סֵדֶר רֹאשׁ הַשָּׁנָה

SEDER OF ROSH HASHANAH

After the festival Kiddush, we wash our hands and make the Motzi over the bread, dipping a piece in salt and sugar. Then we recite the blessing over a fruit of the tree (such as grapes) and a fruit of the ground (such as banana or melon), other than those of the Seder.

1. Apple dipped in honey — תפוח בדבש

Take a slice of apple dipped in honey or sugar.

יְהִי רָצוֹן מִלְּפָנֶיךָ יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ וֵאלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ שֶׁתְּחַדֵּשׁ עָלֵינוּ שָׁנָה טוֹבָה וּמְתוּקָה כִּדְבָשׁ מֵרֹאשִׁית הַשָּׁנָה וְעַד אַחֲרִית הַשָּׁנָה:

May it be Your will, Lord our God and God of our fathers, that You renew for us a good and sweet year, sweet as honey, from the beginning of the year to the end of the year.

2. Leek or onion — כרתי

Eat this vegetable cooked and sprinkled with sugar.

יְהִי רָצוֹן מִלְּפָנֶיךָ יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ וֵאלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ שֶׁיִּכָּרְתוּ אוֹיְבֶיךָ וְשׂוֹנְאֶיךָ וְכָל־מְבַקְשֵׁי רָעָתֵנוּ. תָּרוֹם יָדְךָ עַל צָרֶיךָ וְכָל־אוֹיְבֶיךָ יִכָּרֵתוּ:

May it be Your will that Your enemies, those who hate You and all who seek our harm be cut off. May Your hand be raised over Your foes, and may all Your enemies be cut down.

3. Chard or spinach — סלקא

Eat well-cooked chard stalks sprinkled with sugar or honey.

יְהִי רָצוֹן מִלְּפָנֶיךָ יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ וֵאלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ שֶׁיִּסְתַּלְקוּ אוֹיְבֶיךָ וְשׂוֹנְאֶיךָ וְכָל־מְבַקְשֵׁי רָעָתֵנוּ. סוּרוּ מִמֶּנִּי כָּל־פֹּעֲלֵי אָוֶן כִּי שָׁמַע יְיָ קוֹל בִּכְיִי: סוּרוּ סוּרוּ צְאוּ מִשָּׁם טָמֵא אַל תִּגָּעוּ צְאוּ מִתּוֹכָהּ הִבָּרוּ נֹשְׂאֵי כְלֵי יְיָ:

May it be Your will that Your enemies, those who hate You and all who seek our harm depart. "Depart from me, all you workers of iniquity, for the Lord has heard the sound of my weeping. Turn away, turn away, go out from there, touch nothing impure! Go out from her midst; purify yourselves, you who carry the vessels of the Lord."

4. Date — תמר

יְהִי רָצוֹן מִלְּפָנֶיךָ יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ וֵאלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ שֶׁיִּתַּמּוּ אוֹיְבֵינוּ וְשׂוֹנְאֵינוּ וְכָל־מְבַקְשֵׁי רָעָתֵנוּ:

May it be Your will that our enemies, those who hate us and all who seek our harm come to an end.

5. Gourd or pumpkin — קרא

יְהִי רָצוֹן מִלְּפָנֶיךָ יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ וֵאלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ שֶׁתִּקָּרַע רוֹעַ גְּזַר דִּינֵנוּ וְיִקָּרְאוּ לְפָנֶיךָ זְכֻיּוֹתֵינוּ:

May it be Your will to tear up any evil decree against us, and may our merits be proclaimed before You.

6. Sesame — תלתן

Eat the seeds mixed with sugar.

יְהִי רָצוֹן מִלְּפָנֶיךָ יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ וֵאלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ שֶׁיִּרְבּוּ זְכֻיּוֹתֵינוּ כַּתִּלְתָּן:

May it be Your will that our merits increase like sesame seeds.

7. Pomegranate — רימון

On the second night a new fruit (the pomegranate) is placed on the table, to have it in mind for the Shehecheyanu of the Kiddush.

יְהִי רָצוֹן מִלְּפָנֶיךָ יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ וֵאלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ שֶׁנְּהֵיֶה מְלֵאִים מִצְוֹת כָּרִמּוֹן:

May it be Your will that we be filled with mitzvot as the pomegranate is filled with seeds.

8. Fish — דגים

יְהִי רָצוֹן מִלְּפָנֶיךָ יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ וֵאלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ שֶׁנִּפְרֶה וְנִרְבֶּה כַּדָּגִים וְתַשְׁגִּיחַ עָלֵינוּ בְּעֵינָא פְּקִיחָא:

May it be Your will that we be fruitful and multiply like fish, and that You watch over us with a watchful, benevolent eye.

9. Head — ראש

A lamb's head is preferred; if unavailable, the head of a fish or of poultry.

יְהִי רָצוֹן מִלְּפָנֶיךָ יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ וֵאלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ שֶׁנְּהֵיֶה לְרֹאשׁ וְלֹא לְזָנָב:

May it be Your will that we be at the head and not at the tail.

With a lamb's head, add:

וְזֵה זֵכֶר לְאֵילוֹ שֶׁל יִצְחָק אָבִינוּ עָלָיו הַשָּׁלוֹם, בֶּן אַבְרָהָם אָבִינוּ עָלָיו הַשָּׁלוֹם:

And may this be a remembrance of the ram of Isaac our father — peace be upon him — son of Abraham our father, peace be upon him.

לְשָׁנָה טוֹבָה תִּכָּתְבוּ וְתֵחָתְמוּ

May you be inscribed in the book of life.

From *Les fêtes juives et Parachat Hachavoua*, by Chief Rabbi Salomon Malka zatsal.