



The
Simchat Torah
PROJECT

A PROJECT OF  MIZRACHI  ORTHODOX
UNION

Dancing Through Tears

October 7th was Simchat Torah in Israel. Over 1,200 people were murdered and hundreds more were taken hostage. The Jewish people suffered our most horrific day since the Holocaust. Since that dreadful day, approximately 400 more have lost their lives on the battlefield and in captivity.

Next October will be
the first Simchat Torah
since the horrific events
of October 7th.

Simchat Torah is a day of joy, festivity, and *hakafot* – we dance and celebrate. But Simchat Torah 5785 will also mark the first *yahrzeit* of the victims of October 7th. How do we, the Jewish people, respond? Will we dance? *Should* we dance? How do we commemorate this poignant and difficult anniversary?

King Solomon offers us guidance in Kohelet, which we will read on Sukkot: “There is a time for everything under the Heavens... a time to mourn and a time to dance.” This Simchat Torah, with tears in our eyes, we *will* dance.

Join the Simchat Torah Project as 1,600 communities around the world join to dance with Sifrei Torah bearing the name of one of the victims.

1,600 communities corresponding to the more than 1,600 souls who we have lost, including the many soldiers and hostages who have since died al kiddush Hashem.

On Simchat Torah night when we take out the Torah scrolls, **one or more Sifrei Torah will be adorned with a new *me'il* (Torah cover), designed to mark the first *yahrzeit* of October 7th.** All the *me'ilim* will be identical to those in 1,600 synagogues across the world.

Communities from Argentina to Australia will dance with these Torah scrolls connecting tens of thousands through this project.








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The Plan

-  Your community registers on the website to join the project.
-  The team will contact you to confirm details about the *me'il*, and how many *me'ilim* you require, the events in Israel and help with fundraising if needed. The basic cost is just \$1,800, which covers one Torah cover as well as an invitation for two people to come to Israel for the two-day conference and launch (excluding flights and accommodation).
-  Each unique *me'il* will be made for your community, bearing the name of one of the *kedoshim* who were murdered on October 7th.
-  The two-day launch in Israel will be from Monday morning September 2nd until Tuesday evening September 3rd where you will be receiving your *me'il* from the bereaved family. There will be a powerful ceremony, broadcast worldwide, from the Kotel where the 1,600 *me'ilim* as well as several newly written Sifrei Torah will be on display.
-  Your community will also receive materials about the person you are remembering for display on Simchat Torah.

More details about the project, including FAQ and registration form, can be found at:

www.TheSimchatTorahProject.org