

A Prayer for Our Country

Our God and God of our ancestors, with mercy accept our prayer on behalf of our country and its government. Pour out Your blessings upon this land, upon its leader, its judges, officers, and officials, who are devoted in good faith to the needs of the public. Instruct them with the laws of Your Torah and help them understand Your rules of justice, so that peace and security, happiness and freedom, will never depart from our land.

We pray, Adonai, God whose spirit is in all creatures, awaken that spirit within all the inhabitants of our land. Uproot from their hearts hatred and malice, jealousy and strife. Plant among those of different nationalities and faiths who dwell in our nation, love and companionship, peace and friendship. May it therefore be Your will that our land be a blessing to all who dwell on earth and cause them to dwell in friendship and freedom. Speedily fulfill the vision of Your prophets: "Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more"; "For all of them, from the least of them to the greatest, shall know Me." And let us say: Amen.

-- (This prayer appears both on page 117, and pages 288-289, of *Machzor Lev Shalem*, a prayer book for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, published by the Rabbinical Assembly of the Conservative Movement)