

מלך גואל ומושיע - Melech Goel u Moshia

R. Moshe Chutzin

About the Piyut

This is a Piyut for the Hebrew month of Nissan, sung in celebration of Passover by the Babylonian Jewish communities. In many communities it is even sung around the Seder table. The Piyut was written by Rabbi Moshe Chutzin, one of many scholars and poets found among 18th century Babylonian Jewry. His name can be seen as an acronym — one letter for the beginning of each verse. The Piyut is traditionally sung in the month preceding Nissan, in celebration of all the month and the Passover represent — redemption, freedom, and growth. The redemption from Egypt is likened to the Messianic redemption that, tradition states, will begin during this celebrated month as well.

Hebrew Text

Melech go'el u-moshia / El ne'eratz b'-sod k'doshim

U-l'-eyn onim otzma yirbeh / machzik rifyon y'dey rashim

Ki hotzi b'-chodesh aviv / b'ney Yisrael chamushim

Hodu la-El ki ha-chodesh ha-zeh lachem rosh chodashim

Sh'mo yachdav n'romema / aley nevel v'-aley asor

Ki zachar et divrei kodsho / v'-yotzi amo mi-matzor

V'-hu tziva eley amo / k'chu lachem seh be-asor

L'hodia ki hu yashor / al Elohim va-anashim

Hodu la-El ki ha-chodesh ha-zeh lachem rosh chodashim

Ha-am asu et pischeyhem / biltey pachad mi-Mitzrayim

B'-shirey zimra u-tehila / b'-shalosh kitot machanayim

Achlu oto aley matzot / u-marorim b'-ha-arbayim

Bilti mevushal ba-mayim / v'-na ki im tzli ishim

Hodu la-El ki ha-chodesh ha-zeh lachem rosh chodashim

Chosen yesha y'mino El / her'eh l'-hoshia lamo

Ki hishkif mi-m'on kodsho / ha-am mitboses b'-damo

מֶלֶךְ גּוֹאֵל וּמוֹשִׁיעַ אֵל נֶעְרַץ בְּסוּד קְדוֹשִׁים

וּלְאִין אוֹנִים עֲצָמָה יִרְבֶּה מַחְזִיק רִפְיוֹן יְדֵי רָשִׁים

כִּי הוֹצִיא בְּחֹדֶשׁ אָבִיב בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל חֲמוּשִׁים

הוֹדוּ לְאֵל כִּי הַחֹדֶשׁ הַזֶּה לָכֶם רֹאשׁ חֹדָשִׁים

שְׁמוֹ יִחְדָּו נְרוֹמְמָה עָלַי נִבֵּל וְעָלַי עָשׂוֹר

כִּי זָכַר אֶת דְּבַר קֹדֶשׁוֹ וַיּוֹצִיא עַמּוֹ מִמְּצוֹר

וְהוּא צִוָּה אֵלַי עַמּוֹ קָחוּ לָכֶם שֶׁה בְּעָשׂוֹר

לְהוֹדִיעַ כִּי הוּא יֵשׂוֹר עַל אֱלֹהִים וְאַנְשִׁים

הוֹדוּ לְאֵל כִּי הַחֹדֶשׁ הַזֶּה לָכֶם רֹאשׁ חֹדָשִׁים

הָעַם עָשׂוּ אֶת פִּסְחֵיהֶם בְּלַתִּי פַחַד מִמִּצְרַיִם

בְּשִׁירֵי זִמְרָה וְתִהְלָה בְּשִׁלֵּשׁ כְּתוֹת מַחְנִים

אֲכָלוּ אוֹתוֹ עָלַי מִצּוֹת וּמְרוֹרִים בְּהָעֲרָבִים

בְּלַתִּי מִבְּשָׁל בַּמַּיִם וְנָא כִּי אִם צָלִי אֲשִׁים

הוֹדוּ לְאֵל כִּי הַחֹדֶשׁ הַזֶּה לָכֶם רֹאשׁ חֹדָשִׁים

חֶסֶן יֵשַׁע יְמִינוֹ אֵל הִרְאָה לְהוֹשִׁיעַ לְמוֹ

כִּי הִשְׁקִיף מִמַּעוֹן קֹדֶשׁוֹ הָעַם מִתְּבוּסָס בְּדָמוֹ

Dam Pesach v'-dam ha-mila / azay avar hu b'-atzmo

L'-mitzrayim v'-et amo / hotzi me-avdut l'-hofashim

Hodu la-El ki ha-chodesh ha-zeh lachem rosh chodashim

Chazak chusha sh'lach zarim / livney Edom u-filgashim

Simem k'mahpechat arim / arey ashurim u-l'tushim

V'-tachnia g'on zarim / u-shlach l'-am l'cha dorshim

Ha-adon asher m'vakshim / b'-Nissan rosh ha-chodashim

Hodu la-El ki ha-chodesh ha-zeh lachem rosh chodashim

דָם פֶּסַח וְדָם הַמִּילָה אָזִי עָבַר הוּא בְעֶצְמוֹ

לְמִצְרַיִם וְאֶת עַמּוֹ הוֹצִיא מֵעַבְדוֹת לְחֻפְשֵׁי

הַיְהוּדִים לְאֵל כִּי הַחֹדֶשׁ הַזֶּה לָכֶם רֹאשׁ חֳדָשִׁים

חֲזַק חוֹשָׁה שְׁלַח זָרִים לְבְנֵי אֲדוֹם וּפִלְגָשִׁים

שִׁימָם כְּמַהְפַּכַת עָרִים עָרֵי אַשּׁוּרִים וְלְטוֹשִׁים

וְתַכְנִיעַ גְּאוֹן זָרִים וְשַׁלַּח לְעַם לְךָ דוֹרְשֵׁים

הָאֲדוֹן אֲשֶׁר מְבַקְשִׁים בְּנִיסוֹן רֹאשׁ הַחֳדָשִׁים

הַיְהוּדִים לְאֵל כִּי הַחֹדֶשׁ הַזֶּה לָכֶם רֹאשׁ חֳדָשִׁים

English Translation

King, redeemer, and savior
A God feared in the council of holy ones
Who gives vigor to those without might
Strengthening the sinking hands of the poor
In the spring month he took out
The children of Israel, armed
Give thanks to God, for this month will be
your first month

We will exalt His name together
With harp and lute
For he remembered His sacred promise
And took His nation out of siege
And he commanded His nation
"Take a lamb on the tenth"
To announce that He rules
Over gods and men
Give thanks to God, for this month will be
your first month

The nation offered their Passover sacrifices
Without fear of Egypt
With musical songs of praise
With three groups
Eat it with Matza
And bitter herbs in the evening
Not cooked in water or raw
But only roasted over fire
Give thanks to God, for this month will be
your first month

Translation by Abigail Denmark

God's strong saving right hand
He has shown to save His nation
God looked down from His holy abode
to see
The nation wallowing in its blood
Blood of the Passover sacrifice and blood
of circumcision
Then He Himself passed
Over Egypt and His nation
He took out to be free
Give thanks to God, for this month will
be your first month

Strong One, quickly send enemies
To the sons of Edom and their concubines
Make them like cities overturned
The cities of Ashurites and Letushites
Subdue the enemies' pride
And to the nation which seeks you send
The Lord whom they seek
In Nissan, the first of the months
Give thanks to God, for this month will
be your first month