<u>Prayer of Mothers for Peace and Life</u> Rabbi Tamar Elad-Appelbaum and Sheikhta Ibtisam Mahameed translated by R. Amichai Lau-Lavie

God of Life, Who heals the broken-hearted and binds up their wounds, May it be your will to hear the prayer of mothers For you did not create us to kill each other Nor to live in fear, anger, or hatred in your world, But rather you have created us so we can grant permission to one another to sanctify

Your name of Life, your name of Peace in this world.

For these things I weep, my eye, my eye runs down with water: for our children crying at night,

For parents holding their children with despair and darkness in their hearts, For a gate that is closing, and who will open it before the day has ended?

And with my tears and prayers which I pray And with the tears of all women who deeply feel the pain of these difficult days, I raise my hands to you. Please, God, have mercy on us, Hear our voice that we shall not despair, That we shall see life in each other, That we shall have mercy for each other, That we shall have pity on each other, That we shall hope for each other,

And we shall write our lives in the book of Life. For your sake, God of Life, Let us choose Life.

For you are Peace, your world is Peace and all that is yours is Peace, And so shall be your will, and let us say: Amen.