

"Blessing of the Trees" at Ammunition Hill

The Blessing of the Trees ceremony took place on Rosh Chodesh **Nisan** 5777 in the presence of the Chief Rabbis of Jerusalem, HaRishon LeZion Harav **Shlomo Moshe Amar**, shlit"a and Harav **Aryeh Stern** shlit"a, commemorating fifty years of reunited Jerusalem.

At this very inspirational and moving ceremony, speakers included the two Chief Rabbis of Jerusalem, Mr. **Eliezer Shefer**, Chairman of **World Organization of Orthodox Communities and Synagogues**, Mr. **Shamai Keinon**, who spoke on behalf of Mr. **Danny Atar**, Chairman of the **Jewish National Fund** and Mr. **Alon Wald**, Program Director of the Ammunition Hill site. The Blessing of the Trees was recited by Lieutenant General [Reserves] Knesset member **Motti Yogev**.

Mr. **David Ben Naeh**, Representative for Unisy"n [United Synagogues...] in the World Zionist Organization, emceed the program with participants, Ms. **Chagit Moshe**, Vice Mayor of Jerusalem and Mr. **Amiad Taub**, Unisy"n representative in the National Institutions.

The **Zimratya Choir**, conducted by Dr. **Uri Aharon**, sang the premiere rendition of The Planter's Prayer composed by HaRav **Shear Yashuv Cohen** ob"m.



Blessing by HaRav Aryeh Stern, Chief Rabbi of Jerusalem.



The Chief Rabbis of Jerusalem and the Zimratya Choir, conductor Dr. Uri Aharon.



Blessings of the Rishon Letzion, HaRav Shlomo Moshe Amar, shlit"a, Chief Rabbi of Jerusalem.



Mr. David Ben Naeh, member, World Zionist Organization Executive Board



Mr. Shamai Keinon, blessing from the chairman of the Jewish National Fund



Eliezer Shefer, Chairman World Organization of Orthodox Communities and Synagogues



Blessing of the Trees in Zagreb, Croatia: HaRav Kotel Dadon, Chief Rabbi of Croatia with HaRav Yitzchak Asiel, Chief Rabbi of Serbia



Alon Wald, Program Director of Ammunition Hill site, greeting the Chief Rabbi of Jerusalem



Knesset member Moti Yogev reciting the Blessing of the Trees

ברכת האילנות

”היוצא בימי ניסן וראה אילנות שמוציאין פרח, אומר: ברוך אתה ה' אלוקינו מלך העולם שלא חיסר בעולמו כלום [נ'א: דבר], וברא בו בריות טובות ואילנות טובות [נ'א: טובים] להנות בהם בני אדם.”
(שולחן ערוך, אורח חיים סימן רכ"ו, סעיף א')

בעל ערוך השולחן (או"ח רכו': ב') מעיד שבגולה: ”רפויה ברכה זו אצל ההמון”. אולם כיום, עם התחדשותה של אמירת ברכת האילנות בארץ ובכל רחבי העולם בחודש ניסן, יש בה משום סימן לגאולה על פי חזון יחזקאל הנביא ל"ו, ח': ”וְאַתֶּם הָרִי יִשְׂרָאֵל עֲנַפְכֶם תִּתְּנוּ וּפְרִיָכֶם תִּשְׂאוּ לְעַמִּי יִשְׂרָאֵל כִּי קָרְבוּ לָבוֹא”.

Blessing of the Trees

Blessed are You, G-d King of the Universe, who has left out nothing in the created world, and has created fine creatures and fine tree for man's benefit

Bénédictio des arbres

Tu es Bénis Hashem (Tu es la source de la Bénédiction) Notre Dieu, Roi du Monde, qui n'a rien négligé dans son univers où il y a créé de bonnes créatures, ainsi que de bons arbres, afin d'en faire profiter les êtres humains

bendición de los árboles

Bendito el que no deja que falte nada en su mundo y creó en él bellos seres y bellos árboles, para placer de los hombres