

בליל זה יבכיון

On This Night¹

translation in rhymed verse

On This Night

My children cry, they wail on this night,
My holy Temple was destroyed on this night,
My palaces were set alight,
all households of Israel voice My sorrowful plight,
they bewail the fire that God did ignite.

My children cry, they wail on this night.

On this night, the derelict woman's sobs are bitter,
expelled for life from the house of her father,
she is out of his house, the door locked behind her,
taken into captivity for every mouth to devour
from the day she was expelled by raging, hungry fire,
the smoldering coal that came from God.

My children cry, they wail on this night.

On this night, the sphere toward guilt rotated,
my first and also second Temples were devastated,
and yet the wayward daughter is not reinstated,
given bitter water, her stomach was inflated,
banished from His house, her goodness terminated,
loved in the past, she has become even more hated,
like living widowhood, like a woman dislocated,
Zion declared, "God has forsaken me."

¹ From the Kinot of Tisha b'Av night.

My children cry, they wail on this night.

On this night, I sat in gloom with lights diminished,
my Temple destroyed, the watches finished,
on this night, I was engulfed in calamity and vanquished,
and five evil decrees were justly established,
their baseless tears for generations unfinished,
because this was ordained by God.

My children cry, they wail on this night.

This night to five episodes bears witness,
our fathers were banished to stay in the wilderness,
then it became a time of tragedy and evilness,
a day predisposed to suffering and sadness,
He invited the foe and spoke with great loudness,
“Arise, for this is the day of which God spoke.”

My children cry, they wail on this night.