

Hanukkah Candlelighting

Candles are added to the Hanukkiah from right to left, and are lit from left to right. For the Shabbat that falls during Hanukkah, light the Hanukkah candles first and then the Shabbat candles.

Light the Shamash candle (the helper candle) first, and use it to light the rest of the Hanukkah candles. As you light, recite the following blessing:

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ
בְּמִצְוֹתָיו, וְצִוָּנוּ לְהַדְלִיק נֵר שֶׁל חֲנֻכָּה.

Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech haolam, asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav v'tsivanu l'hadlik ner shel Hanukkah.

Baruch Atah Adonai, our God, sovereign of time and space, who has provided us with a path to holiness through the observance of mitzvot and has instructed us to kindle the lights of Hanukkah.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שֶׁעָשָׂה נִסִּים לְאַבוֹתֵינוּ
וְאִמּוֹתֵינוּ בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם בְּזִמַּן הַזֶּה.

Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech haolam, she-asah nisim laavoteinu v'imoteinu bayamim hahaeim baz'man hazeh.

Baruch Atah Adonai, our God, sovereign of time and space, who performed miracles for our ancestors in those days and at this time.

On the first night of Hanukkah, the following is added:

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שֶׁהַחַיֵּינוּ וְקִיַּמָּנוּ
וְהִגִּיעָנוּ לַזְּמַן הַזֶּה.

Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech haolam, shehecheyanu v'kiy'manu v'higianu laz'man hazeh.

Baruch Atah Adonai, our God, sovereign of time and space, for granting us life, for sustaining us, and for bringing us to this moment.

After the candles are lit, we recite:

As we light these candles we recall the miracles and wonders, the battles and the victories performed for our ancestors through Your holy priests in those days at this time.

Throughout the eight days of Hanukkah these lights are holy: we may not use them but may only gaze upon them, that we may thank and praise Your great name for Your miracles, Your deliverance, and Your wondrous acts.