



# Sound the Shofar, the Call to Freedom

**תקע בשופר גדול לחרותנו, ושא נס לקבץ גליותינו,  
וקבצנו יחד מארבע כנפות הארץ**

*Sound the great shofar for our freedom and draw  
our scattered ones from the ends of the earth.*

*Gilad Shalit, son of Noam and Aviva and brother of Yoel and Hadas was born in the northern coastal town of Naharia on August 28, 1986. In 2005, Gilad began his military service in the Armored Corps. On Sunday June 25, 2006, (a year after Israel withdrew from Gaza), Hamas terrorists crossed the border, attacking Shalit's unit, which was guarding the security fence and an army post, both in Israeli territory. Lt. Hanan Barak and Staff-Sgt. Pavel Slutzker were killed and four others were wounded. The terrorist group captured Gilad, who apparently was wounded during the abduction and taken into the Gaza Strip.*

*Since Gilad's abduction, there has been no information as to his whereabouts, his health, or the conditions of his captivity. Hamas has not allowed Gilad to be visited by the International Red Cross (IRC) or any other humanitarian organization, as required by international law.*

# Prayer for Gilad's Release from Captivity

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מי שבירך אבותינו, אברהם יצחק ויעקב, ואמותינו, שרה, רבקה, רחל ולאה הוא יברך וישמור וינצור את גלעד בן אביבה ונועם שליט.  
יפדהו משביו ויחזירו לשלום בקרוב, בעבור שכל בית ישראל מתפלל  
למענו.

הקב"ה ימלא רחמים עליו, ירבה כוחו ויבטל צערו, ישלח לו רפואת הנפש  
ורפואת הגוף ויחזירהו לחיק משפחתו במהרה ונאמר אמן.

May God who blessed our fathers, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel, and Leah, bless, watch over, and safeguard Gilad, son of Aviva and Noam Shalit. God shall redeem him from his captivity and return him safely, for the whole House of Israel prays on his behalf. May the Redeemer be filled with compassion for him, and give him vigor and annul his suffering. May God heal him in body and spirit, and speedily restore him to the embrace of his family, and let us say Amen.

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In this season when we sound the shofar to herald new beginnings for ourselves and all the people of Israel, may we also herald a new beginning of freedom for a son of Israel, Gilad Shalit



Jewish United Fund  
of Metropolitan Chicago

To send a letter to President Obama  
and view a video message from  
Gilad's father to Chicago visit:  
[www.juf.org/giladshalit](http://www.juf.org/giladshalit)

