

Seder Seudat Rosh Ashanah • Yehi Ratsones

It is customary to precede the family meal with special foods chosen symbolically and eaten with appropriate blessings and wishes suggested by their name or quality. Source: Talmud: Horayoth 12a & K'rithoth 6a: Said Abaye: Now that it has been said that omens are of significance, a man should make a regular habit of eating, at the beginning of the year, pumpkin, fenugreek (or black-eyed peas), leek, beet and dates.

"קרא ורוביא, כרתי וסילקא ותמרי."

(We do this after kiddush, but before amotzi since the amotzi would otherwise obviate the need for these additional blessings, although some say the yehi ratsones after amotzi with no additional blessings. We say the blessings "fruit of the tree" and "fruit of the earth" only once, some others repeat them for each food.)

These foods are:

APPLE DIPPED IN HONEY • MANSANA • תפוחים

יְהִי רְצוֹן מִלְּפָנֶיךָ, יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ, שְׁתַּחֲדֵשׁ עָלֵינוּ שָׁנָה טוֹבָה וּמְתוּקָה. מִרְאשֵׁית הַשָּׁנָה וְעַד אַחֲרֵית הַשָּׁנָה.

May it be Your will, Lord our God, God of our fathers, that the coming year be renewed for us as good and sweet one, from its beginning until its end.

Ladino: Sea voluntad delante de Ti Adonai nuestro Dyo i Dyo de nuestros padres, ke se renove sovre mozotros anyada buena i dulce de presipyo del anyo i asta kavo del anyo.

"וַיֹּאמֶר לָהֶם לְכוּ אֲכָלוּ מִשְׂמַנִּים וּשְׂתוּ מִמֶּתְקִים וְשַׁלְּחוּ מְנוֹת לְאִין נֶכּוֹן לוֹ כִּי-קָדוֹשׁ הַיּוֹם לְאַדְנֵינוּ וְאֵל-תַּעֲצְבוּ כִּי-הַדָּנֹת יְהוָה הִיא מְעֻזָּכֶם"

And Nehemiah said to them, go, eat rich dainties and drink sweet drinks, and send portions to him who has nothing ready, for today is holy to our Lord. Grieve not, for the joy of the Lord is your strength. (Nehemiah 8:10)

Ladino: I Nehemiah les disho: va, kome komida rika i bividias dulces, i enbia porsiones a el ke no tiene nada taman, porke la dia es santo para nuestro Adonai. No te afriyas, porke la alegria del Adonai es tu fortaleza.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, בּוֹרֵא פְּרֵי הָעֵץ

Blessed art Thou, Lord our God, Ruler of the universe, who creates the fruit of the tree.

כרתי • PRASSA • LEEK

(karti, the Hebrew word for leek, sounds like the Hebrew word for cut down, karet)

יְהִי רְצוֹן מִלְּפָנֶיךָ, יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ, שְׂיִכְרְתוּ אוֹיְבֶיךָ וְשׁוֹנְאֶיךָ וְכָל מְבַקְשֵׁי רַעַתְנוּ: תְּרוֹם יָדְךָ עַל צָרֶיךָ. וְכָל אוֹיְבֶיךָ יִכְרְתוּ

May it be Your will, Lord our God, God of our fathers that You "cut off" our enemies and foes and all who seek evil for us. "Your hand shall be raised above your oppressors, and all your enemies shall be cut down." (Micah 5:8)

[De Sola Pool: Like as we eat this leek, may our luck never lack in the year to come.]

Ladino: Sea voluntad delante de Ti Adonai nuestro Dyo i Dyo de nuestros padres ke se tajen Tus enemigos i Tus aboresyentes i todos bushkantes nuestro mal. Enaltese Tu mano sovre Tus angustyadores i todos tus enemigos seran tajados.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, בּוֹרֵא פְּרֵי הָאֲדָמָה

Blessed art Thou, Lord our God, Ruler of the universe, who creates the fruit of the earth.

(karti, the Hebrew word for leek, sounds like the Hebrew word for cut down, karet)

BEETS (or SPINACH) • KUCHUNDURYA (or SPINAKA) • סלקא

יְהִי רְצוֹן מִלְפָּנֶיךָ, יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ, שְׂיִסְתַּלְקוּ אוֹיְבֵיךָ וְשׂוֹנְאֵיךָ וְכָל מְבַקְשֵׁי רְעֵתָנוּ סוּרוּ מִמֶּנִּי כָּל-
פְּעֻלֵי אֲנִי כִי-שְׁמַע יי קוֹל בְּכִי סוּרוּ צָאוּ מִשָּׁם. טָמֵא אֵל תִּגְעוּ. צָאוּ מִתּוֹכָהּ. הִבְרֹו נִשְׂאֵי כְּלֵי יי.

May it be Your will, Lord our God, God of our fathers that You remove our enemies and foes and all who seek evil for us. "Turn away from me, all you workers of iniquity, for the Lord has hearkened to the voice of my weeping." "Turn away, get out of there, touch no unclean one; get out of its midst, purify yourselves, you who bear the Lord's vessels." *Psalms 6:9, Isaiah 52:11*

[De Sola Pool: As we bite this beet, may those who in the past have beaten us or sought our harm beat to cover in the coming year]

Ladino: Sea voluntad delante de Ti Adonai nuestro Dyo i Dyo de nuestros padres, ke se aparten Tus enemigos i Tus aboresyentes i todos bushkantes nuestro mal. Tiradvos de mi, todos ovrantes tortura, ke oyo Adonai boz de mi yorro. Tiradvos, tiravdos, salid de ayi enkanado non tokesh. Salid de entre eya se'ed limpyos yevantes armas de Adonai.

(*selek*, the Hebrew word for beet, sounds like the Hebrew word for remove, *salek*. *silka* is the Aramaic word for spinach, so some use spinach instead, the Talmudic source having been written in Aramaic.)

DATES • DATILES • תמרי

יְהִי רְצוֹן מִלְפָּנֶיךָ, יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ, שְׂיִתְמּוּ אוֹיְבֵיךָ וְשׂוֹנְאֵיךָ וְכָל מְבַקְשֵׁי רְעֵתָנוּ יִתְמּוּ חַטָּאִים מִן-
הָאָרֶץ. וְרִשְׁעִים עוֹד אֵינָם. בְּרַכֵּי נַפְשִׁי אֶת-יי הֵלְלוּיָהּ: וּבַחֲסֶדְךָ תִּצְמִית אֹיְבֵי. וְהִאֲבֹדְתָ כָּל-צָרָרִי נַפְשִׁי. כִּי אֲנִי
עַבְדְּךָ.

May it be Your will, Lord our God, God of our fathers that You remove our enemies and foes and all who seek evil for us. "Sinners will be destroyed from the earth and the wicked will be no more; my soul, bless the Lord. Halleluyah." "And with Your kindness, You shall cut off my enemies, and You shall destroy all the oppressors of my soul, for I am Your servant." *Psalms 104:35, Psalm 143:12*

[De Sola Pool: As we eat this date, may we date the new year that is beginning as one of happiness and blessing, and peace for all men.]

Ladino: Sea voluntad delante de Ti Adonai nuestro Dyo i Dyo de nuestros padres ke se atemen pekadores de la tierra i malos mas non eyos. Bendize mi alma a Adonai i kon tus mercedes tajare mis enemigos, i depyedreras todos angustyadores de mi alma ke yo Tu syervo.

(*tamar*, the Hebrew word for date sounds like the Hebrew word for cease, *tam*.)

PUMPKIN, GOURD OR SQUASH • KALAVASA • קרא

יְהִי רְצוֹן מִלְפָּנֶיךָ, יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ, שְׂתִקְרַע רֵעַ גִּזְרֵ דֵינָנוּ וְיִקְרָאוּ לְפָנֶיךָ זְכוּתֵינוּ

May it be Your will, Lord our God, God of our fathers that any bad decree be torn up and that our merits be read before You.

[De Sola Pool: May the coming year grow as a gourd in fullness of blessing. In the year to come, if enemies gird at us, mayest Thou guard us as we eat this gourd.]

Ladino: Sea voluntad delante de Ti Adonai nuestro Dyo i Dyo de nuestros padres, ke arazges malisya de setensya de nuestro din i ke se melden delante de Ti nuestros zakhuyot.

(*Kara*, the Hebrew word for gourd or squash, sounds like the Hebrew word for tear or rend, *kara*)

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BLACK EYED PEAS • FIJONES • רוביא

יְהִי רְצוֹן מִלְּפָנֶיךָ, יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ, שְׂיִרְבוּ זְכוּתֵינוּ כְּרוּבִיא.

May it be Your will, Lord our God, God of our fathers that our merits increase (like black-eyed peas).

Ladino: Sea voluntad delante de Ti Adonai nuestro Dyo i Dyo de nuestros padres, ke se muchiguan nuestro zakhuyot.

(rubyah, the Hebrew word for black-eyed peas, sounds like the Hebrew word for increase, yirbu)

POMEGRANATE • MANGRANA • רמון

יְהִי רְצוֹן מִלְּפָנֶיךָ, יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ, שְׂיִרְבוּ זְכוּתֵינוּ כְּרַמּוֹן.

May it be Your will, Lord our God, God of our fathers, that our merits increase like the (many) seeds of the pomegranate.

Ladino: Sea voluntad delante de Ti Adonai nuestro Dyo i Dyo de nuestros padres, ke arazges malisya de setensya de nuestro juzgo i ke se melden delante de ti nuestros zakhuyot.

FISH • PESHKADO • דגים

יְהִי רְצוֹן מִלְּפָנֶיךָ, יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ, שְׂנַפְרָה וְנִרְבָּה פְּדָגִים וְתִשְׁגַּח עָלֵינוּ בְּעֵינָא פְּקִיחָא.

May it be Your will, Lord our God, God of our fathers that we be fruitful and multiply like fish.

Ladino: Sea voluntad delante de Ti Adonai nuestro Dyo i Dyo de nuestros padres, ke mos sea fruktifera i se multiplikan komo los peshkados.

FISH or SHEEP HEAD (or Cow Tongue) • ראש כבש

יְהִי רְצוֹן מִלְּפָנֶיךָ, יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ, שְׂנַהֲיָה לְרֹאשׁ וְלֹא לְזָנָב: וְתִזְכּוֹר לָנוּ אֵילּוּ שֶׁל יִצְחָק.

May it be Your will, Lord our God, God of our fathers, may we be the head and not the tail (*Deuteronomy 28:13*) (leaders and not followers). And remember for us the courage of Isaac.

Ladino: Sea voluntad delante de Ti Adonai nuestro Dyo i Dyo de nuestros padres, ke seamos por kavesera i non por kola. I akodra a mozotros su barvez de Yitzhak nuestro padre.