A Prayer for the Peace of the Citizens of Syria and Aleppo

Our God in Heaven, Creator of All Flesh, Performer of Wonders,

"God, do not be still. Do not be silent."²

For fire burns the walls of Damascus, and in Syria the hand of each is against their fellow. Men, women and children fall by the sword.

"Her people all groan, seeking bread." "And there is no house without its dead." "The whole day our eyes see and are wrecked," like the words of Your prophet: "Behold, Damascus is no longer a city, but a fallen heap."

And You, who commanded us with Your holy words saying: "I am God. Do not stand idly by!" Say to the destroyer: Enough!

Please, God of the souls of all flesh,⁸ in your great might, put a stop to the shedding of blood and the horrors amongst our neighbors, and bring peace to Aleppo and everlasting joy to all its inhabitants.

And in it, may the scriptures be fulfilled:

"A proclamation of the word of God: In the land of Hadrach and Damascus shall His resting place be." "The bow of war will be cut off, and he will speak peace to the nations." 10

"And he will judge among nations and admonish many peoples, and they will beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks. Nation will not lift up sword against nation, nor will they learn war anymore."

And let us say: Amen

¹ Translated by Rabbi Moshe Smolkin

² Ps. 83

³ Lam. 1:11

⁴ Ex. 12:30

⁵ Deut. 28:32

⁶ Is. 17:1

⁷ Lev. 19:16

⁸ Num. 16:22 or 27:16

⁹ Zech. 9:1

¹⁰ Zech. 9:10

¹¹ Is. 2:4