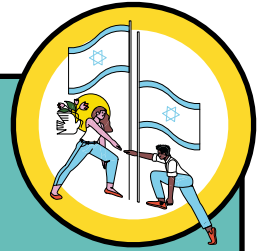


# A Gratitude Map of Israel



Since the massacre of October 7th, 2023 in southern Israel, the nation has been grieving, mourning and beginning to process and cope with the results of that day.

Many artists and poets have turned to their skills of creative expression, as a way to convey their emotions, bearing witness to the personal and communal reactions to the events.



Cartoonist Zeev Englemeir (who also uses the pen name “Shoshkeh” based on a character of his) published this map of Israel on October 29th. It is titled: “The Map of Pain”. In the map, Englemeir divided the country into regions, and each is given a title that connects the physical landscape with different emotions, such as: The Sea of Tears, Fear Mountain, River of Anxiety and the Valley of Concern.



The next day, the artist published an additional image. This one is titled: “The Map of Hope”. Similar to the first map, it too divides the regions of the country, but this time, the titles reflect all of the positive and hopeful actions and feelings the artists sees popping up throughout the country, as Israelis join together in outstanding acts of volunteerism, mutual support, and activism. Some of the titles here are: Solidarity, The Hill of Compassion, The Sea of Optimism, The Springs of Healing, as well as Hosting Families, Picking Tomatoes, Assisting Hostages, Babysitting for families with a parent in Reserves, Donating Blood and more.

## Consider:

- Even if you don't understand the Hebrew text, how do the different color schemes and imagery of the two maps convey their different messages?
- Both were created by the same artist and express the mixed feelings and actions of members of Israeli society in the first weeks after the massacre.
- Why do you think the artist chose to create two different maps and not one joint one?

When reading or listening to the testimonies of many of the survivors of the massacre, they express a wide range of emotions- fear, pain, grief, horror, anger, disappointment. But they also express a lot of gratitude and appreciation- for their loved ones, for strangers, for G-d, for the gift of life which now seems so precious. If despite all they've been through, they can still express gratitude, so can we.

While the people of Israel are experiencing and holding such a wide spectrum of emotions, we encourage you, in the spirit of Thanksgiving, to give pause and thought to what it is you have gratitude for- in the context of Israel and her people. Consider both personal and general elements of Israel, for which you are grateful.



## Map of Gratitude



November, 2023

After considering the elements of your gratitude, we invite you to design your own “Map of Gratitude”, inspired by Englemeir’s work, on the map template on the left.

Some examples could include: The Sea of Solidarity, The River of Fundraising for the IDF, The valley of Haven for all Jews, Mount Peoplehood, Volunteer Mission Forest, etc.