

## Poem

### Hear, O Lord (prayer for days of awe)

Hear, O Lord, Israel, your people, Israel is  
 one  
 And you shall love Israel your people  
 With all your heart  
 And with all your soul  
 And with all your might  
 And these sons who are being killed for  
 you daily shall be  
 upon your heart  
 And you shall teach them diligently in your  
 heavens  
 And you shall talk of them:  
 When you sit in your house  
 And when you walk by the way  
 And when you lie down and when you rise  
 And you shall bind them as a sign upon  
 your hand (phosphorescent blue numbers)  
 and they shall be as  
 frontlets  
 between your eyes (like the sniper's shot)  
 And you shall write them (in blood) on the  
 doorposts of your house  
 And on your gates.

## שְׁמַע אֲד-נִי, יִשְׂרָאֵל

מילים: Zelda Mishkowsky

שְׁמַע אֲד-נִי, יִשְׂרָאֵל עִמָּךְ יִשְׂרָאֵל אֶחָד  
 וְאַהֲבֵת אֶת יִשְׂרָאֵל עִמָּךְ  
 בְּכָל לִבְבְּךָ  
 וּבְכָל נַפְשְׁךָ  
 וּבְכָל מְאֹדְךָ  
 וְהִיוּ הַבָּנִים הָאֵלֶּה אֲשֶׁר נִהְרָגִים עֲלֶיךָ כָּל הַיּוֹם  
 עַל לִבְבְּךָ  
 וְשִׁנְנָתָם בְּרַקִּיעֶיךָ  
 וְדִבַּרְתָּ בָּם:  
 בְּשִׁבְתְּךָ בְּבֵיתְךָ  
 וּבְלַכְתְּךָ בַּדֶּרֶךְ  
 וּבְשֹׁכְבְּךָ וּבְקוּמְךָ  
 וּקְשַׁרְתָּם לְאוֹת עַל  
 יָדְךָ (סְפָרוֹת כַּחֲלוֹת זְרָחָנִיּוֹת) וְהִיוּ לְטוֹטְפוֹת בֵּין  
 עֵינֶיךָ (כְּמוֹ פְּגִיעַת הַצֵּלְפִּים)  
 וּכְתַבְתָּם (בָּדָם) עַל-מַזְזוֹת בֵּיתְךָ  
 וּבְשַׁעְרֶיךָ

Eliaz Cohen is a well-known Israeli poet who lives in Kibbutz Kfar Etzion. In 2006 he received the Prime Minister's Prize in poetry.



### Discussion Questions:

1. Who is the speaker addressing in this poem and what does he demand?
2. This poem was written twenty years ago during the second intifada. How does it apply to October 7th?