**Metadata**

**Name:** Azkir Tehillot, אזכיר תהלות

**Genre:** Poetry

**Occasion:** Passover

**Acrostic:** I am Yosef son of Yitsḥaḳ, *ḥazaḳ ve’emats* (“be strong and mighty!”), Amen אני יוסף בר יצחק חזק ואמץ אמן

**Composer**: Yosef bar Yitsḥaḳ

**Year:** Nineteenth century

**Source:** Vilna Siddur, Volume IV, p. 131. (In the fourth line of the fourth stanza, the vocalization אַב in Vilna has been changed here to אָב, because the syntax requires an absolute, not a construct, form.)

**Heading in source:** זמר נאה לימי הפסח שחברו החכם מוהרר' יוסף בר יצחק יעמ"ש (=יחי עד מאה שנה) “A song for Passover written by the Sage Rabbi Yosef bar Yitsḥaḳ, may he live a hundred years”

**Visual Representation of Meter:** – – v – – – / – – v – –   
**Description of Meter:** Each line consists of two half-lines: the first half-line contains two full vowels, followed by a vocal sheva and a full vowel, followed by two more full vowels. The second half-line consists of two full vowels, followed by a vocal sheva and a full vowel, followed by one more full vowel.

**Refrain:** נשגב (נשגב) שמו נקדש שוכן ברמים, “Lofty! (Lofty) is [God’s] name, sanctified, dwelling on high!”

**Note:** In the fourth stanza, the expression *ḥiḳrē shelishav* (חקרי שלישיו) is obscure. We have translated it as “the deep meaning of his words,” understanding חקרי as from חקר “depth, contemplation”, and שלישיו as an allusion to Proverbs 22:20 “Have I not written *shalishim* for you, in counsels and knowledge,” where the word refers to words of wisdom. In stanza 7, the words “[the Egyptians] saw, in fear” may refer to the plagues, which are mentioned in the preceding words, but more likely they refer to the paschal lamb of the next line; the Egyptians saw that their sacred animal was being brought by the Israelites for sacrifice, and they were powerless to prevent them.

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| **1** | | Azkir tehillot el yaḥid umyuḥad Ḳadmon beli reshit ḳadosh ve’eḥad Notser emunim yah matsa le’eḥad Av bahamon goyim ne’eman vetamim. **Nisgav, nisgav shemo niḳdash shochen beramim.** | | אַ֒זְכִּיר תְּהִלּוֹת אֵל יָחִיד מְיוּחָד: קַדְמוֹן בְּלִי רֵאשִׁית קָדוֹשׁ וְאֶחָד: נ֒וֹצֵר אֱמוּנִים יָ֒הּ מָצָא לְאֶחָד: אָב בַּהֲמוֹן גּוֹיִם נֶאֱמָן וְתָמִים: **נִשְׂגָּב : נִשְׂגָּב שְׁמוֹ נִקְדָּשׁ שׁוֹכֵן בְּרָמִים:** |
|  | | I’ll recall the praises of the one, unique God, Who was the first, with nothing before, and holy and one. Yah keeps loyalty; he found one person, The father of a multitude of nations (Abraham), reliable and upright. **Lofty! Lofty is [God’s] name, sanctified, dwelling on high!** | | |
| **2** | | Yorē lesod ‘atsum sippur pela’av Hitpash-shetut shif‘o ‘al kol beru’av Tsofē veyodeya‘ libbot yere’av Baḥar le’or ganuz mayshir ḳeru’av Ḳara bemassa‘av ḳonē meromim **Nisgav, nisgav shemo niḳdash shochen beramim.** | | י֒וֹרֶה לְסוֹד עָצוּם סִפּוּר פְּלָאָיו: הִתְפַּשְּׁטוּת שִׁפְעוֹ עַל כָּל בְּרוּאָיו: צוֹפֶה וְיוֹדֵעַ לִבּוֹת יְרֵאָיו: בָּחַר לְאוֹר גָּנוּז מַיְשִׁיר קְרוּאָיו: קָרָא בְּמַסָּעָיו קוֹנֶה מְרוֹמִים: **נִשְׂגָּב : נִשְׂגָּב שְׁמוֹ נִקְדָּשׁ שׁוֹכֵן בְּרָמִים:** |
|  | | The recounting of his miracles teaches a tremendous mystery, About the spreading of his emanation over all his creations. He sees and knows the hearts of those that fear him. He chose the hidden light which sets straight the people he has called. The owner of the heavens has called them, in their wanderings. **Lofty! Lofty is [God’s] name, sanctified, dwelling on high!** | | |
| **3** | | Vayyet elowah tsur ḥasdo le’avram Her’a beḥizzayon yeled vehoram Us’charecha harbē zera‘ keḥel ram Yirash leyod goyim he’emin le’el ram Bivrit betarim sod gala be’emim. **Nisgav, nisgav shemo niḳdash shochen beramim.** | | וַ֒יֵּט אֱלוֹהַּ צוּר חַסְדּוֹ לְאַבְרָם: הֶרְאָה בְּחִזָּיוֹן יֶלֶד וְהוֹרָם: וּשְׂכָרְךָ הַרְבֵּה זֶרַע כְּחֵיל רָם: יִירָשׁ לְיוֹ"ד גּוֹיִם הֶאֱמִין לְאֵל רָם: בִּבְרִית בְּתָרִים סוֹד גָּלָה בְּאֵימִים: **נִשְׂגָּב : נִשְׂגָּב שְׁמוֹ נִקְדָּשׁ שׁוֹכֵן בְּרָמִים:** |
|  | | God, the rock, extended his mercy to Abram. In a vision, he showed the child and their parent And “your reward will be much progeny, like a lofty army, It will inherit the ten nations.” He had faith in the lofty God, Who, at the Covenant of the Parts, revealed the mystery through dread. **Lofty! Lofty is [God’s] name, sanctified, dwelling on high!** | | |
| **4** | | Sod zē me’od ‘amoḳ nidrash ledoreshav Duḡma leḡaliyyot ḥiḳrē shelishav Matsref vechur livḥon zera‘ ḳedoshav Nimsar heyot gerim bidē meshareshav Ul‘et leḳets mo‘ed yiḳnu leshamim **Nisgav, nisgav shemo niḳdash shochen beramim.** | | ס֒וֹד זֶה מְאוֹד עָמוֹק נִדְרָשׁ לְדוֹרְשָׁיו דּוּגְמָא לְגָלִיּוֹת חִקְרֵי שְׁלִישָׁיו מַצְרֵף וְכוּר לִבְחוֹן זֶרַע קְדוֹשָׁיו נִמְסַר הֱיוֹת גֵּרִים בִּידֵי מְשָׁרְשָׁיו וּלְעֵת לְקֵץ מוֹעֵד יִקְנוּ לְשָׁמִים: **נִשְׂגָּב : נִשְׂגָּב שְׁמוֹ נִקְדָּשׁ שׁוֹכֵן בְּרָמִים:** |
|  | | This mystery is very deep it is sought by those that seek it. [The vision was] a model of the [future] exiles; [this was] the deep meaning of his words. [The exiles would be] a refinery, a crucible, to purify his holy progeny. It was transmitted [to Abraham] that they would be sojourners, [subject to] the hands of their uprooters, And that at the ordained end time, they would acquire gems. **Lofty! Lofty is [God’s] name, sanctified, dwelling on high!** | | |
| **5** | | Pana leza‘aḳat ‘am ne’enaḥ betsara Ra’a ve‘innuyam ‘elyon venora Heḳim le’ish ḳadosh mushlach ye’ora Lifdot le‘am nishḳa‘ natsor metsura Nir’a velabbat esh shefa‘ ne‘imim **Nisgav, nisgav shemo niḳdash shochen beramim.** | | פָּ֒נָה לְזַעֲקַת עַם נֶאֱנַח בְּצָרָה: רָאָה בְעִנּוּיָם עֶלְיוֹן וְנוֹרָא: הֵקִים לְאִישׁ קָדוֹשׁ מֻשְׁלָךְ יְאוֹרָה: לִפְדּוֹת לְעָם נִשְׁקָע נָצוֹר מְצוּרָה: נִרְאָה בְלַבַּת אֵשׁ שֶׁפַע נְעִימִים: **נִשְׂגָּב : נִשְׂגָּב שְׁמוֹ נִקְדָּשׁ שׁוֹכֵן בְּרָמִים:** |
|  | | He heeded the cry of the people moaning in suffering. The lofty, awesome one saw their affliction. He brought up the holy man, who had been cast into the river, To redeem the people that was submerged, to guard the defenses, **Lofty! Lofty is [God’s] name, sanctified, dwelling on high!** | | |
| **6** | | Baruch asher gala lishmo vesodo, Ehyē asher ehyē pirsem le‘avdo Shinnui betoladot te‘asē behodo Bir’ot le’oto el yakkir befaḥdo Par‘o vesi‘ato yassiḡ ze‘amim **Nisgav, nisgav shemo niḳdash shochen beramim.** | | בָּ֒רוּךְ אֲשֶׁר גָּלָה לִשְׁמוֹ בְסוֹדוֹ: אֶהְיֶה אֲשֶׁר אֶהְיֶה פִּרְסֵם לְעַבְדּוֹ: שִׁנּוּי בְּתוֹלָדוֹת תֵּעָשֶׂה בְּהוֹדוֹ: בִּרְאוֹת לְאוֹתוֹת אֵל יַכִּיר בְּפַחְדּוֹ: פַּרְעֹה וְסִיעָתוֹ יַשִּׂיג זְעָמִים: **נִשְׂגָּב : נִשְׂגָּב שְׁמוֹ נִקְדָּשׁ שׁוֹכֵן בְּרָמִים:** |
|  | | Blessed is the one who revealed his name, with its mystery, “Ehyē Asher Ehyē (I am what I am)” he disclosed to his servant. Changes in nature are performed by his splendor. When they saw God’s miracles, they recognized, in dread – Pharaoh and his party, who were overtaken by [divine] wrath.  **Lofty! Lofty is [God’s] name, sanctified, dwelling on high!** | | |
| **7** | | Raḥash besichlutu neḡed elohim ‘Al zē me’od hukka makkot gevohim ‘Ad ‘et asher hoda hu ha’elohim Hirba lemofetim ‘od yir’u verohim Ish sē levet avot zachar vetamim **Nisgav, nisgav shemo niḳdash shochen beramim.** | | רָ֒חַשׁ בְּסִכְלוּתוֹ נֶגֶד אֱלֹהִים: עַל זֶה מְאוֹד הֻכָּה מַכּוֹת גְּבוֹהִים: עַד עֵת אֲשֶׁר הוֹדָה הוּא הָאֱלֹהִים: הִרְבָּה לְמוֹפְתִים עוֹד יִרְאוּ וְרוֹהִים: אִישׁ שֶׁה לְבֵית אָבוֹת זָכָר וְתָמִים: **נִשְׂגָּב : נִשְׂגָּב שְׁמוֹ נִקְדָּשׁ שׁוֹכֵן בְּרָמִים:** |
|  | | He spoke in his folly against God. For this he was struck greatly, with high plagues, Until he acknowledged: “He is the God!” [God] made many further plagues; [the Egyptians] saw, in fear, Each [Israelite] man taking a male, unblemished lamb for his family. **Lofty! Lofty is [God’s] name, sanctified, dwelling on high!** | | |
| **8** | | Yittenu ‘alē mashḳof middam lesē tam Pasaḥ ‘alē ‘ammo ḥeleḳ betittam Lo ya‘vor mashḥit lingof bevetam Lel hu veshimmurim kol ‘od heyotam Yom zē lezikkaron huḥaḳ le‘olamim **Nisgav, nisgav shemo niḳdash shochen beramim.** | | יִ֒תְּנוּ עֲלֵי מַשְׁקוֹף מִדַּם לְשֶׂה תָם: פָּסַח עֲלֵי עַמּוֹ חֵלֶק בְּתִתָּם: לֹא יַעֲבֹר מַשְׁחִית לִנְגּוֹף בְּבֵיתָם: לֵיל הוּא וְשִׁמּוּרִים כָּל עוֹד הֱיוֹתָם: יוֹם זֶה לְזִכָּרוֹן הוּחָק לְעוֹלָמִים: **נִשְׂגָּב : נִשְׂגָּב שְׁמוֹ נִקְדָּשׁ שׁוֹכֵן בְּרָמִים:** |
|  | | They put some of the unblemished lamb’s blood on the lintel, He protected (*pasaḥ*) his people when they gave their portion, The destroyer did not come to beplague their homes. This night would be kept as long as [the Jewish people] existed, This day has been inscribed as an eternal memorial. **Lofty! Lofty is [God’s] name, sanctified, dwelling on high!** | | |
| **9** | | Tsivva achol mats-tsa yamim leshiv‘a Rishon vehash-shevi‘i laḳdish beshav‘a Ḥamets leval yochelu gam ken bemar’a Kol zē hachi romezim lihyot beyir’a Lishlol lezuhmat lev laḥzot ne‘imim **Nisgav, nisgav shemo niḳdash shochen beramim.** | צִ֒וָּה אֲכוֹל מַצָּה יָמִים לְשִׁבְעָה: רִאשׁוֹן וְהַשְּׁבִיעִי לַקְדִּישׁ בְּשַׁוְעָה: חָמֵץ לְבַל יֹאכְלוּ גַּם כֵּן בְּמַרְאָה: כָּל זֶה הֲכִי רוֹמְזִים לִהְיוֹת בְּיִרְאָה: לִשְׁלוֹל לְזֻהְמַת לֵב לַחְזוֹת נְעִימִים: **נִשְׂגָּב : נִשְׂגָּב שְׁמוֹ נִקְדָּשׁ שׁוֹכֵן בְּרָמִים:** | |
|  | | He commanded to eat unleavened bread for seven days, And to sanctify the first and seventh days with prayer, And not to eat leaven, or even to see it. The hint in all these is to be in fear [of God], To remove the heart’s pollution, to see lovely things. **Lofty! Lofty is [God’s] name, sanctified, dwelling on high!** | | |
| **10** | | Ḥoḳ zē me’od lishmor hizhir ledorot Zichron pedut ‘ammo tachlit lehorot Ḥiddesh le‘olamo gam ken yetsirot Raḡa‘ bechoḥo yam lishtē ḡezarot Par‘o umitsriyim tubbe‘u veyammim **Nisgav, nisgav shemo niḳdash shochen beramim.** | ח֒וֹק֒ זֶה מְאֹד לִשְׁמֹר הִזְהִיר לְדוֹרוֹת: זִכְרוֹן פְּדוּת עַמּוֹ תַּכְלִית לְהוֹרוֹת: חִדֵּשׁ לְעוֹלָמוֹ גַּם כֵּן יְצִירוֹת: רָגַע בְּכֹחוֹ יָם לִשְׁתֵּי גְזָרוֹת: פַּרְעֹה וּמִצְרִיִּם טֻבְּעוּ בְיַמִּים: **נִשְׂגָּב : נִשְׂגָּב שְׁמוֹ נִקְדָּשׁ שׁוֹכֵן בְּרָמִים:** | |
|  | | He exhorted to keep this rule very well, for all generations, Its purpose is to teach commemoration of his people’s redemption. He also created new things [miracles] in his universe: He roused up the sea, into two parts; Pharaoh and the Egyptians were drowned in the seas. **Lofty! Lofty is [God’s] name, sanctified, dwelling on high!** | | |
| **11** | | Ḥosim leshem ḳodsho tis’u vezimra Yar’ē ḡevurato el ‘am tserura Bitsror vetsuḳ galut hatter leḳoshra Az yiftseḥu rinna ka‘et bemora Zeved hachi yazbid laḳtir besammim **Nisgav, nisgav shemo niḳdash shochen beramim.** | חֹ֒סִים לְשֵׁם קָדְשׁוֹ תִּשְׂאוּ בְזִמְרָה: יַרְאֶה גְבוּרָתוֹ אֶל עָם צְרוּרָה: בִּצְרוֹר וְצוּק גָּלוּת הַתֵּר לְקָשְׁרָה: אָז יִפְצְחוּ רִנָּה כָּעֵת בְּמוֹרָא: זֶ֒בֶד הֲכִי יַזְבִּיד לַקְטִיר בְּסַמִּים: **נִשְׂגָּב : נִשְׂגָּב שְׁמוֹ נִקְדָּשׁ שׁוֹכֵן בְּרָמִים:** | |
|  | | O you that put your hope in his holy name, sing! May he show his might to the people that is bound up In the bind and distress of the exile – may he unloose this knot, And then they will burst forth in reverential song, at that moment. He will give them a great gift [the Temple], to burn incense. **Lofty! Lofty is [God’s] name, sanctified, dwelling on high!** | | |
| **12** | | Ḳonē leshamayim yissa lenissim Ye’sof leniddaḥim yizkor ‘amusim Kimē asher yatse’u mits-tsuk ḥanesim Yar’ē lenifla’ot yattir tefusim Yaḥush ge’ullato kidvar temimim **Nisgav, nisgav shemo niḳdash shochen beramim.** | קֹ֒נֵה לְשָׁמַיִם יִשָּׂא לְנִסִּים: יֶאְסוֹף לְנִדָּחִים יִזְכּוֹר עֲמוּסִים: כִּימֵי אֲשֶׁר יָצְאוּ מִצּוּק חֲנֵסִים: יַרְאֶה לְנִפְלָאוֹת יַתִּיר תְּפוּסִים: יָחִישׁ גְּאֻלָּתוֹ כִּדְבַר תְּמִימִים: **נִשְׂגָּב : נִשְׂגָּב שְׁמוֹ נִקְדָּשׁ שׁוֹכֵן בְּרָמִים:** | |
|  | | May the one that owns heaven raise a flag, May he gather the scattered [Jewish people], and remember the people he has born, Just as in the days when they left the distress of Ḥanes [Egypt], May he show miracles, and release the captives. May he hasten his redemption, as in the words of the blameless [prophets]. **Lofty! Lofty is [God’s] name, sanctified, dwelling on high!** | | |
| **13** | | Va’ani ḥadal ishim ashir beshira Lishmo asher nava toda vezimra Mahalal vehaggedulla lo haggevura Lifḳod tseva marom la‘asot gezera Tsaddiḳ bechol ma‘asav moshel vetamim **Nisgav, nisgav shemo niḳdash shochen beramim.** | וַ֒אֲ֒נִי חֲדַל אִישִׁים אָשִׁיר בְּשִׁירָה לִשְׁמוֹ אֲשֶׁר נָאוָה תּוֹדָה וְזִמְרָה מַ֒הֲלָל וְהַגְּדֻלָּה לוֹ הַגְּבוּרָה לִפְקוֹד צְבָא מָרוֹם לַעֲשׂוֹת גְּזֵרָה צַ֒דִּיק בְּכָל מַעֲשָׂיו מֹשֵׁל וְתָמִים: **נִשְׂגָּב : נִשְׂגָּב שְׁמוֹ נִקְדָּשׁ שׁוֹכֵן בְּרָמִים:** | |
|  | And I, forsaken of men, shall sing songs To his name, to which thanksgiving and song are befitting. Praise and greatness and might are his. He imposes upon the host of heaven to perform his decree, He is righteous in all his actions, a ruler, and blameless. **Lofty! Lofty is [God’s] name, sanctified, dwelling on high!** | | | |
| **14** | | Amen yehi ratson yomar letsarot Dai na vela‘avonot ‘onē ‘atirot Yislaḥ leḥet ‘ammo seva‘ merorot Kimē asher ‘unna yismaḥ hadarot Az ya‘alu ‘olot parim temimim  **Nisgav, nisgav shemo niḳdash shochen beramim.** | אָ֒מֵ֒ן֒ יְהִי רָצוֹן יֹאמַר לְצָרוֹת: דַּי נָא וְלַעֲוֹנוֹת עוֹנֶה עֲתִירוֹת: יִסְלַח לְחֵטְא עַמּוֹ שְׂבַע מְרוֹרוֹת כִּימֵי אֲשֶׁר עֻנָּה יִשְׂמַח הֲדָרוֹת אָז יַעֲלוּ עֹלוֹת פָּרִים תְּמִימִים **נִשְׂגָּב : נִשְׂגָּב שְׁמוֹ נִקְדָּשׁ שׁוֹכֵן בְּרָמִים:** | |
| Amen, may it be his will that he say to the troubles “That’s enough!”; and regarding [our] inquities, may the answerer of prayers Forgive his people’s sin; they have drunk so much bitterness. As many days as they have been oppressed, may they rejoice beautifully, And then may they offer unblemished bullocks. **Lofty! Lofty is [God’s] name, sanctified, dwelling on high!** | | | | |
|  | | Kakkatuv: Az taḥpots zivḥē tsedeḳ ‘ola vechalil, az ya‘alu ‘al mizbaḥacha farim. | כַּכָּתוּב: אָ֤ז תַּחְפֹּ֣ץ זִבְחֵי־צֶ֭דֶ֖ק עוֹלָ֣ה וְכָלִ֑יל אָ֤ז יַֽעֲל֖וּ עַל־מִזְבַּֽחֲךָ֣ פָרִֽים׃ (תהילים נא, כב) | |
| As it is written: Then you will delight in the sacrifices of righteousness, in burnt-offering and whole offering; then will they offer bullocks upon your altar. (Psalms 51:22) | | | | |