

ISRAEL'S NATIONAL ANTHEM

HATIKVAH

"The Hope"

The national anthem of Israel, Hatikvah, comes from a poem written by the Hebrew poet Naftali Hertz Imber. **"Hatikvah" means "The Hope" and it encapsulates the longing of a dispersed people to reinhabit their God-given land after two thousand years of exile.**

For two thousand years at the Passover Seder, the Jewish people exclaimed "Next year in Jerusalem," showing their faith in restoration to their ancestral homeland through a return to the Holy City of Jerusalem. The Jewish soul's hope to be a free people in their land, the land of Zion and Jerusalem, became a reality on May 14th, 1948.

Hatikvah was officially made the national anthem of Israel in 2004. **Together, let's recite Hatikvah in English.**

English:

As long as the heart within the Jewish soul yearns forward toward the East, an eye looks to Zion, our hope is not yet lost. Our hope is two thousand years old: To be a free people in our land, the land of Zion and Jerusalem.

Hebrew:

Kol od ba'le'vav p'nima, Nefesh yehudi ho'miyah. U'lefa-atei mizrach kadimah, Ayin le'Tziyyon tzofiyah. Od lo avda tikva-teinu, Ha'tikvah bat sh'not al-payim Lih-yot am chofshi b'ar-tzeinu Eretz Tziyyon v'Yerushalayim.

