

SELICHOT FOR THE FOURTH DAY

Happy are they that dwell in thy house: they will continually praise thee; for time everlasting.

Happy is the people that is thus favoured: happy is the people, whose God is the Lord.

PSALM 145

[A Psalm of] Praise by David.

I will extol thee, my God, the King, and bless thy name for ever and ever. Every day will I bless thee, and praise thy name for ever and ever. Great is the Lord, and exceedingly to be praised; and his greatness is unsearchable. One generation to another shall praise thy works, and shall declare thy mighty acts. Of the glorious splendour of thy majesty, and of thy wondrous works, will I meditate. And they shall declare the might of thy awe-inspiring deeds, and I will recount thy greatness. They shall pour forth the fame of thy abundant goodness, and shall sing of thy righteousness. The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and of great kindness. The Lord is good to all, and his mercies are over all his works. All thy works shall give thanks to thee, O Lord, and thy pious ones shall bless thee. They shall speak of thy glorious kingdom, and talk of thy might. To make known to the sons of man thy¹ mighty acts, and the glorious splendour of thy¹ kingdom. Thy kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and thy dominion endures throughout all generations. The Lord upholds all who fall, and raises up all who are bowed down. The eyes of all wait upon thee, and thou givest them their food in its season. Thou openest thy hand, and satisfiest every living thing with favour. The Lord is righteous in all his ways, and pious in all his works. The Lord is near to all who call upon him, to all who call upon him in truth

¹) Lit. his.

סליחות ליום רביעי

¹אֲשֶׁר יוֹשְׁבֵי בֵיתְךָ, עוֹד יְהַלְלוּךָ סֵלָה:
²אֲשֶׁר הָעַם שִׁבְּחָה לּוֹ, אֲשֶׁר הָעַם שִׁי אֱלֹהָיו:

PSALM 145

יְתַהַלֵּל לְדוֹד.

אֲרֻמְמָךְ אֱלֹהֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ, וְאֶבְרַכְךָ שְׁמֶךָ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד:
בְּכָל-יוֹם אֶבְרַכְךָ, וְאֶהַלֵּלָה שְׁמֶךָ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד:
גָּדוֹל יְהוָה וּמְהֻלָּל מְאֹד, וְלִגְדֻלְתּוֹ אֵין חֶקֶר:
דוֹר לְדוֹר יִשְׁבַּח מַעֲשֶׂיךָ, וְגִבּוֹרְתֶיךָ יִגִּידוּ:
הֵדֵר כְּבוֹד הַדּוֹף, וְדִבְרֵי נִפְלְאוֹתֶיךָ אֲשִׁיחָה:
וְעֹזוֹ נוֹרְאוֹתֶיךָ יֹאמְרוּ, וְגִדְלָתְךָ אֲסַפְּרֶנָּה:
וְכָר רַב-טוֹבָךָ יִבְיָעוּ, וְצִדְקָתְךָ יִרְנְנוּ:
חֲנוּן וְרַחוּם יְהוָה, אֶרְךָ אַפִּים וְגִדְל-חֶסֶד:
טוֹב-יְהוָה לְכָל, וְרַחֲמָיו עַל-כָּל-מַעֲשָׂיו:
יודוּךָ יְהוָה כָּל-מַעֲשֶׂיךָ, וְחִסְדֶיךָ יִבְרַכְכוּהָ:
כְּבוֹד מַלְכוּתְךָ יֹאמְרוּ, וְגִבּוֹרְתֶיךָ יִדְבָּרוּ:
לְהוֹדִיעַ לְבִנְיָ הָאָדָם גִּבּוֹרְתִּי, וְכְבוֹד הֵדֵר מַלְכוּתוֹ:
מַלְכוּתְךָ מַלְכוּת כָּל-עֲלָמִים, וּמִמְשַׁלְתְּךָ בְּכָל-דּוֹר וָדֹר:
סוֹמֵךְ יְהוָה לְכָל-הַנּוֹפְלִים, וְזוֹקֵף לְכָל-הַכּוֹפְּוֹתִים:
עֵינֵי כָל אֱלֹהִים יִשְׁבְּרוּ, וְאַתָּה נֹתֵן-לָהֶם אֶת-אֲכָלָם בְּעֵתוֹ:
פּוֹתֵחַ אֶת-יַדְּךָ, וּמַשְׁבִּיעַ לְכָל-חַי רִצּוֹן:
צַדִּיק יְהוָה בְּכָל-דְּרָכָיו, וְחֹסֵד בְּכָל-מַעֲשָׂיו:
קָרוֹב יְהוָה לְכָל-קֹרְאָיו, לְכָל אֲשֶׁר יִקְרָאֵהוּ בְּאַמֶּת:

¹) Ps. 84, 5. ²) ib. 144, 15. ³) This Psalm was incorporated into the daily prayer during the Talmudic period. According to R. Joshua b. Levi, the verse 'Happy are they that dwell in thy house' applies to the pious ones, who ponder over the greatness of God before offering their prayers in the Synagogue. v. Ber. 32b, and Tos. ib. Hence 'Ashre' is recited before the commencement of the Selichot.

He will fulfil the desire of them that revere him; he will hear their cry, and will save them. The Lord guards all who love him, and he will destroy all the wicked. *Reader*: My mouth will speak the praise of the Lord; and let all flesh bless his holy name for ever and ever. And as for us; we will bless the Lord henceforth and for evermore. Praise the Lord!

The Congregation say the following in an undertone immediately before the Reader says 'Kaddish':

And now, I pray thee, let the power of the Lord be great, as thou hast spoken, saying: Remember, O Lord, thy mercies and thy kindnesses; for they have been from of old.

Reader: Magnified and sanctified be his great name! [*Cong.*: "Amen"] in the world which he has created according to his will; and may he establish his kingdom during your life and during your days, and during the life of all the house of Israel, speedily, and at a near time; and say, *Cong. & Reader*: "Amen! May his great name be blessed for ever, and to all eternity."

Reader: Blessed and praised, glorified, exalted and extolled, honoured, adored and lauded be the name of the Holy One! *Cong. & Reader*: "Blessed be he" beyond all the blessings and hymns, praises and consolations which are uttered in the world; and say, *Cong. & Reader*: "Amen."

To thee, O Lord, belongs righteousness,¹ but to us shame of face.² How can we complain? What can we say? What can we speak? Or how can we justify ourselves?³ Let us search and examine our ways⁴ and return to thee, for thy right hand is stretched out to receive the penitent.⁵ Not with virtue, nor with (good) deeds, do we appear before thee, but like the poor and needy we knock at thy gates.⁶ We knock at thy gates,⁷ O merciful and gracious one, pray turn us not away empty from thy presence. *Reader*: From thy presence, O our King, turn us not away empty,⁸ for thou hearest prayer.

¹ i.e. thou art justified in bringing judgment upon us. v. Rashi on Dan. 9.7.

² We have but ourselves to blame because of our sins. *ibid* 9.8. ³ These four expressions refer to the four kinds of transgressions mentioned in Dan. 9.5.

⁴ i.e. whether our transgressions were committed in error or deliberately.

⁵ i.e. even those who transgressed deliberately ⁶ Answer us even as the poor and needy, who are not turned away empty handed. ⁷ The repetition of these two words implies that when we pray within the gates of our Synagogue our prayer may reach the gates of heaven. ⁸ v. note 6.

רצון-יראיו יעשה, ואת-שונעתם ישמע וישיעם:
שומר יהיה את-כל-אֱהָבָיו, ואת כל-הַרְשָׁעִים יִשְׁמִיד:
Reader. תהלת יהיה יְדִבֶּר-פִּי, ויְבָרֵךְ כָּל-בָּשָׂר שֶׁם קָדְשׁוֹ
לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד: ¹ וְאֶנְחֵנוּ וְנִבְרַךְ יְהוָה מִעַתָּה וְעַד-עוֹלָם הַלְלוּהָ:

The Congregation say the following in an undertone immediately before the Reader says 'Kaddish':

וְעַתָּה יְגִדְלֵנָּה כֹּחַ אֱדֹנֵי, בְּאִשֶּׁר דִּבַּרְתָּ לֵאמֹר: Num. 14.17
וְכִר רַחֲמֶיךָ יְיָ וְחַסְדֶּיךָ, כִּי מַעֲוָלָם הָמָּה: Ps. 25.6

Reader. 2 יתגדל ויתקדש שמה רבא, [אמן *Cong.*] בעלמא דיי-ברא כרעותה.
ותמליך מלכותה בתיכון וביומיכון, ובתני דיי-כל-בית ישראל, בעולא ובזמן
קריב, ואמרו. *Cong. & Reader*. יהא שמה רבא מברך, לעלם ולעלמי
עלמא: *Reader*. יתברך וישתבח, ויתפאר ויתרם ויתנשא, ויתהדר ויתעלה
ותתהלל, שמה דיי-קדשא *Cong. & Reader*. בריך הוא, לעלא מן-כל-ברכתא
ושיבתא, תשובתא ונחמתא, דיי-אמירן בעלמא, ואמרו. *Cong. & Reader*. אמן:

³ Originally compiled by
Rav Amram Gaon (821-875)
and rearranged by Rashi (1040-1105).

מיוסד ע"י
רב עמרם בן ששנא
ובסדר חדש ע"י רש"י ד"ל

לך יי הצדקה, ולנו בשת הפנים: מה-ותאונן, מה-
נאמר, מה-גדבר ומה-נצטדק: ⁶ נחפשה דרכינו ונחקרה,
ונשוּבָה אֵלֶיךָ, כִּי יִמְיָךְ פְּשׁוּטָה לְקַבֵּל שָׁבִים: לא
בְּחֶסֶד וְלֹא-בִמְעֻשִׁים בָּאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ, כְּדִלִים וּכְרָשִׁים
דְּפָקְנוּ דְלִתֶּיךָ: דְלִתֶּיךָ דְּפָקְנוּ רַחוּם וְחַנּוּן, נָא אֵל-
תְּשִׁיבֵנוּ רִיקָם מִלְּפָנֶיךָ: *Reader*. מִלְּפָנֶיךָ מִלְּכֵנוּ רִיקָם אֵל-
תְּשִׁיבֵנוּ, כִּי-אַתָּה שׁוֹמֵעַ תְּפִלָּה:

¹ Ps. 115, 18. ² The 'Kaddish' was probably arranged soon after the destruction of the Second Temple; it was recited at the conclusion of a Talmudic discourse, as it refers to the Messianic hope. v. Rashi on Sot. 49a, a. Tos. on Ber. 3a; Y. Ber. 9, 14a; Y. Taan. 1, 64b. There is a legend which relates that R. Akiva was ordained to teach an orphan to recite the 'Kaddish' to ensure the repose of his father's soul. Since then mourners recite it as a mark of reverence for their parents' memory. v. J. E. on 'Kaddish', p. 401, a. Elbogen's "חולות החמלה והעבודה בישראל", p. 73; a. Israel Abraham's Companion to the Authorised Daily Prayer Book. ³ Hurwitz ascribes it to Rashi. v. "מטה ומבוא למחזור ויטרי", p. 60. Frumkin however, opposes his view, saying "that Rashi merely added some verses." v. Seder Rav Amram vol. 2, p. 308. (F. Ed.). ⁴ cf. Dan. 9, 7. ⁵ cf. Gen. 44, 15. ⁶ cf. Lam. 3.40.

O thou who hearest prayer, to thee shall all flesh come. All flesh shall come to worship before thee, O Lord. They shall come and worship before thee, O Lord, and glorify thy name. O come, let us worship and bend the knee; let us kneel before the Lord our Maker. Let us go to his dwelling place; let us worship at his footstool.¹ Enter his gates with thanksgiving, (and) his courts with praise; give thanks to him, bless his name. And as for us, through the abundance of thy kindness will we enter thy house; we will worship toward thy Holy Temple in reverence of thee. Behold, bless the Lord, all you servants² of the Lord, who nightly stand in the house of the Lord. Lift up your hands³ towards the sanctuary and bless the Lord. Extol the Lord our God, and worship at his footstool;⁴ for he is holy. Extol the Lord our God, and worship at his Holy Mount; for the Lord our God is holy. Worship the Lord in holy array; tremble before him, all the earth. We will bow down toward thy Holy Temple, and give thanks to thy name for thy kindness and for thy truth; for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name.⁵ O Lord God of hosts, who is like thee, O mighty Lord? And thy faithfulness is round about thee. For who in heaven can be likened to the Lord? Who among the sons of the mighty can be likened to the Lord? For thou art great and doest wondrous things; thou alone art God. For thy kindness is great above the heavens, and thy truth reaches to the Shechakim.⁶ Great is the Lord and exceedingly to be praised; and his greatness is unsearchable. For the Lord is great and exceedingly to be praised; he is to be revered above all gods. For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods. For what god is there in heaven, or on earth that can do such works, and mighty acts like thine? Who would not revere thee, O King of nations? For this is thy due; for among all the wise ones of the nations, and in all their kingdoms, there is none like thee. There is none like thee, O Lord; thou art great, and thy name is great in might. Thine is an arm with might; strong is thy hand, (and) exalted is thy right hand. Thine is the day, thine also the night; thou hast established luminary and sun. In his hand are the depths of the earth; the

¹) Thus saith the Lord, the heaven is my Throne, and the earth is my footstool. v. M.D. on Is. 66.1, a. Chag. 14a. ²) i.e. the priests in the Temple. ³) i.e. utter the priestly blessings. ⁴) v. p. 1, note 1. ⁵) i.e. for God has bestowed more good upon us than he has promised. ⁶) According to Rabbinic interpretation there are seven heavens. "Shechakim" is the name of the third heaven. v. Chag. 12b. a. cf. prayer on p. 240.

שִׁמְעַתְּ תַפִּלָּה, עֲדִיף כָּל-בָּשָׂר יָבֹאוּ: ¹ יָבֹאוּ כָּל-בָּשָׂר
 לְהִשְׁתַּחֲוֹת לְפָנֶיךָ יְיָ: יָבֹאוּ וְיִשְׁתַּחֲוּוּ לְפָנֶיךָ אֲדֹנָי,
 וַיִּכְבְּדוּ לְשִׁמְךָ: בָּאוּ וְשִׁתַּחֲוּהוּ וַיִּכְבְּדוּהוּ. נִבְרָכָה לְפָנֶיךָ יְיָ
 עֲשֹׂנוּ: נִבְרָאָה לְמִשְׁכָּנוֹתֵינוּ, וְשִׁתַּחֲוּהוּ לְהֵדָם רִגְלֵינוּ: בָּאוּ
 שְׁעָרָיו בְּתוֹכָהּ, חֲצֵרֵינוּ בְּתֹהֶלָה. הוֹדוּ לוֹ בְּרָכוּ
 שְׁמוֹ: ³ וְאִנְחֵנוּ, בְּרַב חֶסֶדְךָ נִבְרָא בְּיָתְךָ. וְשִׁתַּחֲוּהוּ אֶל-
 הַיֵּיכָל קֹדֶשְׁךָ בִּירְאָתְךָ: הִנֵּה בְּרָכוּ אֶת-יְיָ כָּל-עַבְדֶּי
 יְיָ, הָעֹמְדִים בְּבֵית-יְיָ בְּלֵילֹת: שְׁאוּ-יְדֵיכֶם קֹדֶשׁ,
 וּבְרָכוּ אֶת-יְיָ: רוּמָמוֹ יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ, וְהִשְׁתַּחֲוּוּ לְהֵדָם
 רִגְלֵינוּ. קְדוֹשׁ הוּא: רוּמָמוֹ יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ, וְהִשְׁתַּחֲוּוּ לְהֵר
 קֹדֶשׁוֹ. כִּי-קְדוֹשׁ יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ: הִשְׁתַּחֲוּוּ לֵי בִּהְדָּרְתָּ קֹדֶשׁ,
 חִילוֹ מִפְּנֵי כָּל-הָאָרֶץ: וְשִׁתַּחֲוּהוּ אֶל-הַיֵּיכָל קֹדֶשְׁךָ,
 וְנוֹדֶה אֶת-שִׁמְךָ עַל-חֶסֶדְךָ וְעַל-אַמְתְּךָ. כִּי-הִגְדַּלְתָּ
 עַל-כָּל-שִׁמְךָ אֲמִרְתְּךָ: יְיָ אֱלֹהֵי צְבָאוֹת, מִי-כְמוֹךָ
 חֲסִין יְיָ. וְאִמְנוּנְתְּךָ סְבִיבוֹתֶיךָ: כִּי מִי בְּשִׁחַק יַעֲרֹף לֵי,
 יִדְמָה לֵי בְּבִגֵּי אֱלִים: כִּי גָדוֹל אַתָּה וְעֹשֶׂה נִפְלְאוֹת,
 אַתָּה אֱלֹהִים לְבַדְּךָ: כִּי-גָדוֹל מֵעַל-שָׁמַיִם חֶסֶדְךָ,
 וְעַד-שָׁחֲקִים אַמְתְּךָ: גָּדוֹל יְיָ וּמִהָלָל מְאֹד, וְלִגְדָלְתוֹ
 אֵין חֶקֶר: כִּי גָדוֹל יְיָ וּמִהָלָל מְאֹד, נוֹרָא הוּא עַל-כָּל-
 אֱלֹהִים: כִּי אֵל גָּדוֹל יְיָ, וּמִלֵּךְ גָּדוֹל עַל-כָּל-אֱלֹהִים:
 אֲשֶׁר מִי-אֵל בְּשָׁמַיִם וּבָאָרֶץ, אֲשֶׁר-יַעֲשֶׂה כִּמְעַשֶׂיךָ
 וְכִגְבוּרֹתֶיךָ: מִי לֹא יִרְאֶה מִלֵּךְ הַגּוֹיִם, כִּי לֵךְ יָאֲתָה.
 כִּי בְּכָל-חֲכָמֵי הַגּוֹיִם וּבְכָל-מַלְכוּתָם, מֵאֵין כְּמוֹךָ: מֵאֵין
 כְּמוֹךָ יְיָ. גָּדוֹל אַתָּה, וְגָדוֹל שִׁמְךָ בְּגְבוּרָה: לֵךְ וְרוּעַ
 עִם גְּבוּרָה. תַּעֲזוּ יִדְךָ, תִּרְוֶם יְמִינְךָ: לֵךְ יוֹם, אַף-לֵךְ
 לַיְלָה. אַתָּה הַכִּינֹתָ מְאוּר וְשִׁמְשׁ: אֲשֶׁר בִּידוֹ מְחַקְרֵי-
 Ps. 65.3
 Is. 66.23
 Ps. 86.9
 ib. 95.6
 b. 132.7
 ib. 100.4
 ib. 5.8
 ib. 134.1
 ib. 134.2
 ib. 99.5
 ib. 99.9
 ib. 96.9
 ib. 138.2
 ib. 89.9
 ib. 89.7
 ib. 86.10
 ib. 102.5
 ib. 145.3
 ib. 96.4
 ib. 95.3
 Deut. 3.24
 Jer. 10.7
 ib. 10.6
 Ps. 89.14
 ib. 74.16
 ib. 95.4

¹) Some are of the opinion that it should be "יבואו". ²) The original text is changed here from First to Second person, so as to fit in with the rest of the prayer. ³) The plural forms replace the singular of the original so as to apply to the Congregation of Israel.

heights of the mountains are his (also). Who can express the mighty acts of the Lord, or cause all his praise to be heard? Thine, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty; for all that is in heaven and on earth (is thine); thine, O Lord, is the Kingdom, and art exalted as head above all. Thine are the heavens, thine also the earth; the world and the fullness thereof, thou hast founded them. Thou didst set all the bounds of the earth; thou didst make summer and winter. Thou didst divide the sea by thy might; thou didst shatter the heads of the sea-monsters on the waters.¹ Thou didst crush the heads of Leviatan;² thou didst give him as food for the folk of the wilderness. Thou didst cleave (open) fountain and brook; thou didst dry up mighty rivers.³ Thou rulest over the raging sea; when its waves rise, thou stillest them. Great is the Lord, and exceedingly to be praised, in the city of our God, his Holy Mountain. O Lord, God of Israel, enthroned upon the cherubim⁴, thou alone art God. God is greatly revered in the council of the holy ones, and is awe-inspiring among all that surround him. So shall the heavens praise thy wonders, O Lord; thy faithfulness also in the assembly of the holy ones. O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us acclaim the rock of our salvation. Let us approach his presence with thanksgiving, let us acclaim him with songs. Equity and justice are the foundations of thy throne; may kindness and truth precede thy presence. Let us take sweet counsel together; let us walk into the house of God with the throng. The sea is his, and he made it; and his hands formed the dry land. In his hand is the soul of every living thing, and the spirit of all human flesh. *Reader*: The soul is thine, and the body is thine;⁵ have pity on thy labour. The soul and body are thine, O Lord, grant (our request) for thy name's sake. We have come depending on thy name, O Lord! Grant (our request) for thy name's sake. Even for the glory of thy name; for the merciful and gracious God is thy name. So for thy name's sake, O Lord, forgive our iniquity, for it is great.⁶

Cong. & Reader: Forgive us, O our Father, for in the greatness of our folly we have erred; pardon us, O our King, for many are our iniquities.

¹) When they crossed the Red Sea. ²) This expression refers to Pharaoh and his captains. ³) When the Israelites crossed the Jordan. ⁴) i.e. Angels; according to the Midrash (Ex. R. 25.18.) the 'Cherubim' had the faces of children. ⁵) Lit. thy doing. ⁶) i.e. for thy mercy is great.

אֶרֶץ, וְתוֹעֲפּוֹת הָרִים לוֹ: מִי יִמְלֹל גְּבוּרֹת יְיָ, שְׁמִיעַ Ps. 106.2
כָּל-תְּהִלָּתוֹ: לָךְ יְיָ הַגְדֵּלָה וְהַגְבוּרָה, וְהַתְּפָאֶרֶת וְהַנִּצָּחַת I Chron. 29.11
וְהַהוֹד, כִּי-כָל בְּשָׁמַיִם וּבָאָרֶץ. לָךְ יְיָ הַמְּמַלְכָה,
וְהַמְתַּנְשֵׂא לְכָל. לְרָאשׁ: לָךְ שָׁמַיִם, אֶף-לָךְ אֶרֶץ. תִּגְבַּל Ps. 89.12
וּמִלְאָה אֶתָּה יִסְדָּתָם: אֶתָּה הַצִּבְתָּ כָּל-גְּבוּלוֹת אֶרֶץ. ib. 74.17
קִיץ וְחֹרֶף, אֶתָּה יִצְרָתָם: אֶתָּה פִּרְרָתָ בְּעוֹנָה יָם, שִׁבְרָתָ ib. 74.13
רָאשֵׁי תַנִּינִים עַל הַמַּיִם: אֶתָּה רִצְצָתָ רָאשֵׁי לִוְיָתָן, ib. 74.14
תִּתְּנֵנוּ מִאֲכָל לֶעָם לְצִיִּים: אֶתָּה בִּקְעַתָּ מַעַיִן וַנִּחַל, אֶתָּה ib. 74.15
הוֹבִשְׁתָּ נְהָרוֹת אֵיתָן: אֶתָּה מוֹשֵׁל בְּנָאוֹת הַיָּם, בְּשׂוּא ib. 89.10
נִלְוִי אֶתָּה תִּשְׁבַּחֵם: גָּדוֹל יְיָ וּמְהֵלָל מְאֹד, בְּעִיר אֱלֹהֵינוּ ib. 48.2
הִרְקֵדְשׁוּ: יְיָ אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל יֵשֶׁב הַכְּרָבִים, אֶתָּה-הוּא 2 Kings 19.15
הָאֱלֹהִים לְבִדְךָ: אֵל נֶעְרָץ בְּסוּד-קְדוּשִׁים רַבָּה, וְנוֹרָא Ps. 89.8
עַל-כָּל-סִבִּיבָיו: וַיִּדּוּ שָׁמַיִם פִּלְאָף יְיָ, אֶף-אֲמוֹנֶתָהּ ib. 89.6
בִּקְהַל קְדָשִׁים: לְכוּ גְרִנְגָה לִי, נִרְעָה לְצוּר יִשְׁעֵנוּ: ib. 95.1
נִקְדָּמָה פָּנֵינוּ בְּתוֹדָה, בְּזִמְרוֹת נִרְיֵעַ לוֹ: צִדִּיק וּמִשְׁפָּט ib. 95.2
מִכּוֹן בְּסֻאָה, חֶסֶד וְאֱמֶת יִקְדָּמוּ פָּנֶיהָ: אֲשֶׁר יַחֲדוּ ib. 95.15
נִמְתִּיק סוּד, בְּבֵית אֱלֹהִים נִהְלַךְ בְּרָגֶשׁ: אֲשֶׁר-לוֹ הַיָּם ib. 95.5
וְהוּא עֲשָׂהוּ, וַיִּבְשֹׁת יַדָיו יִצְרוּ: אֲשֶׁר בִּידוֹ נָפַשׁ כָּל-חַי, Job 12.10
וְרוּחַ כָּל-בֶּשֶׂר-אִישׁ: *Reader*. הַנִּשְׁמָה לָךְ, וְהַגּוֹף פִּעֻלָּךְ.
חֹסֶה עַל-עַמְלָךְ: הַנִּשְׁמָה לָךְ, וְהַגּוֹף שְׁלָךְ. יְיָ, עֲשֵׂה
לְמַעַן שְׁמֶךָ: אֲתָאֵנוּ עַל שְׁמֶךָ. יְיָ, עֲשֵׂה לְמַעַן שְׁמֶךָ:
בְּעִבּוֹר כְּבוֹד שְׁמֶךָ, כִּי אֵל רַחוּם וְחַנוּן שְׁמֶךָ: ¹ לְמַעַן Ps. 25.11
שְׁמֶךָ יְיָ. וְסִלַּחֲתָ לְעוֹנֵנוּ, כִּי רַב-הוּא:

Cong. & Reader. סִלַּח לָנוּ אֲבִינוּ, כִּי רַב אֲוִלְתָּנוּ שְׁנִינוּ.

מַחֲלֵ-לָנוּ מִלְכָּנוּ, כִּי רַבּוּ עֲוֹנוֹנוּ:

¹) v. p. 7, note 3.

Our God and God of our fathers

Through my guilt I am likened to and resemble a lion in the forest, my utterance is foolish, my language is unintelligible! I am deprived of intercessors such as Mordecai, Mispereth and Bigvai¹ were; therefore, every head is sick and every heart is faint. Faint, banished, and despised, I am shaken and tossed about, drunken and intoxicated with wormwood, I am become full of sorrow and grief and oppressed by masters, to whom I was sold for naught; yet when my soul fainted within me, I remembered the Lord. I remembered thy kindness and love which were as a banner over me; they removed my guilt and made me thy treasure;² thy lambs now accustom themselves to prayers and entreaty, the poorest among men exult in the Holy One of Israel. Let thy servants exult and rejoice when thou rememberest my walls;³ when wilt thou surround them with rubies and precious stones?⁴ (Ah! when will that be?) My city is (reduced) to a heap forever, and my heights are laid low; and thou, O Lord, for how long? When wilt thou quicken us and bring us up from the depths? Glorious one, loosen and remove the straps of our yoke, fill our barns with plenty, and prosper our undertakings; let thy kindness, O Lord, be upon us. Be compassionate towards us; when in distress I seek thee, I stretch forth my hands to thee, (and) seek thee with my very heart; my soul thirsts after thee in the night;⁵ O Lord, let me not be put to shame when I call upon thee, for I have desired thee. I call upon thee from the depth; my eyes are weary (from searching); I lift my hands up high; I let the fountain of my tears spread abroad; O look on (my) virtue, blot out and remove my wickedness, O Lord, hear my prayer, and give ear to my supplication. Give ear to my supplication, my Fosterer, my Creator, and my Pedagogue! All my secret wishes are known to thee, so let my intentional sins be sunk in the depths and my unintentional ones be atoned; give ear to my words, O Lord, and consider my meditations. *Reader*: Let my meditation be regarded pure and my prayer correct; hear, O God, forgive my unworthy and perverse deeds; fortify thy proclamation⁶ and accept my effusion, let the meditation of my heart be before thee, O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.

סליחות ליום רביעי

By Elijah b. Shemayah
(1160).

סליחה ע"פ א"ב
ע"י אליה בר שמעיה-חזק

אלהינו ואלהי אבותינו

אֲרִיָּה בִּיעָר דְּמִיתִי וְנִמְשַׁלְתִּי, בְּחוּבִי. בְּטוּי נֹאֵל, מִלְתִּי לְשׁוֹן
הַבָּאִי. גִּדְעָתִי מִקִּישׁ, כְּבֶן-קִישׁ מִסִּפְרָת וּבִגְוִי. כָּל-רֹאשׁ לְחָלִי
וְכָל-לֵבָב דְּוִי: דְּוִי גּוֹלָה וְנִקְלָה, הַכְּאֲבָתִי וְנִעְכָּרְתִּי. הוֹנַעְתִּי
חֲגִתִּי, וְרִנְיָתִי רוּשׁ וְנִשְׁכָּרְתִּי. וּמִדַּחַק אֲדוֹנִים חָנַם לָהֶם נִמְכָּרְתִּי.
בְּהִתְעַטֵּף עָלַי נִפְשִׁי, אֶת-יְיָ זְכָרְתִּי: זְכָרְתִּי חֲסִדְךָ וְאַהֲבָתְךָ, עָלַי
כִּהְדִּגְלִיו. חוֹבוֹת הִעֲבִירוּ, וְאוֹתִי לָךְ הִסְגִּילִיו. טָלְאִיָּה, עָמָה
בְּתַחַן וּפְלֵל יִרְגִּילוּ. אֲבִיוִי אָדָם, בְּקָדוֹשׁ יִשְׂרָאֵל יִגְלִיו: יִגְלִיו
יָרְנוּ עֲבָדֶיךָ, בְּפִקְדׁ חֲמוּתִי. בְּדָכָד וְאַבְגִּי-חִפֵּץ תִּגְבִּילֵם, אִימָתִי.
לְתֵל עוֹלָם עִירִי, וְלִשְׁפֵל רַמְתִּי. וְאַתָּה יְיָ עַד-מָתִי: מָתִי תַחֲיִינוּ
וּמִתְהוֹמֹת תַּעֲלֶנּוּ. נָאוֹר, הָסֵר וְהַקֵּל סִמְלֹן עֲלֶנּוּ. שְׁבַע מֵלֶא
אַסְמִינוּ, הַצְלִיחָה מִפְּעֻלָּינוּ. יְהִי חֲסִדְךָ יְיָ עָלֵינוּ: עָלֵינוּ הַמֵּלֶא
רַחֲמִים, בַּצָּרָה דְרִשְׁתִּיךָ. פִּרְשְׁתִּי יָדִי אֵלֶיךָ, בְּקִרְבִּי שִׁחַרְתִּיךָ.
צָמְאָה לָךְ נִפְשִׁי בְּלִילָה, כִּי-אוֹתִיךָ. יְיָ אֵל-אֲבוֹשָׁה, כִּי-
קָרָאתִיךָ: קָרָאתִיךָ מִעֵמֶק, דָּלוּ עֵינַי. רוּם יָדִי וְשִׁאֲתִי, הִפִּיעֹתִי
מִעֵינַי. שׁוֹר בְּשִׁרְוֹן, מָחָה וְהִעֲבִיר זְדוּנִי. יְיָ שְׁמַע תְּפִלָּתִי, הַאֲזִינָה
אֶל-תַּחֲנוּנִי: תַּחֲנוּנִי אֶזֶן, אוֹמְנִי מְחוֹלְלִי וּפִדְגָנִי. לָךְ צָפוּי תֵּאָב
רוּגִי. יִצְלַל זְדוֹן, וִיכַפֵּר חֲטָא שְׁגִי. אֲמַרִי הַאֲזִינָה יְיָ, בִּינָה הִגִּיגִי:
Reader. הִגִּיגִי בְּרַ יִחְשָׁב, וַיְכּוֹן פְּלוּלִי. שְׁמַע יְהִי, סִלְחָה דְּפִי
עֲקוּלִי. חֲזַק מֵאַמְרִיךָ, וּלְרַצוֹן יְהִי מְלוּלִי. הִגִּיוֹן לְבִי לְפָנֶיךָ,
יְיָ צוּרִי וְגוֹאֲלִי:

THE THIRTEEN ATTRIBUTES

God, Sovereign who sits on a throne of mercy, acting with unbounded grace, forgiving the sins of Your people, one by one, as each comes before You, generously forgiving sinners and pardoning transgressors, acting charitably with every living thing: do not repay them for their misdeeds.

God, You taught us how to recite the Thirteen Attributes of Your name; remember the promise implied in these Thirteen Attributes, which You first revealed to Moses, the humble one, as it is written: God descended in a cloud and stood beside him, and he called the name ADONAI:

And ADONAI passed before him and called:

ADONAI, ADONAI, God, merciful and compassionate, patient, abounding in love and faithfulness, assuring love for thousands of generations, forgiving iniquity, transgression, and sin, and granting pardon.

Adonai, Adonai, El rahum v'hannun, erekh appayim v'rav hesed ve-emet. Notzeir hesed la-alafim, nosei avon va-fesha v'hatta-ah v'nakkeih.

Forgive our transgressions and our sins; claim us for Your own.

Some customarily strike their heart when asking God to forgive and pardon:

Forgive us, our creator, for we have sinned; pardon us, our Sovereign, for we have transgressed—for You, ADONAI, are kind and forgiving; You act generously to all who call on You.

אל, מֶלֶךְ יוֹשֵׁב עַל כִּסֵּא רַחֲמִים, מְתַנְהֵג בְּחַסִּידוֹת,
מוֹחֵל עֲוֹנוֹת עַמּוֹ, מַעֲבִיר רָאשׁוֹן וְרָאשׁוֹן, מְרַבֵּה מְחִילָה
לְחַטָּאִים, וְסִלִּיחָה לְפֹשְׁעִים, עוֹשֶׂה צְדָקוֹת עִם כָּל־
בָּשָׂר וָרוּחַ, לֹא כִרְעָתָם תִּגְמֹל.
אל, הוֹרִיתָ לָנוּ לומר שְׁלֹש עֶשְׂרֵה, זְכַר־לָנוּ הַיּוֹם
בְּרִית שְׁלֹש עֶשְׂרֵה, כְּמוֹ שֶׁהוֹדַעְתָּ לַעֲנֹ מִקֶּדֶם, כְּמוֹ
שֶׁכָּתוּב: וַיֵּרֶד יְהוָה בְּעָנָן, וַיִּתְּיָצֵב עִמּוֹ שֵׁם,
וַיִּקְרָא בְשֵׁם יְהוָה.

וַיַּעֲבֵר יְהוָה עַל־פָּנָיו וַיִּקְרָא:

יְהוָה יְהוָה, אֵל רַחוּם וְחַנוּן, אֶרֶךְ אַפַּיִם, וְרַב־חֶסֶד
וְאֱמֶת. נֹצֵר חֶסֶד לְאַלְפִים, נֹשֵׂא עוֹן וּפֹשֵׁעַ וְחַטָּאָה,
וְנִקְיָה.

וְסִלַּחְתָּ לַעֲוֹנֵינוּ וּלְחַטֹּאתֵינוּ וְנַחֲלֶתָנוּ.

Some customarily strike their heart when asking God to forgive and pardon:

סִלַּח לָנוּ אֲבִינוּ כִּי חַטָּאנוּ, מְחַל לָנוּ מִלִּפְנֵינוּ כִּי פָשַׁעְנוּ,
כִּי אַתָּה אֱדֹנֵי טוֹב וְסִלַּח, וְרַב־חֶסֶד לְכָל־קוֹרְאֶיךָ.

SELICHOT FOR THE FIRST DAY

The following verses till "Forsake us not when our strength fails" are chanted by the Reader and repeated by the Congregation.

A PRAYER

Hear our voice, O Lord our God; spare us and have compassion upon us; and accept our prayer in mercy and favour. Restore us to thee, O Lord, that we may be restored! Renew our days as of old. Cast us not away from thy presence, and take not thy holy spirit from us. Do not cast us off in the time of old age; forsake us not when our strength fails. Do not forsake us, O Lord! O our God, be not far from us. Show us a sign of thy favour, that our adversaries may see it and be ashamed; because thou, O Lord, hast helped us and comforted us. Give ear to our words O Lord, consider our meditation. Let the words of our mouth and the meditation of our heart be acceptable before thee, O Lord, our Rock and our Redeemer. For thee, O Lord, do we wait, it is thou, O Lord, our God, who wilt answer.

Our God and God of our fathers

Let our prayer come before thee, and hide not thyself from our supplication, for we are neither insolent nor obstinate to say before thee, "O Lord our God and God of our Fathers, we are righteous and have not sinned!" Indeed, we (and our fathers) have sinned.

It is customary to beat gently on the left side of the chest after each word from "We have trespassed" till "we have led others astray."

We have trespassed, we have dealt treacherously, we have robbed, we have spoken slander. We have acted perversely, we have wrought wickedness, we have acted presumptuously, we have done violence, we have framed lies. We have counselled evil, we have spoken falsely, we have scoffed, we have revolted, we have provoked, we have rebelled, we have committed iniquity, we have transgressed, we have oppressed, we have been obstinate. We have acted wickedly, we have corrupted, we have committed abomination, we have gone astray, we have led others astray. Reader: We have turned away from thy good precepts and laws, and it has not profited us.¹ Yet thou art just in all that has come upon us; for thou has dealt faithfully, but we have acted wickedly.

¹ We did not appreciate his good judgments.

סליחות ליום ראשון

The following verses till "כבולות כחנו אל חסדך" are chanted by the Reader and repeated by the Congregation.

תפלה

¹ שמע קולנו יי אלהינו, חוס ורחם עלינו. וקבל
ברחמים וברחמים את תפלתנו: השׁיבנו יי אלהינו ונשובה, Lam. 5.21
חדש ימינו בקדש: ² אל-תשליכנו מלפניך, ורוח קדשך Ps. 51.13
אל-תקח ממנו: ² אל-תשליכנו לעת זקנה, בכלות כחנו ib. 71.9
אל-תעזבנו: ² אל-תעזבנו יי אלהינו, אל-תרחק ממנו: ib. 38.22
עשה-עמנו אות לטובה, ויראו שונאינו ויבשו. כי-אתה ib. 86.17
י עזרתנו ונחמתנו: ² אמרינו האזינה יי בינה הגיענו: ib. 5.2
יהיו לרצון אמרי-פינו, והגיון לבנו לפניך. יי צורנו ib. 19.15
וגואלנו: ² כי-לך יי הוהלנו, אתה תענה אדני אלהינו: ib. 38.17

נאלינו ואלהי אבותינו

תבא לפניך תפלתנו, ואל תתעלם מתחנו. שאין אנו עני
פנים וקשי ערף, לומר לפניך יי אלהינו ואלהי אבותינו,
צדיקים אנחנו ולא חטאנו. אבל אנחנו (ואבותינו) חטאנו:

⁴ It is customary to beat gently on the left side
of the chest after each word from "אשמנו" till "חטאנו".

יד
ג"מ א"ב

⁵ אשמנו. בגדנו. גזלנו. דברנו דפי: הענינו. והרשענו.
זדנו. חמסנו. טפלנו שקר: יעצנו רע. כזבנו. לצנו. מרדנו.
נאצנו. סררנו. ענינו. פשענו. צרנו. קשינו ערף: רשענו.
שחתנו. תעבנו. תעינו. תעתענו: Reader: סרנו ממצותיך
וממשפטיך הטובים, ולא שנה לנו: ואתה צדיק על
כל-הבא עלינו. כי-אמת עשית, ואנחנו הרשענו: Neh. 9.33

¹ This prayer was probably compiled in the 16th century, as it is not found in the early copies of the Selichot. ² v. p. 7, note 3. ³ According to the "שליח", this 'Selichah' was already recited during the Talmudic period. In Yoma, 87b, this 'Selichah' is applied to "אשמנו", which was the response of the congregation to "אירא חבא לפניך" etc., v. Seder Rav Amram, vol. 2, p. 339 (F. Ed.). ⁴ The heart and the eyes are the two agents of sin, (v. Ber. Y. 3b, Num. R. s. 17) viz. the hand beats the heart implying, "Thou hast caused me to sin." (cf. ENY YOSEPH on Y.K.K.). ⁵ The words "אשמנו" till "ידני" are found in Saadyah's Siddur. Rashi states that in the middle ages the small 'ידני' was synonymous with the "אשמנו" prayer, v. Siddur Rashi, p. 96, a. Elbogen's חסד וחסד, p. 104.

A SUPPLICATION

1 O Guardian of Israel, guard the remnant of Israel, and let not Israel perish, who say, "Hear, O Israel."

O Guardian of a unique people, guard the remnant of a unique people, and let not a unique people perish, who proclaim the unity of thy name, saying, "The Lord our God, the Lord is One."

O Guardian of a holy people, guard the remnant of a holy people, and let not a holy people perish, who thrice repeat the three-fold sanctification to the Holy One.

O thou who art propitiated by prayers for mercy, and conciliated by supplications, be thou propitious and conciliated to an afflicted generation; for there is none to help.²

Our Father, Our King, be gracious to us and answer us, for we have no (good) deeds of our own; deal charitably and kindly with us and save us.

³ As for us, we know not what to do, but our eyes are upon thee. Remember, O Lord, thy mercies and thy kindnesses, for they have been from of old. Let thy kindness, O Lord, be upon us, according even as we hope for thee. Remember not against us our former iniquities; let thy compassions come speedily to meet us; for we are brought very low. Be gracious to us, O Lord, be gracious to us; for we are exceedingly sated with contempt. In wrath remember to be merciful. For he knows our nature;⁴ he remembers that we are dust. *Reader*: Help us, O God of our salvation, for the sake of thy glorious name; and deliver us, and grant atonement for our sins, for thy name's sake.

The Reader says Kaddish

Magnified and sanctified be his great name! [*Cong.*: "Amen"] in the world which he has created according to his will; and may he establish his kingdom during your life and during your days, and during the life of all the house of Israel, speedily and at a near time; and say, *Cong. & Reader*: "Amen! May his great name be blessed for ever and to all eternity."

Reader: Blessed and praised, glorified, exalted and extolled, honoured, adored and lauded be the name of the Holy One! *Cong. & Reader*: "Blessed be he" beyond all blessings and hymns, praises and consolations which are uttered in the world; and say, *Cong. & Reader*: "Amen."

Cong.: Accept our prayer in mercy and in favour.

Reader: May the prayers and supplications of all Israel be accepted by their Father who is in heaven; and say, *Cong. & Reader*: "Amen."

Cong.: Let the name of the Lord be blessed, from this time forth and for evermore.

Reader: May there be abundant peace from heaven, and (a good) life for us and for all Israel; and say, *Cong. & Reader*: "Amen."

Cong.: My help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

Reader: He who makes peace in his high places, may he make peace for us and for all Israel; and say, *Cong. & Reader*: "Amen."

When Selichot are said at midnight, conclude with "It is our duty" p. 399

¹ These beautiful lines are a plea for the love and mercy of God, that Israel who proclaims the unity and holiness of God throughout the ages, be saved from destruction, as Israel has no other helper. v. H. Siddur, p. 185. ² cf. prayer on p. 8. ³ Originally, this prayer was read by the Congregation in response to the previous paragraph, "O Guardian of Israel," "closing the "Supplication" v. H. Siddur, p. 187. ⁴ Lit. our frame.

תחנון

1 שומר ישראל. שמר שארית ישראל. ואל-יאבד ישראל. האומרים שמע ישראל:

שומר גוי אחד. שמר שארית עם אחד. ואל-יאבד גוי אחד. המניחים שמה. ה' אלהינו ה' אחד:

שומר גוי קדוש. שמר שארית עם קדוש. ואל-יאבד גוי קדוש. המשלשים בשלש קדושות לקדוש:

מתרצה ברחמים ומתפייס בתחנונים, התרצה והתפייס לדור עמי, כי-אין עזר:

2 אבינו מלכנו, חנונו וחנונו, כי-אין בנו מעשים. עשה עמנו צדקה וחסד והושיענו:

4 By Amittai (780-850). ע"י [אמתי]

ואנחנו לא נדע מה-נעשה, כי עליה עינינו: זכר רחמיה ה' וחסדיה, כי מעולם קמה: יהי-חסדך ה' עלינו, באשר יחלנו לך: אל תזכר-לנו עונות ראשונים, מהר יקדמנו רחמיה, כי זלזנו מאד:

חנונו ה' חנונו, כי-רב שבחנונו בו: בלמך רחם תפוד: כי-הוא ידע יצורנו, זכור כי-עפר אנחנו: *Reader*. עזרנו אלהי ישוענו, על-דבר כבוד שמה. הציגנו, כפר על-חטאתינו, למען שמה:

II Chron. 20.12 Ps. 25.6 ib. 33.22 ib. 79.8 ib. 123.4 Hab. 3.2 Ps. 103.14 ib. 79.9

Reader. יתודל ויתקדש שמה רבא, אמן בעלמא די-ברא ברעיותה. וימליך מלכותה בנתיכו וביומיו, ובחיי די-כל-בית ישראל, בעלמא ובזמן קריב, ואמרו *Cong. & Reader*. אמן, יהא שמה רבא מברך, לעלם ולעלמי עלמא.

Reader. יתברך והשתבח, והתפאר והתרים והתנשא, והתהדר והתעלה והתהלל, שמה די-קדשא. *Cong. & Reader*. ברך הוא, לעלמא מן-כל-ברכתא ושירתא, תשבחתא ונחמתא, די-אמרו בעלמא, ואמרו *Cong. & Reader*. אמן

Cong. קבל ברחמים ובכח אמת תפלתנו:

Reader. תתקבל צלותהו ובנותהו די-כל-ישראל, קדם אבוהו די בשמיא.

ואמרו *Cong. & Reader*. אמן:

Cong. יהי שם ה' מברך מעתה ועד עולם:

Reader. יהא שלמא רבא מן-שמיא, ונחיים (טובים) עלינו ועל-כל-ישראל.

ואמרו *Cong. & Reader*. אמן:

Cong. עזרינו מעם ה' עשה שמים וארץ:

Reader. עשה שלום במרומו, הוא יעשה שלום, עלינו ועל-כל-ישראל.

ואמרו *Cong. & Reader*. אמן:

שצט p. עלינו "When Selichot are said at midnight, conclude with

¹ According to Frumkin these verses were first found in a MS. written in 1245, incorporated in the Selichot for the 10th Tevet. v. Seder Rav Amram, vol. 1, p. 300. (F. Ed). Since then it was said on Fast Days; it was only in latter years that it was incorporated in the daily Service. ² Rabbi Akiva used to say this on Fast Days. v. Taan. 25b. ³ In Rav Amram's Siddur, the uttering of a prayer whilst falling on one's face (in a sitting position) followed this prayer. ⁴ v. Appendix No. 2