פרשת זכור of פיוטים

אזכיר םלה זכרון מעשים,

I will always make mention of the deeds,

בימים האלה נזכרים ונעשים,

Which are remembered and kept in these days,

גחון גח מבין עכסים,

The serpent that crept out from among the poisonous reptiles,

דראונו להזכיר לרקב כעסים,

His shame will I mention for fierce condemnation,

החוח הנץ מגלגל ודרדר,

The thorn that sprouted from briar and bramble rolled on,

ומדור לדור גלגל ודרדר,

And from generation to generation caused distress for the Jewish People,

זכר עון אבותיו הקדר,

The memory of the wickedness that Esau inflicted upon his father by causing him to be blind;

חמאת אמו בלי להעדר,

And the sin he perpetrated against his mother we will not omit,

מרף אף וישחת רחם,

In his anger he tore his mother's womb,

יחומתו מקלוט בהריון יחם,

So that she could no longer conceive,

כהופקד לשלישו חמא נוחם,

Esau's third generation, his grandson, Amalek took upon himself to avenge the sin that Yaakov allegedly committed against Esau,

לבמ להלחם בלוחמי לחם,

By frantically waging war against those who ate the words of the Torah,

מהלך ארבע מאות פרסה,

He traversed a distance of four hundred PARASANG,

נע ונד מכמורת לפרסה,

A long way to travel to lay his trap,

םע משעיר והכמין פרוסה,

From Seir he journeyed and hid a snare,

עיף ויגע מבושיו לסרסה

Shamefully to mutilate those who were faint and weary,

פועל שמימת בכורה לעכור,

Resenting the transfer of his birthright, he intended to destroy,

צמיתות צאן קדשים למכור,

To sell the holy flock into everlasting slavery,

קלונו הוחרם בעם לזכור,

His infamy is engraved with an iron pen, so as to remember,

ראשית גוים לגלע בזכור,

That he was the first of the nations to be branded with "Remember!"

ש-די זבר לילה חולק,

The Almighty recalled the merit of Abraham who divided his forces by night,

שרש וענף בחלקלק להחלק,

He used trickery to entice some to leave the protection of G-d's clouds therefore destroy them,

תמור כי חשליו המליק,

Because he strangled those who lagged behind,

תבע להזכר מעש עמלק,

G-d enjoined that the deeds of Amalek be remembered,

לאחרונה יסעו שבם שלט כי הענן מטם פלט,

The enemy prevailed over the hindmost of the army (Dan) because the sheltering cloud excluded this tribe,

לעת ימחה לא יומלמ,

When Amalek will be blotted out, noone shall escape,

יגונן עם גנון ומפלמ,,

G-d will then permanently shield the people protected and delivered by Him,

ברוך אתה ה' מגן אברהם,

תמימים בעודם בסין רפודים,

While the upright were still encamped in Desert Sin in Rephidim,

שבוץ עדי עדיים אפודים,

While being robed in finery and adorned with fine jewels,

רצו שלול מתן לפידים,

About to receive the Torah which was to be given in flames,

קפצו ידים רפות ברפידים,

There in Rephidim their hands became weak,

צורר אסף כל אספסוף,

Then did the oppressor gather all his rabble,

פושע סביבות מחנם אסוף,

And assembled them round their camp,

עלות פעמימו ממצולות סוף,

The people whose feet had just come out from the Red Sea,

םבר לקמלם כקנה וסוף,

He planned to mow down like reeds and rushes,

נדד ויעף שלש פעמים,

Three times he marched out against them,

מחזר בניני חמשה עממים,

Traversing the land of the descendants of the Five Nations,

לץ הכת ופתי העמים

Although the Egyptians had been defeated, Amalek showed no concern,

כלל להתיחם נדבי עמים,

His goal was to take on the princely people,

יהר לץ והעמיד מסלה,

He insolently tried to create a plan by which a nation could defeat the Jewish People,

מכום בחורי בזמה סלה,

Be enticing the young men with immorality,

חמוקי ירכי בם לפסלה,

And by causing their females to be disqualified from marrying Kohanim,

זרע להרביע ולהתעיב סגלה,

To profane the holy people by involving them in immorality,

וישמום שמימת ישישו המחבא.

Bearing the secret grudge of his grandfather,

החל לבוא מראש במחבא,

At first he used trickery to attack,

דגר י–י שנית בחרב להובה,

The second time he leaped forth with an extended sword,

גש בשלישי בעליל בחובה,

The third time, because of Israel's guilt, he was not afraid to engage in open warfare,

במשלו ששכי באום מושלים,

When the Babylonian (Nebuchandnezzar) overpowered the ruling people (Israel),

בפרק עמד מסוד נשולים,

He stood at the crossroads to catch any fugitives,

אמרו לכו ונכחיד נכשלים,

Declaring, "Come, let us annihilate those who are weak,"

אז מאז זנב כל הנחשלים,

As in ancient times he smote all who were weak,

שונאיך הם ילבשו בשת, כמו בצלעי שמחו ביבשת,

May Your enemies be covered with shame in the same way as they rejoiced at my fall during the drought (at Rephidim),

בעמותך עשרת עדיי תלבושת, להגשים תחי לצולעת תחבושת.

At the time when You will wear Your tenth garment of splendor to cause the rain of resurrection to descend as a cure for the pain of the Jewish People who have suffered for so long in the Diaspora.

ברוך אתה ה' מחיה המתים.

אצילי מרעי נכד שעיר.

The chieftains of my tormentor, the grandson of Esau,

תולדות אלה בני שעיר,

Those descendants of the sons of Seir,

בקשם אצו אשי להבעיר,

Hastened with their straw to extinguish the fire of our souls,

שאונם חרשו כשדי עיר,

The many of their soldiers ploughed over Yerushalayim like a field,

גוי גדול שלא הזכרת,

Then You were not protective of Israel, the great nation;

רשיונותיו למה אז זכרת,

But You did not hesitate to remember their sins?

דנלים בלא הון מכרת,

The bannered hosts (of Israel) You allowed to be sold cheaply;

קדושים בזונה וביין המכרת,

The holy ones were sold to be used as harlots and as sellers of wine,

הזכר לארמים נוה נארו,

Remember always the sin of the Edomites

צרים אשר חומות ערערו,

The oppressors who burned the Temple and who battered my walls

ועד היסוד ערו ערו,

And who razed the Temple to the ground

פימו דברו בגאות ופערו,

They shouted arrogantly towards G-d

זה אין לפניך שכחה,

You, with whom there is no forgetfulness

עברתם שמרה נצח מלשכחה,

Never forget their furious wrath,

חלף לא ידעו עשות נכוחה!

That they knew not to do right,

ספרם חתום ליום תוכחה,

Seal their fate for the day of retribution,

מעם חוק בדת מוכח,

What You set forth in the Torah proves

נזכר כי לא תשכח,

That we will always remember and never forget,

יום בא עמם להתוכח,

The day will come when it will be time to contend with them,

מכאן צוית לעמך לא תשכח,

That is why You did command Your people, "Do not forget!"

יקש לץ לחרף צבא-ות, החתומי ברית בצבא ואות,

The blashphemer (Amalek) laid a snare to injure the hosts that were marked with the sign of the covenant,

והפקד מדה במדה לתוצאות,

Amalek was paid back for it measure for measure;

דעת בי לעת המציאות, הוא יפקד בשם י–י צבא–ות,

That all may know that at the time that You think is right, Amalek will be punished in the name of the Lord of hosts.

ימלוך ה' לעולם א-להיך ציון לדור ודר הללוי-ה.

ואתה קדוש יושב תהלות ישראל א-ל נא.

אל נא בלשון אשר הזכרת לזוכריך זכור,

O Lord, with the same expression with which You did charge Your followers "Remember!", בו בלשון הזכירוך נא אתה זכור,

With that very expression they remind You, "You remember"

ואם המה כאדם עברו ברית מלזכור,

And if they, as humans, have been faithless to the covenant,

ואתה א-ל ולא איש למה לא תזכור,

You are God and not human, why do You not remember?

בזאת ידעת כי יש לך לזכור,

I know, indeed, that You are able to remember,

אבל תשוח עלי נפשי עד זכור תזכור,

But my soul is depressed until You will remember

ומה כחי כי׳ איחל לקץ זכור, ומה קצי כי אאריך נפשי עד שתזכור,

What strength have I to wait for that time? How long can I be patient until You do remember?

אם לא למעני תזכור, למענך ולמען ירושלים זכור,

If You will not remember for my sake, remember, then for You sake and for Jerusalem's sake,

חוק כי לא תשכח עדות זכור, ואומר אם אשכחך עתה לה זכור,

Remember the testimony (Torah) "For it shall not be forgotten," " If I forget you O Jerusalem"—now do You remember her!

ותפקוד ותזכור, כאב צר לעכור, פיהו לסכור, לנוע כשכור,

O remember the torments with which the enemy afflicted me, Shut his arrogant mouth; let him stagger as one drunk

ועוד בל תמכור, נקובי בן בכור,

And never again deliver up those called Your first-born sons,

נכורי בלתך וכור, ופארך אזכור, וארצך לזכור, בפרשת זכור.

That were bought by You for a *LETECH* and a *KOR* (Hosea 3,2), Then will I memorialize Your glory and seek Your favor, with the reading of the Scriptural section *ZACHOR* (Remember').

חי וקים נורא ומרום וקדוש.

אץ קוצץ, בן קוצץ, קצוצי לקצץ,

The thorn, son of a thorn (Amalek), hurried on to cut in pieces my rearguard,

בדבור מפוצץ, רצוצי לרצץ

And to crush the bruised ones with his shattering speech,

לץ בבא ללוצץ, פלץ ונתלוצץ,

When the blasphemer came to outrage them, he staggered and was browbeaten,

כעץ מחצצים לחצץ, כנץ על צפור לנצץ,

As he urged his warriors to attack with arrows, to pounce on them as a hawk upon a bird,

עב בקע מראש, יחידים מנו גרוש,

When G-d moved the sheltering cloud above their heads to exclude some individuals הל וילך ויפרוש, וישב על גבי הרוש,

He began his attack, He took off and came again to plough upon my back,

זמן והונקב לראש, ראשית גיום לרע לדרוש,

He was ordained and named the head, He was the first to challenge G-d by attacking the Jews,

היות לכל בוגדים ראש.

The first of the malevolent nations, the arch traitor,

וצפעיו תלות במבחר ברוש,

Whose descendant (Haman) was hanged on the chosen cypress tree,

רץ והקרה בדרך, עיפי מרחות דרך,

He ran and met by the way those who were enfeebled and exhausted from the road, ופץ לא זו הדרך, תעו במדבר בישימון דרך,

And spoke, "This is not the way!" They wandered in the wilderness, in a desert way,

בנחש עלי דרך, שלח ידי בחמוקי ירך,

Against Dan, "The serpent in the way," he stretched forth his hand, and against the "roundings of the thighs" (Israel);

ועל כל ראש דרך, זגב כל עוברי דרך,

And on every crossroad, he cut down all who passed by the way

יעף ועף וחש ומחור פתן רחש,

He rushed headlong, he flew in haste, and out of his hole the viper crept,

ונודע כי הוחש, משור שנחש,

It became known that he was approaching, engendered from the germ of the serpent, רגש ולחש,ועת לדתו נחש,

Moshe then prayed and observed the horoscope of his birth

ובכשפיו הכחש, ובחלש נחלש ולא חש,

He was deceived by his sorcery, was forcefully felled and benumbed,

בכשפיו הללו, ובקסמיו חללו,

Moses deceived him by his own sorceries, and with his own witchcraft confounded him,

יום העמיד וזללו,

He retarded the day, and mowed him down,

שמש הדמים וזלזלו,

He made the sun stand still and laid him ingloriously low

יגע ולא הונח לו, ולחרפות נחלו,

On and on he strove, but he was given no respite; shameful defeat was his portion,

עד בא השמש הזחילו, להמחות הוא וכל חילו,

Until the setting of the sun he lingered, when he and his hosts were wiped out, קט ושן חרק, ונאצות שרק,

He railed and gnashed his teeth, shrieking abuses

זמורה באפו הרק, וחרבו הברק,

And filling His nostrils with stench, he unsheathed his sword,

למילה פרק, וכלפי מעלה זרק,

He tore at the mark of the covenant and towards heaven he threw it

ולשם שמן תורק, בעזות ירוק ירק,

And spitting insolently at the Name that is wafted like sweet scent,

י-ה אשכול הכופר, צו אל משול עופר, זכרון משלי אפר, כתוב זאת זכרון בספר,

The Lord, the merciful God, commanded Moses who was humble like a gazelle, to make Amalek's memory like scattered ashes, by writing down Amalek's shame in the Torah, רשם בזה ספר, בתורה' ובנביאים ובכתובים לחחפר,

in The Prophets and in the Writings, that his memory be blotted out from the Book להמחות מחפר, ולא יכתב עם כל הכתוב לחיים בספר,

And that he never be inscribed with those who are inscribed for life in the Book,

א-ל נא לעולם תוערץ ולעולם תוקדש, וכו׳

ובכן זכור את אשר עשה לך עמלק,

Remember, therefore, how Amalek treated you!

ומחה שמו וזכרו, ונמח זכיריו מלהזכירו, בזכריון קדוש,

Blot out his name, his very memory obliterate, that he never be mentioned in the record of the Holy One

יען אשר לא זכר, ונחשב כנכר, מלהזבר, בזכרון קדוש,

Because he betrayed and acted outrageously, he shall not be remembered in the record of the Holy One,

זכור איש אשר הגויע אב ללא עתו, ברצוח וגנוב ונאוף בעתו גרע חמש שנים ממחיתו,

Remember the man (Esau) who caused the Patriarch (Abraham) to expire before his time, By murder, stealing and debauchery he terrified him and abscinded five years from his life זכור בוזה על גמילות חסד, גועל אח עש לזקנו חסד, דומה למס מרעהו חסד,

Remember him, who mocked acts of kindness, who contemned his brother's favor, scorning him who was paying his last respects to his grandfather, He was like one heaping reproach on one in distress,

זכור גלה ערות מצואת שדה, דם שפך בבואו מן השדה, הפך לב אב שח בשדה,

Remember him who violated a bethrothed girl in the field; who shed blood on returning from the field- who deceived his father (Isaac) who meditated in the field,

זכור דחוי באוזן הערלה, הבוזה בכורה בכום התרעלה, ופרק מנו עול ומשך לו ערלה,

Remember him who turned a deaf ear to exhortation, who contemned the birthright for the sake of a cup of indignation; who cast off God's yoke and effaced the sign of the covenant,

זכור הפכפך דרך איש וזר,והכהה מאור אב בעשן עבודת זר, זמם בלב היות לאח לאכזר,

Remember the man who by his insolence and crookedness darkened the light of his father with the smoke of idolatrous sacrifice and cruelly harbored revenge against his brother,

זכור ונתעולל לרבע כאשה, זדן לבו השיאו באשה, חתו גבוריו להיות כלב אשה,

Remember him who prostituted himself like a woman, whose pride of heart provoked him to such depravity, his mighty men shall therefore be broken like a woman in pain,

זכור זרע מרעים נתעב ונאלח, חלק להשחית ולומר האח, ממנו גאים פח לחבל אח,

Remember the seed of evil-doers, loathsome and tainted, who set out to destroy and did so joyously, with a shout of arrogance he set out destroy his brother,

זכור חגם מנו עמלקי, מם כילק לאבד חלקי ירע כבירים לעין כל ללוקקי,

Remember him from whom Amalek budded forth, who like locusts swept on to destroy my portion and who shattered my mighty men and licked their blood like dogs in the sight of all!

זכור מפש מהערימה ירד וכתת עמי עד חרמה, כמו כן חיב להחרימה,

Remember the madman, bereft of sense, who came down, crushed and destroyed my people; thus has he incurred the penalty of destruction,

זכור יושב הנגב בלי עול כערד, כסות ולשון שנה היות מלך ערד, לשבות שבי מרד וחרד, Remember him who dwelt in the South, unrestrained like a wild-ass, how he changed his dress and speech to appear as the King of Arad, and hastened in tumult to take captives,

זכור כסיל שונה באולתו, לתערובת מדין בעלותו, מהר, ירבשת וגלה נבלותו,

Remember the fool who repeated his folly, and came up to war allied with Midian, but Jerubaal (Gideon) soon uncovered his villany,

זכור לקעקע בצתו משרש מלעזב לו ענף ונם שרשב נענש קישי כי השאיר לו שורש, Remember that You did order his utter extermination, not leaving root or branch, that Saul, son of Kish was punished for leaving a root

זכור מעשה אגג מעדנות נשים כשכלה חרבו לענות, סרס שארו לשסוף יענות,

Remember the debauchery of the chained Agag, who ravished women whom his sword made childless, so was his mother bereaved as he was hacked to pieces and given to ostriches,

זכור נגיד לחמלו הסכים, סר ממלוכה מבין נסיכים, עולל הנותר עמד לשכים,

Remember the king (Saul) who determined to spare him, he was deprived of his kingdom and removed from the rank of princes, for the sprout that was snared grew up as a thorn,

זכור סבב צקלג ונגב, עמלק יושב בארץ הנגב , פגרו מוב רואי מנשף בעגב ,

Remember how ZiKlag and the South were raided by Amalek who dwelt in the South, he was slain by the young man who was handsome in appearance, playing on a harp (David),

זכור עריץ בעמונים נחבא, פרץ כרמי עין גדי כהובא! צורכו איש באחיו בחרב להובה,

Remember the ruthless tyrant who concealed himself among the Ammonites, who was brought to En-Gedi to destroy my vineyard; they were consumed by one another by their own flaming swords,

זכור פלמים אשר באף הסעיר, צבאי בלכתם אל הר שעיר, יקנא לנקום עירות שעיר, Remember him who in his fury scattered the fugitives, when my hosts went to seek refuge

Remember him who in his fury scattered the fugitives, when my hosts went to seek refuge in Mount Seir; he was zealous to avenge the hatred of the hairy one (Esau)

זכור צג בפרק להםגיר שרידי, קם בראש דרכים לסעוד את רודי, רדף ומסר בידם פרודי

רפודי,

Remember him who stood at the passes to deliver up my fugitives; he stood at the turn of the roads to aid my oppressors; he pursued and delivered into their hands my dispersed and downtrodden ones,

זכור קפץ לשער השמים רעש ושאג מי לי בשמים, שלם ויגדל עד לשמים,

Remember him (Titus) who leapt up to the Gate of Heaven (Temple), who stormed and shouted, "Who is over me in heaven!" High in dominion he swelled up to Heaven,

זכור רד אל חנף להחניף ממלכת, שמשי אשר שמשו מאמשת והולכת, תמה הלשין לרפותה ממלאכת,

Remember him (Haman) who came to the hypocritical king to destroy the Jewish kingdom and Shimshai (son of Haman), whose sun was nearing eclipse, who slandered the pure one (Israel) to discourage her from construction,

זכור שקל אלפים עשרה, שתילים מאה החנים לסברה, שער מהם עשרה לשררה,

Remember him who weighed out ten Yousand talents (Haman), who begot and raised up a hundred plants (sons), ten of whom he appointed to high office,

זכור תבע להפר חמשים, תכלית שבעים נתלה על חמשים, יען אשר לא זכר, ונחשב כנכר, מלהזכר בזכרון קדוש.

Remember him who asked (the king) to destroy the Five Books of the Torah; he set a whole year to make an end of the orderly people; at the end of the seventy days he was hanged on the fifty-cubit gallows.

ובכן ולך תעלה קדשה כי אתה קדוש ישראל ומושיע.