

Thanksgiving Prayer
by Rabbi Zalman Schachter-Shalomi
translated by Tania Susskind

בְּיָמֵי הַמְהַגְרִים נִקְיֵי הַדְּעַת, כְּשֶׁהִגִּיעוּ לְאֶרֶץ מְקַלְטָם, וְסָבְלוּ רָעַב וְקוֹר, וְנִשְׁאוּ רִנָּה וּתְפִלָּה לְצוּר יִשׁוּעָתָם, עָמַדְתָּ לָהֶם בְּעֵת צָרָתָם וְעוֹרַרְתָּ חַמְלַת הַתּוֹשָׁבִים הָאֵינְדִּיָּנִים עֲלֵיהֶם, וְהֶאֱכִילוֹם מְזוֹן, בְּרִבּוּרִים וְתִירָם וְכֹל מַעֲדָנִים. הִצַּלְתָּם מִרָעַב וּיְגוֹן, וְהִרְאֵתָ לָהֶם דְּרָכֵי שְׁלוֹם עִם תּוֹשְׁבֵי הָאָרֶץ. עַל כֵּן בְּרִנְשֵׁי תוֹדָה קִבְּעוּ יוֹם תּוֹדָה כָּל שָׁנָה וְשָׁנָה לְזִכַּר לְדוֹרוֹת, וּמֵאֲכִילִים סְעוּדוֹת הוֹדִיָּה לְאוֹמְלָלִים. לְכֵן גַּם אֲנִי מוֹדִים לָךְ עַל הַטּוֹבוֹת בְּחַיֵּינוּ. אֵל הַחֲדָאוֹת, אֲדוֹן הַשְּׁלוֹם, מוֹדִים אֲנִיחֵנוּ לָךְ.	In the days of the Puritan pilgrims, When they arrived in the land of their haven, And suffered from hunger and cold, And sang and prayed To the Rock of their Salvation, You stood by them in their time of trouble And aroused the compassion Of the native Indians, Who gave them food, fowl and corn And many other delicacies. You saved them from starving and suffering, And You showed them ways of peace With the inhabitants of the land. Feeling gratitude, they established therefore A day of Thanksgiving every year For future generations to remember, And they feed the unfortunate With feasts of Thanksgiving. Therefore do we also thank You For all the goodness in our lives. God of kindness, Lord of peace, We thank You.
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