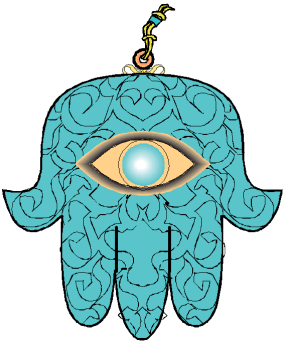
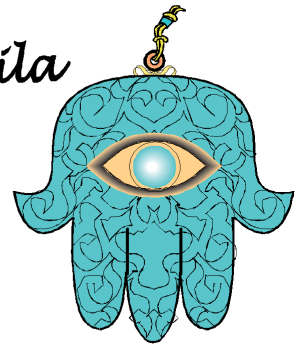


Spiritual Thought for Thanksgiving

By Rabbi Daniel Bouskila



Sephardic Temple Tifereth Israel
10500 Wilshire Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90024



November 26, 2009

A PRAYER FOR THANKSGIVING

Dear God, as we gather tonight at our Thanksgiving Dinner, we give thanks to the founders and builders of our great country and home, the United States of America. We give thanks to you, God, for giving us the blessing and opportunity of living in this great country. We are grateful for the blessings of safety, freedom, human rights and democracy that American society provides for us every day of our lives. We pray to You tonight that You may continue to bless and preserve this great democracy, and preserve forever our right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. May our country be a place where bigotry and violence shall not be tolerated, where poverty shall be abolished, and all men and women live in friendship and peace. May our nation lead the world in the advancement and fulfillment of human rights for all peoples, and may our leaders be endowed with the spirit of wisdom, kindness and understanding, so that they may lead our world into a better future for our children.

We also give thanks tonight for the blessings of family, friends and community. We pray for the blessings of health – both physical and spiritual – and we pray for the healing and speedy recovery of all those who are suffering illnesses.

Fulfill for us the Messianic vision of the Prophet Malachi, “to turn the heart of parents towards their children, and the hearts of children towards their parents.” Bless our home with the blessings of light and happiness, love and harmony, peace and companionship, Amen.