

# Yom Hashoah Memorial Candle Lighting Ceremony

"The community of Holocaust survivors is dying out. In a matter of just a few years, no more will remain on earth and no one will be able to truthfully say "I remember what happened during the Holocaust..." We will be left with only memorial books, research texts, images, film and recorded testimonies. When this occurs, memory of the Holocaust must be transformed from being an integral part of our existence that is cemented into our flesh and soul - to a treasured artifact; humanity and future generations must take responsibility for imbuing its memory with content and meaning... In Jewish tradition memory has inherent value. Yet, memory in and of itself is not an independent value, rather, it relies upon moral obligation...memory needs to be the basis of action, a source of strength for creating a better world."

(Excerpted from *The Manifest of the Holocaust Survivors*)

The extent to which Holocaust remembrance will become an essential component of our collective identity will be determined over the next few years. We call upon each and every family to

## LIGHT SIX CANDLES

at 19:00 (7PM) on the evening of Yom Hashoah to be followed by the recitation of the texts below

### Prayer for the Departed: El Malei Rachamim

O God, full of mercy, who dwells on high,  
Grant proper rest on the wings of the Divine Presence  
In the lofty levels of the holy and pure,  
Who shine like the glow of the firmament -  
For the souls of the Six Million Jews,  
victims of the European Holocaust,  
Who were killed,  
slaughtered, burned and wiped out  
For the Sanctification of the Name  
By the murderous Germans and their allies,  
Because, without making a vow,  
All the community will pray  
For the uplifting of their souls.  
Therefore, may the Master of mercy  
Shelter them in the shelter of His wings for eternity;  
And may He bind their souls in the Bond of Life.  
The Lord is their heritage.  
And may their resting-place be in the Garden of Eden,  
and may they reach their destiny at the end of days.  
And let us say Amen.

### Nizkor (Let us remember) by Abba Kovner

Let us remember our brothers and our sisters  
the homes in the cities and houses in the villages  
The streets of the town that bustled like rivers  
And the inn standing solitary on the way.  
The old man with his etched-out features  
The mother in her sweater  
The girl with the braids  
And the children.  
The thousands of communities of Israel  
with their families  
The whole Jewish people  
That was brought to the slaughter on the soil  
of Europe by the German destroyer.  
The man who screamed out suddenly  
and died while screaming  
The woman who clutched her baby to her breast  
and whose arms collapsed.  
The baby whose fingers groped for her mother's nipple  
which was blue and cold  
The legs,  
the legs that sought refuge  
and there was no escape.  
And those who clenched their hands into fists  
The fist that gripped the steel  
The steel that was the weapon of the vision  
the despair and the revolt.  
And those with staunch hearts and those with open eyes  
And those who sacrificed themselves  
without being able to save others.

We shall remember the day  
The day in its noon, the sun  
That rose over the stake of blood  
The skies that stood high and silent  
We shall remember the mounds of  
ash beneath flowering parks.  
Let the living remember their dead for  
behold they are here Before us  
Behold their eyes cast around and about.  
So let us not rest  
May our lives be worthy of their memory



**TZOHAR**

Rabbinic Leadership in the Corona Crisis



**LIGHT  
SIX CANDLES**  
A Project of Tzohar