



HADASSAH & ISRAEL
TOGETHER AT

75

Matzah of Celebration IN HONOR OF ISRAEL'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

This year, the first and second nights of Passover fall on April 5 and April 6, 2023. At a traditional seder, three pieces of matzah are used to represent the three groups of Jews — *Cohanim*, or high priests, *Levi'im*, or those who assist the *Cohanim*, and *Yisraelim*, all the others. This year, we ask that you add a fourth matzah to represent a “Matzah of Celebration” and read the paragraph included below. Hold up the fourth matzah as you read:

This is the matzah of celebration — *chagiga* — a celebration of **75 years** since the establishment of the modern State of Israel, a celebration that will become official later this month on Yom Ha'atzmaut. It is also the matzah of hope and peace — hoping that the Jewish nation will one day be able to live free from conflict, in total peace. This is the matzah that represents our hope for the Jewish homeland, where Jews can feel at home when they come to visit and where people from all over the world may choose to make their homes.

Since becoming a state, Israel has opened its doors to Jewish people from all over the world. Let Eretz Yisrael continue to work as a nation that welcomes new immigrants, aspires to support the fundamental human rights of all its inhabitants, strives to serve as a light unto other nations in keeping with the message of our prophets. Let her forever be a source of much pride, thanks to her many accomplishments. May she continue to make great strides in fields of endeavor in which she is already recognized, including medicine, technology and business and in many additional areas, as well.

Let our matzah of *chagiga* bring happiness, joy, pride and hope to all of us at this table and to all those celebrating the holiday of Pesach around the world. And let us say: Amen.

Upon completion of the reading, add the matzah to the other three that you've set aside.

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