

## Songs

### **Maoz Tzur / Rock of Ages**

Maoz tzur y'-shu-a-tee l'cha na-e l'sha-be-ah  
tee-kon bet t'-fee-la-tee  
v'sham to-da n'za'be-ach  
l'-et ta-chin mat-be-ach  
mee-tzar ha-m'na-be-ach  
az egmor b'shir miz-mor chanukat  
hamizbe-ach  
az egmor b'shir miz-mor chanukat  
hamizbe-ach

Rock of Ages, let our song  
Praise Thy saving power;  
Thou, amidst the raging foes  
Wast our sheltering tower.  
Furious, they assailed us,  
But Thine arm availed us  
And Thy word—  
Broke their sword—  
When our own strength failed us.

### **I Have a Little Dreidel**

I have a little dreidel  
I made it out of clay  
And when it's dry and ready  
Then dreidel I shall play

Chorus: **Oh Dreidel, Dreidel, Dreidel**  
**I made it out of clay**  
**And when it's dry and ready**  
**Then Dreidel I shall play.**

It has a lovely body  
With leg so short and thin.  
And when it gets all tired  
it drops and then I win.

**Chorus**

### **Hanerot Halalu / These Candles**

Hanerot Halalu  
Anu Madlikin  
Al Hanisim ve'al Hanifla'ot  
Al Hateshu'ot ve'al Hanechamot  
Asher Asita Lavotenu  
Bayamim Hahem Uvazman Hazeh

We kindle these lights on account of the  
miracles, the wonders, the liberations, and the  
battles that You carried out for our forebearers  
in those days at this time of year.



### **O Chanukah**

O Chanukah, O Chanukah  
come light the Menorah.  
Let's have a party  
Let's all dance the Horah  
Gather round the table  
We'll give you a treat.  
S'vivon to play with and  
Latkes to eat.  
And while we are playing  
The candles are burning low  
One for each night  
They shed a sweet light }2x  
to remind us of days long ago }2x

## Recipes

### **Potato Latkes**

4 medium potatoes, grated and drained  
1 small onion, grated  
2 eggs  
2 T. unflavored bread crumbs or  
matzoh meal  
1 tsp. salt  
1/2 tsp. pepper  
1/2 C. oil

• Mix & fry flat patties turning once.  
Serve with applesauce &/or sour cream.

### **Sufganiyot**

Batter: 1 1/2 C. flour  
1 egg  
1 1/2 tsp. baking powder  
1/2 C. sugar  
1 C. buttermilk

• Mix and fry in hot deep oil, about 2  
tablespoons at a time, turning once.

## Chanukah:How To Do It

Light the first candle on Tuesday, Dec. 7  
Add 1 candle each night through, Dec. 14

1) A Chanukiah (menorah) has nine  
candleholders, one for the *shamash* (the  
server) and eight more for the eight nights of  
the holiday. Light the *shamash* first and use it  
to light the others.

2) On Friday evening, Chanukah lights are  
kindled BEFORE the Shabbat candles. On  
Saturday night, kindle lights AFTER nightfall.

3) Many people place the Chanukiah on the  
windowsill where it will shine into the street.

4) On the first night of Chanukah one light is  
kindled, second - two and so forth.

5) On the first night the light is placed on the  
right end. Add the candles from right to left,  
but light the candles from left to right.

6) Before kindling the lights the blessings are  
recited (see below).

7) After the lights are kindled, we recite or  
sing the prayer Hanerot Halalu (see  
reverse), and sing other Chanukah songs.

### Blessings

Baruch ata Adonai Elouheinu Melech ha-olam  
asher kidshanu b'mitzvotav v'tzivanu l'hadlik  
ne shel Chanukah.

*Praised are You, Our God, Ruler of the  
universe, who sanctified us in the  
commandments and commanded us to light  
the candles of Chanukah.*

Baruch ata Adonai Eloheinu Melech ha-olam  
she-assa nissim l'avoteinu bayamin ha-hem  
bazman ha-zeh.

*Praised are You, Our God, Ruler of the  
universe, who made miracles for our ancestors in  
their days at this very time of year.*

On the first night add:

Baruch ata adonai eloheinu melech ha-olam  
shehecheyanu v'kiyemanu v'higiyanu lazman  
hazeh.

*Praised are You, Our God, Ruler of the  
universe, who has kept us alive, sustained us  
and helped us to reach this time.*

## How to play dreidel

נ NUN  
ג GIMMEL  
ה HAY  
ש SHIN



The letters on the dreidel are  
'n'(nun), 'g'(gimmel), 'h'(hey), and  
'sh'(shin). Each letter begins a word  
in the Hebrew phrase, *Nes gadol  
hayah sham*, which means "A great  
miracle happened there." The  
miracle was the miracle of the oil  
lasting for 8 days.

### How to play

Any number of players can play dreidel.  
Each player must have an equal number  
of pennies, walnuts, raisins, or other  
markers. Each player puts one marker  
in the main pile. Then everyone takes a  
turn spinning the dreidel. The letter that  
is on top will tell the player what to do:  
**Nun**—Player does **nothing**.  
**Gimmel**—Player gets **all** the markers in  
the main pile.  
**Hey**—Player takes **half** the markers in  
the main pile.  
**Shin**—Player must **put one marker in**  
the main pile.

When the main pile is gone, the players  
again put in equal numbers of markers.  
When a player has no more markers to  
put in, he or she is out of the game. The  
player that ends up with all the markers  
is the winner.

## Chanukah History

Chanukah may have roots in an old seasonal festival which had to do with the gradual increase of daylight occurring after the winter solstice.

Unlike most other Jewish holidays, Chanukah commemorates an event that has a definite historical date. This event is the rededication of the Temple in Jerusalem by the Maccabees on the 25th of the month Kislev, 164 BCE. The holiday is a memorial to the first fight for religious freedom recorded in Jewish history. The Maccabees led a revolt against Antiochus the Syrian-Greek king and against the Jewish Hellenizers. With persistence and courage they won the right to practice their religion, which was previously denied and punishable by death. When creating this holiday the Maccabees linked it with previous dedications of the Temple, or the tabernacle, that took place during the time of Ezra, King Solomon, and Moses (the 5th, 10th, and 13th centuries BCE). Chanukah means dedication.

Chanukah celebrates a period of autonomy and sovereignty and the right to religious freedom. This period of Jewish autonomy on the land lasted for only two centuries and was followed by a 2000 years long exile. With the change of status of the Jewish people came a change in the content of the holiday. The story of the miracle of the oil was added to provide a new focus: that of faith. The story recorded in the Talmud relates that when the Maccabees regained the Temple they found only a small amount of oil (enough for one day) with which to light the Temple's Menorah (the eternal light). They lit it anyway and it lasted 8 days, long enough to prepare more of the pure olive oil used for that purpose.

For centuries Chanukah was celebrated with more emphasis on the miracle of the oil and less on the actions of the Maccabees. That changed about a hundred years ago, when it became evident that Jews could once again return to their land. The early Zionists "unearthed" the Maccabees and drew great inspiration from that ancient chapter of Jewish history.

Today in Israel a torch is lit each Chanukah in Modi'in, the village of the Maccabees, and is carried by runners to Jerusalem and other places. Throughout the world this holiday is celebrated by some as the continued miracle of Jewish survival, and by others as a reminder of a group of courageous people, the Maccabees, who against odds fought to regain religious and cultural independence.

-- Avital Plan

## Contemporary Commentary

*For many centuries Judaism was kept alive through an ongoing process of the reinterpretation of Jewish text, customs and laws. This process still goes on. Following is an excerpt from Rabbinic Responses to History as Mirrored in Hanukkah and Purim, published by the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem.*

### The Courage to Begin

In considering the miracle of the cruse of oil, our sages asked why the holiday of Hanukkah was celebrated for eight days rather than for seven days. Since there was, by all accounts, sufficient oil for one day, only seven of the eight days of burning should have been regarded as miraculous days...One may explain the miraculous feature of the first day in terms of the community's willingness to light the lamp even though there was not sufficient oil to keep the lamp burning long enough to complete the rededication of the temple. The miracle of the first day was expressed in the community's willingness to begin a task without guarantees that they would complete it. Hanukkah celebrates the miracle of initial lighting of the lamp and not only the miracle of the lamp's continued burning for eight days. ...The Hanukkah lights encourage one to trust human beginnings and to focus one's passions and efforts on whatever opportunities are available at the present moment. One ought to pour infinite yearnings even into small vessels. The strength to continue and to preserve grows by virtue of the courage to initiate a process by lighting the first flame. Only lamps which are lit may continue to burn beyond their anticipated life span.

### Sources

Arye Ben Gurion and Tzvi Shu'ah, *Yalkut Chanukah*; Barry Chazan and Yehiel Poupko, *Guide to Jewish Knowledge*; Yom Tov Levinski, *Sefer Hamo'adim*; Yoel Rappel, *Jewish Holidays Encyclopedia*; Eliezer Schweid, *The Cycle of Appointed Times*; Michael Strassfeld, *The Jewish Holidays*; Daniel B. Syme, *The Jewish Home*; Arthur Waskow, *Seasons of Our Joy*; David Rosenberg, *A Blazing Fountain*

## Chanukah Kosher Lunch



THURSDAY,

DECEMBER 9, 2004

11:30 AM - HOLIDAY MUSIC WITH ACHI BEN SHALOM  
12:15 PM - LUNCH

Roast Chicken ▲ Potato Latkes ▲ Apple Sauce  
Carrot Tzimmes ▲ Challah ▲ Chanukah Cookies  
Kosher Wine & Grape Juice

\$6 Older adults & children; \$6.50 all others  
Reservation deadline:

**Monday, December 6**

call (510) 848-0237 x128

## Celebrate CHANUKAH

Sunday, December 12

12:30 - 4:30 pm

■ Holiday musical performance

with **Gerry Tenney**

■ Storytelling with

**Joel ben Izzy**

*(The Chanukah Story)*

■ Chanukah Magic

with **The Magic Lady**

**Naomi Caspe**

■ Holiday arts & crafts

■ Gift Shop

■ fresh, "yummy", hot latkes!

**ADMISSION FREE**

(LATKES & DRINKS FOR SALE)

For more info, call (510) 848-0237 x 110

or email: [info@brjcc.org](mailto:info@brjcc.org)

at the BRJCC

1414 Walnut at Rose, Berkeley



# CHANUKAH

# חנוכה



**December 8 - 14, 2004**

**25 Kislev - 2 Tevet 5765**

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An agency of the Jewish  
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