return the hostages to their families - and to us, their greater family. To heal the wounded - physically wounded and emotionally wounded. To help restore and create a peace and security to His people - not just here in Israel, but to all over this insane world that is seeing unprecedented violence against all of AM YISRAEL. **PTDT**