

אדון הכל - Adon Ha-Kol

R. Shalom Shabazi

About the Piyut

This Piyut is central to the Yemenite tradition and is mostly sung on Shabbat and at joyous occasions. It was written by Rabbi Shalom Shabazi one of the great Yemenite poets of the 17th century. The poet's name (El Shabazi) is found in the Piyut in the form of an acrostic. This Piyut is sung as an opening song. It tells of the spirit of Israel, the divine presence, and the Holy One. The poem closes with a wish for the redemption of Zion in the coming days.

Hebrew Text

Adon ha-kol m'chayeh kol n'shama

y'tzav chasdo l'vat nadiv chachama

L'vusha me-anan to'ar y'karo

u'mashpa'at alai chol ha-adama

Sh'on galey g'vul yamim t'orer

v'-im doda b'-tzilo ne'elma

B'-chen ba'la sh'vateinu t'nahel

u'-ma'alata m'huderet v'rama

Z'mirot miknaf eretz sh'manum

tz'vi tzadik b'mizracha v'yama

Y'sharim holchim tamid b'-yosher

n'kiyim hem b'li avon v'ashma

Sh'muatam l'tov kulam b'rurim

v'-lahem nicks'fa nafshi b'teima

Tzari gil'ad sh'lach lanu y'didi

b'tziyon nism'cha ge'ever v'alma

אָדון הַכּל מְחַיֶּה כָּל נִשְׁמָה

יִצְוֹ חֲסִדּוֹ לְבֵת נָדִיב חָכָמָה

לְבוּשָׁה מֵעָנָן תֵּאָר יִקְרוּ

וּמִשְׁפַּעַת עָלַי כָּל הָאָדָמָה

שָׂאוֹן גָּלִי גְבוּל יָמִים תִּעֹרֶר

וְעַם דִּוְדָה בְּצִלוֹ נִעְלָמָה

בְּחוֹ בַעֲלָה שְׁבִטֵינוּ תִּנְהַל

וּמַעֲלָתָהּ מִהֲדָרֶת וְרָמָה

זְמִירוֹת מִכְנָף אֶרֶץ שְׁמַעֲנוֹם

צָבִי צָדִיק בְּמִזְרָחָהּ וְיָמָה

יִשְׁרִים הוֹלְכִים תָּמִיד בְּיֶשֶׁר

נִקְיִים הֵם בְּלִי עֹון וְאַשְׁמָה

שְׁמוּעָתָם לְטוֹב כָּלֵם בְּרוּרִים

וְלָהֶם נִכְסְפָה נַפְשִׁי בְּתִימָה

צָרִי גִלְעָד שְׁלַח לָנוּ יְדִידִי

בְּצִיּוֹן נִשְׁמָחָה גְּבוּר וְעִלְמָה

English Translation

Enlivening the soul, Master of Everything	Shall command His compassion, Wisdom to the nobleman's wise daughter
Shrouded in cloud, appearance as glory	Tilting the branches of the entire earth
You shall arouse raging waves at the sea's bound	Disappearing in His shade with Her Beloved
With Her Mate charm, shall He lead our tribe	Her virtue is glorious and exalted
From the ends of the earth, all of you shall hear songs	From the east and inland sea, Righteous Gazelle
Always upright, following the just path	Innocent are they, without sin or guilt
Their teachings clearly for the good of all	So astonished does my soul yearn for them
Send us our Beloved, O Balm of Gilead	Maiden and Mate shall be rejoiced in Zion

Recording by the Shlomo D'chayani