



Aviv Shiran

אביב שירן

October 3, 2006

יא תשרי תשס"ז

*May you grow in your own sweet way
And blossom more every day
And follow the music in your soul
May there be time for you to grow*

-Tom Chapin



Simchat HaBen (Joyful celebration of a new son)

Every person born into this world represents something new, something that never existed before, something original and unique. It is the duty of every person in Israel to know and consider that he is unique in the world in his particular character, and that there has never been someone like him before. For if there had been someone like him before, there would be no need for him to be in the world. Every single person is a new thing in the world and is called upon to fulfill his particularity in the world. -Adapted from Martin Buber

We are here today to celebrate the arrival of Aviv Shiran into our community and world.

Please join us in singing:

Hinay mah tov umah naim
Shevet achim gam yachad

הֵנָּה מָה טוֹב וְמָה נְעִים
שֵׁבֶת אַחִים בַּסּ יַחַד.

How good and how pleasant it is when family (and friends) come and sit together.

As Aviv is brought into the room, carried and accompanied by his family all assembled say:

בָּרוּךְ הַבָּא.

May he who enters be blessed

Ba-ruch ha-ba.

We have been truly blessed to have reached this day to share our joy of the birth of our beautiful son. Please join us in reciting:

We welcome you to life with love. We rejoice in bringing this child into the brit, the covenant, between God and the Jewish people.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,
שֶׁהַחַיִּינוּ וְקִיַּמְנוּ וְהִגִּיעָנוּ לְזֶמַן הַזֶּה.

*Ba-ruch a-ta Adonai, Eh-lo-hei-nu meh-lech ha-o-lam,
sheh-heh-cheh-ya-nu v'ki-y'ma-nu v'hi-gi-a-nu la-z'man ha-zeh.*

Let us bless the Source of All, Who has
breathed life into us, sustained us,
and brought us to this precious moment.

Parents: *We are grateful for this new being
Who is small in body yet great in Soul
Who has come into our midst as a gift
May we be sensitive to the Sacred
As we nurture and learn from this child
Give us patience
Give us strength
And grant us the wisdom and love to help this child
Learn to sing his own song.*

Aviv is wrapped in the tallit of his grandfather:

We encircle you in this tallit as you enter the circle of our family. As we wrap you in this tallit, so may your life be wrapped in love, kindness, righteousness and compassion. As we embrace you today, so may you embrace your tradition, your people and all beings of the earth.

*May you be blessed with a spirit of gentleness,
a heart that is tender
Shining within you
May you be blessed with a spirit of compassion,
a fervent caring
May you be blessed with a spirit of courage,
Daring to be who you are
May you be blessed with a spirit of openness,
Understanding and respect
May the earth hold up
May the wind lift you ever up
May the fire draw and warm you
May the water quench and soothe your soul.
-Deborah Cooper*

Aviv's grandparents say:

Our God and God of all generations, we are grateful for new beginnings, for the bond of new life that links one generation to another. Thankful for the blessings of family, for the love and care that brings meaning and happiness to our lives, we rejoice with our children at the birth of their child, our grandchild.

May they grow together as a family in health and in strength, in harmony, wisdom and love; their home filled with words of Torah and acts of kindness and compassion.

As your eyes are filled with wonder when you gaze at the world, so, too may you be filled with wonder at the everyday miracles of life.

As you startle to the world around you, so may you remain even open to both the happiness and to the pain of those you encounter in the world.

As you cry for food and comfort now, so may you one day cry out to correct the injustices of the world, to help clothe the naked and feed the hungry.

As your hand tightly grasps your mother's finger, so may you grasp hold of learning and grow in knowledge and wisdom.

אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ וְאֲמוֹתֵינוּ, קַיִם אֶת הַיְלֵד הַזֶּה לְאָבִיו
וְלְאִמּוֹ, וַיִּקְרָא שְׁמוֹ בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל אָבִיב בֶּן נָתָן וְדֵבוֹרָה. וְשִׂמַּח
הָאָב בְּיוֹצֵא חֶלְצוֹ, וְתָגַל אִמּוֹ בְּפָרִי בְטָנָהּ. זֶה הַקָּטָן גְּדוֹל יְהִיָּה.
בְּשֵׁם שְׂנַכְנַס לְבָרִית, בֶּן יַכְנָס לְתוֹרָה, וְלַחֲפָה, וּלְמַעֲשִׂים טוֹבִים.

*Our God, God of our mothers and fathers, sustain this child through his parents loving care. In the presence of loved ones, we give this child the name **Aviv Shiran** to be known in the Jewish Community as **Aviv Shiran ben Natan Yaakov v' Devorah Tovah**, May his name be a source of joy.*

יְבָרְכֶה יי וַיִּשְׁמְרֶה,
יָאֵר יי פָּנָיו אֵלֶיךָ וַיִּחַנֶּךָ,
יִשָּׂא יי פָּנָיו אֵלֶיךָ וַיִּשֶׂם לְךָ שְׁלוֹם.

*Y'va-reh-ch'chah Adonai v'yish-m'reh-cha,
Ya-eir Adonai pa-nav ei-leh-kha vi-chu-neh-ka,
Yi-sah Adonai pa-nav ei-leh-kha v'ya-seim l'chah sha-lom.*

May God bless you and guard you.
May the light of God's Presence
shine on you and be gracious to you.
May the Presence of God lift you up
and give you a life of fulfillment,
contentment, wholeness and peace.²⁵

A few words about the origins of Aviv's name and the people he is named after.

Poems by family and friends