

The Deep Pirkei Avot Project

Dedicated
to those who have tragically been murdered,
for the safe return of those missing or held hostage,
for the refuah of those injured,
the continued strength and bravery of our chayalim in the IDF
and safety of all those in our homeland of Israel.

הוא היה אומר, הכל נתון בערבון, ומצוודה פרוסה על כל החיים. החנות פותחה, והחנוני מקייף, והפנקס פתוח, והיד כותבת, וכל הרוצה ללוות יבוא וילוח, והגבאים מחזירים תDIR בכל יום, ונפרעין מן האדם מדעתו ושלא מדעתו, ויש להם על מה שיש מכוכו, והדין דין אמרת, והכל מתקן לשעודה:

He would say: Everything is given as collateral, and a net is cast over all of life. The shop is open, and the shopkeeper grants credit, and the accounting ledger is open, and the hand writes, and everyone who wants to borrow can come and borrow, and the collectors go constantly on their daily rounds and exact payment from man - with his knowledge or without his knowledge - and they have that upon which to rely, and the judgement is true judgement, and everything is prepared for the feast.

Rabbi Akiva's teaching in this Mishna stresses the idea that everything in life is given as collateral, highlighting divine oversight and accountability for our actions. It challenges us to navigate the temptations of evil, exercise moral choice, and fulfil our unique purposes in the world.

Human nature is to look at the world and at life and think that one is a good person who deserves all that they have – good friends and family, abilities, looks, finances etc.

Rabbi Akiva is teaching us that we are not entitled to anything and that whatever we have, is given on collateral so that we can accomplish our purpose for being sent down to this world. It also gives us peace of mind that one has all the tools needed to accomplish their unique mission.

It's important to remember that generosity only extends so far, however. Hashem writes down and remembers everything, even that which we do not. He has patience and forbearance, but ultimately, judgement will surely come.

We certainly could not handle Hashem as Big Brother constantly looking over our shoulders. That is how He lived with us during our sojourn in the desert. When one sinned they were punished instantly. The Mana would fall far away instead of their doorstep if they sinned just once. The spies died the day they gave a bad report as did Korach when he started up with Moshe.

Today, we no longer have that direct nature of interaction between G-d and man. Man is given a free hand; G-d's "collection agents" come along only much later to demand long-overdue debts.

To preserve free will, God must make the allure of evil enticing, creating the illusion that one can escape its consequences. Thus, each time we're tempted to transgress, refraining from sin might seem inconsequential. True growth lies not in mere avoidance of wrongdoing but in the exercise of willpower, the pursuit of virtuous acts, and the conscious choice of good over evil. Acts motivated solely by fear of punishment lack holiness; they are merely acts of self-preservation. God's intention in creating the world was not to mould us into obedient creatures, not to train animals. Rather, it was to enable man, through following his conscience and Divine directives, to come to recognize G-d and willingly accept His sovereignty.

Discussion Questions:

How can we apply Rabbi Akiva's teaching about recognizing our purpose in life to our daily actions and decisions? Why did Hashem make the world in such a way that He is so hidden and it seems like there is no logical reward or punishment?

Reflecting on the concept of Divine judgement, how do we balance the idea of accountability with the belief in God's mercy and forgiveness?

Idea by Rabbi Moshe Levy

לעלוי נשמה:

לאה בת רפאל הכהן וציפורה
מายה אסתר בת הרב אריה מרדכי ולאה
רינה מרום בת הרב אריה מרדכי ולאה



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Protection of Soldiers in the IDF

Refoel zvi Ben Doba Rochel
Gidon Eliyahu Ben Naomi
Aron Baruch Mordechai Ben Rivka Yehudis
Yoav Yisroel Ben Sarah
Eladah Yedidya Ben Batya
Shmuel Yaakov Ben Nechama
Yakov Mordechai Ben Tehilla Sara
Shmuel Ahron Ben Roiza
Binyamin Zvi Ben Mira Rochel
Avraham Aaron Ben Sarah Faiga
Eytan Shlomo Ben Sharon Ruth
Yisroel Zev Ben Chaninit
Daniel Shlomo Ben Chananit
Shmuel Reuven Menachem Mendel Ben Chaya
Leiba

Aharon Chaim Ben Chava Shoshana
Yisroel Meir Ben Chava Shoshana
Shlomo Zalman Ben Aliza Dina
Uriel Yehudah Ben Tzvia
Mendel Ben Nechama Dina
Avichai Shilo Ben Shulamit

Yonah Pinchos Gedaliah Ben Sarah Chana
Yehoshua Lein Ben Bialla Chana
Eitan Dov Ben Esther Rachel
Noam Yitzchak Ben Reut
Yoel Binyamin Ben Eta Ilana
Yitzchak Isaac Ben Gila

Michel Mordechai Ben Elischeva Leah
Reuven Ben Gila

Eliana Rachel Bat Nechama
Dov Bear Kallah Rut
Saul Ben Esther
Alexander Ben Esther

Eliezer Shmuel Ben Chana Sara
Avriel Asher Ben Chana

Binyamin Zevulon Ben Nechama Rivkah
Elisha Immanuel Ben Chava
Yishai Eliyahu Ben Vered

Yehudah Menachem Abee Ben Vered

Uziel Tsvi Ben Shoshana Chava

Aliella Zehava Anya Bas Esther Sara

Yossef Yitzchak Ben Rachel

Avraham Yoseph Ben Elischevah

Yoav Yosef Avraham Ben Yaffa

Sasson Shimon Begina Natalie

Gavriel ben Yehudit Rivka

Noach Yitzchak Shimon Ben Yakev

Menechem mendel Ben Sharon Shulamis

Rafael Ephraim Yaakov Nachman Ben Sarah

Esther

Yosef HaYim Ben Kayla

Yitzchak Yisrael Ben Rochel

menechem mendel Ben Sharon Shulamis

Gittel bluma bat Sharon Shulamis

Tzvi Dovid Ben Tamar malaya

בוניה בון בון דוד הכהן

Yossef Yitzchok Ben Elisheva Rivka

Yehuda Baruch Ben Rachel Tzvi Yechiel Ben

Bloma Vital

Raphael Zohar Bas Shoshan

אוריול עוקב סניט פיט

אפרים אבב אבויורה

אתגרר בן אפרהה

רונן בן חנן חיה

צור מושה בון ליאורה ברורה

גוט דוד בון בון מהנה

אמיטי מושה בון ניר דפנעה בלומה

שי כהן בון בון דפנעה בלומה

אלילן כהן בון ליאורה

בוניה בון אלילן

גלעד חון בן אלילן

מירם צביה בון אלילן

תמי כהן בון אלילן

טלי כהן בון אלילן

Missing or Held Hostage:

Itai ben Michal Zipporah
 Rivka Levy
 סביוון חן בת רבקה
 רינת זגדון
 אביה בת יפעת
 Sharona shmunis harel
 Itai zamir
 Ben Menashe Ben Dikla
 יובל בויום
 עניר אליקים בן שירה
 אליסף בן פורת, גבריאל בראל
 Gal Navon (Gal Ben Naama)
 עודד בן בלחה, יוכבד בת לאה
 אביגתנן בן דיצה תרצה
 דניאל שמעון בן שרון
 Ben Shimoni
 הירש בן שרה
 אביגתנן בן דיצה תרצה
 מיכאל בן רחל
 עלי עוזר בן אפרת
 עידן אלכסנדר בן יעל
 נריה בן שרון
 מורה בת סנדרה
 יהונתן בן לימור
 דבריך חיים בן רות
 הדר בת גליה
 אלהו בן בת שבע
 בועז מנשה בן עטרה
 אלקנה בוחבוט בן רוחמה
 שגיא בן נעמיה
 דור בן דורית
 תומר שבג
 אברהם בן רפאל
 אוריה בן סיגלית
 אוריאל ביבי בן יעל ג'וליה
 אושר בן רחל
 איתמר בן מיכל
 רינת הودיה בת מיכולה
 הירש גולדברג פולין
 Adi Margalit bat Elka Chana
 עומר מקסים בן אורונה אסתר ורונן
 doreen attias bat tali
 אופיר אנגל
 נעמה בת איילת
 איתי בן חגית
 תמייר בן חרوت
 שגיא בן נעמיה
 Matan ben Anat

Ada bat Esther
 Adi bat Shoshan
 Adina bat Eida
 Agam Ben Chen
 Alma bat Yonat
 Amelia bat Daniella
 Avigail bat Smadar
 Aviva bat Golit
 Chana bat Jesse
 Chana bat Rivka
 Chen bat Giora
 Clara bat Tanya
 Dafna bat Maayan
 Danielle bat Rivka
 Ditza bat Leah Heiman
 Doron Bat Efrat
 Eitan ben Batsheva
 Ella bat Maayan
 Elma bat Leah
 Emma bat Sharon
 Emily bat Narkis
 Erez Ben Hadas
 Gal Ben Chen
 Gavriela bat Tanya
 Hagar Brodetz
 Hila bat Raaya
 Karina bat Eera
 Keren bat Rut
 Margalit bat Lita
 Maya bat Gavriella
 Maya bat Mirit Regev
 Meirav bat Rachel
 Mika bat Karina
 Naveh ben Adi
 Noam bat Sharone
 Noam ben Yonat
 Noga bat Shiri
 Ofelia bat Rosinta
 Ofry bat Hagar
 Ohad Ben Keren
 Or ben Renana
 Oria ben Hagar
 Rimon bat Avital
 Roni ben Marina
 Ruth bat Chedva
 Sahar bat Hadas
 Sharon bat Rivka
 Sharon bat Ruti
 Shiri bat Tamar
 Shoshan bat Rina
 Tal Ben Chen
 Tamar Metzger
 Yaffa bat Tova
 Yagil ben Renana
 Yahel Neri bat Adi
 Yuli bat Sharon
 Yuval ben Karina
 Yuval Ben Hagar

L'ilui Nishmat:

אריאל בן אחיה ועדיות אליהו ה"ד
 רועי וייזר
 רועי חיים בן נעמי ישראל
 תומר בן מיכל
 Yishai ben Yitzchak
 Abraham Ben Yaffa
 חנן (חנןיה) בן يولנדה
 יונתן צור בן רבקה
 Nathaniel Abraham Shalom ben Nahoum Maimon
 שי בן ענבל
 רועי חיים בן ישראל מאיר ונעמי
 אור מלכה
 Ro'ee Ben yaron
 אריה בן דברורה
 Sgt. Roey Chaim Ben Yisrael Meir
 מתן בן מיריה ואלה
 רועי חיים בן נעמי ימי¹
 אריאל בן אחיה ועדיות
 יוסף מרדכי בן דינה
 אלחנן קלמןזון
 אריאל בן עדיות ואחיה
 דבריך חיים בן ישראל עמייחי
 יוסף מלאכי בן דינה ודוד
 דבריך חיים בן ישראל עמייחי
 יהונתן אהרון שטיינברג
 Paul Kessler
 Sharona shumnit harel
 אלחנן אריאל בן יהודה ה"ד
 Elisheva Rose Ida Lubin
 לורן בת כוה
 אוריה בן ריטה
 Daniel Shimon ben Doron

Refuah:

יונתן צבי בן שרון
 מיחי שמעון בן ביתיה
 איתי בן לייז
 מיכאל בן אסתר
 יair בן דרורה
 נתנאל בן חייה אסתר
 עמייחי שמעון בן ביתיה
 _air ionah בן דרורה ציפורה מלכה
 Kinneret D
 Hadar bat Galiya
 עניר שפירא
 Natalie
 בת יהודה and יהודה בת תמר
 נועה בת עדי מרצייאנו
 נבו בן מירב
 דבריך בן אורית
 יונה בצלאל בן כוה שושנה
 Shlomo Yair Chaim Ben Gittle Sara
 רז בן דליה
 Yonatan tzvi Ben Sharon
 Nadav Ephraim Ben Shulamit Leah
 _air בן דרורה

These lists are not comprehensive and only include names sent by people connected to this project. We pray for the welfare of those released from captivity (who may be in the hostage list).

May our learning be in the zechut of ALL those in need in Israel.