

*Rabbi Yehoshua Korman*

*Mitchele Britton*



*Benny Gurman*

*John Witzgen*

*Alan Krayzman*

*Franc Fatale*

*Masha Pizon*

*Benny Feltham*

*Sage Gurman*

*Elith Britton*

*Russell Morrison*

**A GATHERING OF  
UNITY AND REMEMBRANCE**

22 JANUARY 2026 • 4 SHEVAT 5786

**NATIONAL DAY OF MOURNING FOR BONDI VICTIMS**

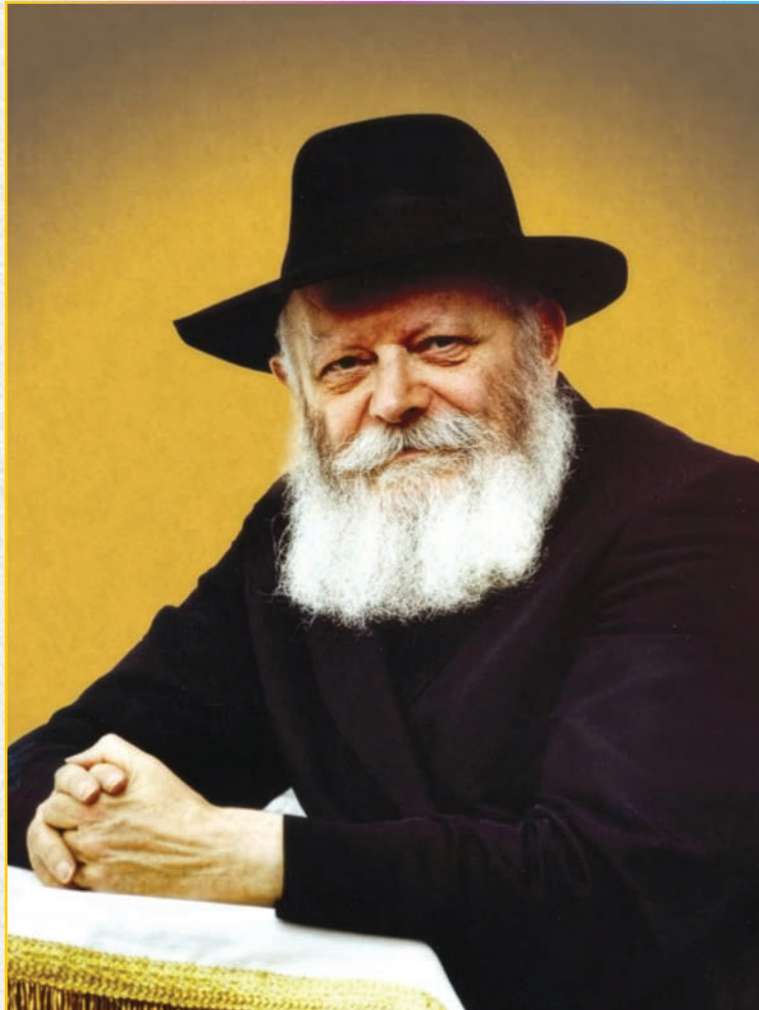
*Rabbi Eli Gellman*

*Peter Mungler*

**PROGRAM**

*Don Ellman*

*Alan Grayth*



**DEDICATED TO THE LUBAVITCHER REBBE  
WHOSE WISDOM, POSITIVITY AND  
INSPIRATION CONTINUE TO GUIDE THE  
CHABAD MOVEMENT WORLDWIDE**

# PROGRAM

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WELCOME

MINUTE SILENCE

INVOCATION PRAYER

VIDEO OF THE LUBAVITCHER REBBE

**HER EXCELLENCY MS SAM MOSTYN AC**  
GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

NATIONAL ANTHEM

**CANDLE LIGHTING FOR THE 15 VICTIMS**  
ACCOMPANIED BY SONG: 'CANDLES'

PRAYERS

TRIBUTE VIDEO 1

**THE HON. ANTHONY ALBANESE MP**  
PRIME MINISTER OF AUSTRALIA

SONG: 'HABEIT'

TRIBUTE VIDEO 2

**THE HON. CHRIS MINNS MP**  
PREMIER OF NEW SOUTH WALES

TRIBUTE VIDEO 3

SONG: 'LIGHT WILL WIN'

**THE HON. SUSSAN LEY MP**  
FEDERAL OPPOSITION LEADER

**RABBI YEHOAM ULMAN**  
SPIRITUAL LEADER OF CHABAD OF BONDI

LAUNCH OF 'LIGHT WILL WIN' CAMPAIGN  
BY **RABBI MENDY ULMAN**

**WRITING FIRST LETTERS OF SEFER TORAH**  
ACCOMPANIED BY SONG: 'ANI MA'AMIN'

MUSICAL FINALE

## **WELCOME MESSAGE: RABBI YEHORAM ULMAN**

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Our hearts are shattered. Over thirty days have passed since fifteen precious souls were taken at Bondi Beach. Among them were community members, friends, and my beloved son-in-law. Their absence leaves a void that cannot be filled.

Yet we refuse to surrender to despair.

"Light will Win" is not a slogan, but a mission. It is G-d's promise and His charge to us. Divine light requires human hands to draw it forth through tangible action.

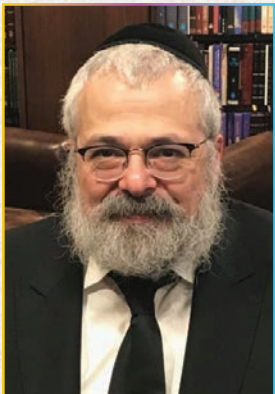
For the Jewish people, this means strengthening our commitment to Torah. For all humanity, observing the Seven Noahide laws is the moral foundation of civilisation. Every good deed declares that darkness will not have the final word.

We honour the memory of the murdered not only with tears, but with deeds. Their light must be magnified through us.

May the Almighty comfort the bereaved, heal the broken-hearted, and bring the day when hatred vanishes and Divine light fills creation, with the coming of Moshiach, speedily in our days.

### **Rabbi Yehoram Ulman**

**SPIRITUAL LEADER  
CHABAD OF BONDI**



**MESSAGE:**  
**CHABAD WORLD HQ**

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The hearts of every Jew, everywhere, go out to the families whose lives were irrevocably changed by the attack on the Chabad Chanukah event at Bondi Beach. Your loss is borne privately, yet carried collectively by the Jewish people.

In the days since, something has come into focus. World Jewry stands in awe of your community's response, your strength and your faith.

The Lubavitcher Rebbe taught that our task is not to wrestle with darkness, but to add light. That resolve has been lived in Bondi with rare courage, giving enduring expression to this teaching before the world.

Know that world Jewry stands with you, bound not only by shared grief, but by an unbroken sense of destiny, continuity, and hope for the future we are determined to build together.

Hamokom Yenachem Eschem Besoch Shear Avelei Tzion Viyerushalayim  
- May the Almighty comfort you, and may You know no more sorrow.  
With heartfelt prayers for the redemption, speedily in our days.

**Rabbi Mendy Kotlarsky**  
**CHABAD LUBAVITCH WORLD HEADQUARTERS**



## **MESSAGE: CHABAD NSW**

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King Solomon teaches in Ecclesiastes, “וְהַחַיִּים יִתְּנוּ אֶל-לִבּוֹ” — “And the living shall take it to heart.” In the face of the tragic death of our martyrs, these words urge us to recognise how fragile and precious our time in this world truly is. They call on us to appreciate every day that we are given life, and to use each moment with purpose.

As we honour those whose lives were stolen by murderous terror, we hold this teaching close. Our teacher, the Lubavitcher Rebbe, would invoke this verse after every calamity that struck our people. He encouraged us to transform pain into positive action — to add another mitzvah, another act of kindness, another measure of light in a world that desperately needs it.

Their sudden death becomes a call to appreciate life, to choose goodness, and to make every day count. By each of us living every day with this message, we can transform this world into a garden of holiness and goodness.

### **Rabbi Pinchus Feldman OAM** **HEAD OF CHABAD NSW**



## **MESSAGE: RABBINICAL ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALASIA**

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We extend our sincere gratitude to members of the Australian community who have demonstrated compassion, empathy, and solidarity with the Jewish community during this difficult time. Many individuals have approached members of our community in public spaces—on the streets and in shopping centres—to offer words of comfort and encouragement. Others have gone further, providing tangible assistance through financial contributions to victims and their families, as well as offering ongoing emotional and practical support.

Our sages ask how Joseph endured profound hardship—betrayal by his brothers, false accusation, imprisonment, and abandonment—without succumbing to despair. Despite his suffering, the Torah describes Joseph as consistently successful; it was precisely this sustained blessing that enabled him to recognise that his hardships were not random, but part of a larger purpose and destiny.

The Jewish community in Australia draws deep strength from the broader community's response, particularly through the Mitzvahs for Bondi campaign, now growing into the "Choose a Mitzvah: 15 for 15" initiative. This shared commitment to decency, moral responsibility, and ethical action has been deeply encouraging, reminding us that even from darkness, light and purpose can and does emerge.

### **Rabbi Nochum Schapiro** PRESIDENT OF THE RABBINICAL ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALASIA



**MESSAGE:**  
**RABBINICAL COUNCIL OF NSW**

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In the wake of the Bondi terror attack, our hearts are still heavy with grief, sorrow, and shock at the cruelty inflicted upon innocent lives. Judaism never asks us to deny the darkness we face, but it insists that we do not allow darkness to define us. From the very first moments of creation, our tradition teaches that light is brought forth deliberately, courageously, and with purpose.

Hatred and terror seek to fracture humanity and extinguish hope. Our response must be the opposite. At this moment, as we gather under the theme Light Will Prevail, we affirm a timeless Jewish truth: that acts of goodness, compassion, and moral clarity are the most powerful answers to violence and despair. Each mitzvah, each gesture of care, each refusal to surrender our humanity adds light to an imperfect world and helps to bring a bit of heaven down to earth.

May the memories of those lost be a blessing, and may we honour them by choosing light—again and again—until it overcomes the darkness.

**Rabbi Shua Solomon**  
PRESIDENT OF THE RABBINICAL COUNCIL OF NSW





## **MESSAGE: GOVERNOR-GENERAL**

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There is no place for hate or antisemitism in our country. As your Governor-General I sincerely express my condolences to the Jewish community. Tonight, at this important memorial, we stand together, mourn but also celebrate the 15 precious lives lost on 14 December 2025.

In commemorating those so cruelly lost we must all commit ourselves to honour the light of their lives. Our national project of unity has now commenced and needs all Australians working together.

I reaffirm my support for the Mitzvah initiative we continue to dedicate to Bondi – simple, everyday acts of care, kindness and respect.

As we begin the long journey of healing and recovery we must take inspiration from the deeds of courage, compassion, love and empathy that we have seen so clearly in the immediate response, and that we continue to see in the compassion from the wider community.

**Her Excellency Ms Sam Mostyn AC**  
GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA



## **MESSAGE: PRIME MINISTER OF AUSTRALIA**

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'Light will win'. That was the resonant message of hope and resilience Jewish Australians came together at Bondi Beach to affirm on the first night of Chanukah. It is the truth we repeat to each other tonight, as we gather in remembrance and unity.

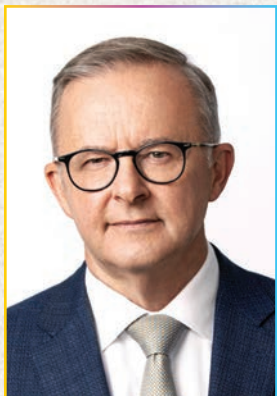
All Australians grieve for the fifteen innocent people whose lives and futures were so cruelly stolen on the 14th of December, 2025. We offer our nation's heartfelt condolences to all who loved them and everyone they loved.

Our thoughts are also with those injured and traumatised by everything they saw and suffered on that fateful night. And our eternal gratitude goes to all the heroes of Bondi, the people who acted with courage and kindness to save lives.

On this National Day of Mourning, we stand with the Jewish community in sorrow and solidarity. We honour the profound contribution Jewish Australians make to every facet of our national life.

We pledge to work together to eradicate the evil of antisemitism from our nation, wherever it hides and whatever form it assumes. And we rededicate ourselves to the work of healing and national unity. Because here in Australia, light will win.

### **The Hon. Anthony Albanese MP PRIME MINISTER OF AUSTRALIA**



**MESSAGE:**  
**FEDERAL LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION**

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Today we come together as a nation in grief and in remembrance.

We honour the fifteen lives taken in the Bondi terrorist attack, and we hold close the families, friends, survivors and first responders whose lives were forever changed by that night. Each life lost was precious, loved and leaves a silence that words cannot fill.

In moments of profound darkness, Australians also witnessed extraordinary courage, compassion and humanity. Strangers protected strangers. Ordinary people acted with selflessness and bravery. First responders ran toward danger, guided by duty and care for others. These acts do not lessen the pain, but they remind us of who we are.

Today is a day to mourn, to reflect, and to stand together. A day to listen to those who grieve. A day to affirm that no one walks this road alone.

We remember, we honour and we commit to carrying their memory with dignity, compassion and resolve.

**The Hon. Sussan Ley MP**  
**FEDERAL OPPOSITION LEADER**



## MESSAGE: PREMIER OF NEW SOUTH WALES

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"My soul was sated with misery and my strength was spent with grief."

These words are sung by the Jewish community each night of Chanukah, in the Ma'oz Tzur song. On this National Day of Mourning, we gather as a state and as a nation, to acknowledge that we are also spent with grief.

We grieve the lives that were stolen from us - the 15 beautiful souls killed during the Bondi terror attack. We grieve all those hurt, injured, and left bereft because of the violence that day. And we grieve our own inability to prevent this catastrophe.

In the weeks since the attack, we have confronted grief in its rawest form. Families, friends and colleagues have lost loved ones. The Jewish community of New South Wales, the direct target of this act of hatred, has borne the heaviest burden. Yet throughout this pain, the response of our community has been one of strength and solidarity. We have seen bravery that defied expectation - citizens running toward danger, first responders acting without hesitation, doctors and nurses rushing into hospitals the moment they heard the news.

We have witnessed acts of service and compassion that remind us of the best of Australia - candlelit vigils, arms linked on beaches, thousands of people giving blood, and countless quiet gestures of goodwill.

Today's theme, so beautifully chosen by the Chabad community of Sydney, reminds us that "light will win." Each of us is invited to play a part in this victory. That's why today is not only for reflection, but for resolve. We know that antisemitism exists in our country, and that words of hate can all too easily become acts of violence. We also know that "Jews cannot fight antisemitism alone," in the words of the late Chief Rabbi Sacks. We cannot let the Jewish people carry this burden by themselves. It is a shared responsibility.

So on this National Day of Mourning, we recommit to stamping out antisemitism and intolerance in all its forms. And we pledge to protect every member of our community from harm or violence.

On behalf of the NSW Government and the people of our State, I extend my deepest condolences to the family and friends of loved ones, who have been killed or injured. There is a long way to go, but we will be with you every step of the way.

**The Hon. Christopher John Minns, MP**

**PREMIER OF NEW SOUTH WALES**



## **MESSAGE: LEADER OF THE NSW OPPOSITION**

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On behalf of the NSW Opposition and the Vaucluse community, I extend my deepest condolences to the victims, their families and those who loved them.

Today, we come together as a nation to mourn the 15 innocent lives lost on December 14.

Each of them was cherished. Each of them is deeply missed.

They will be remembered not for the way they died, but for the lives they lived, for the love, joy and meaning they brought to their families and friends.

We stand with the Jewish community in grief and in solidarity.

In the midst of this tragedy, we also honour the courage and compassion shown by the people of Bondi - those who ran towards danger to help strangers. Their kindness and bravery remind us of the good that exists even in the darkest moments.

May the memories of those we honour today be a blessing, and a source of strength in the days ahead.

**Kellie Sloane MP**

**LEADER OF THE NEW SOUTH WALES OPPOSITION**



# MAY THEIR MEMORY



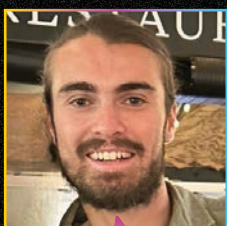
**Matilda Bee**  
BRITVAN



**Boris**  
GURMAN



**Sofia**  
GURMAN



**Dan**  
ELKAYAM



**Alexander**  
KLEYTMAN



**Boris**  
TETLEROYD



**Peter**  
MEAGHER



**Edith**  
BRUTMAN

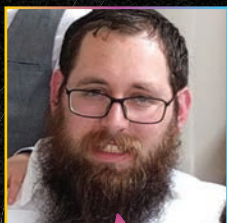


**Adam**  
SMYTH

# ORY BE A BLESSING



**Rabbi Eli**  
SCHLANGER



**Rabbi Yaakov**  
LEVITAN



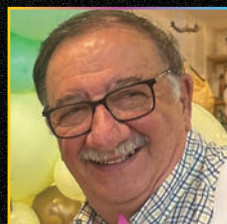
**Reuven**  
MORRISON



**Marika**  
POGANY



**Tania**  
TRETIK



**Tibor**  
WEITZEN

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TO SUPPORT THE VICTIMS  
AND THEIR FAMILIES, VISIT:  
**SUPPORTSYDNEY.ORG**

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# ONE MITZVAH FOR BONDI

A **LIGHT WILL WIN** INITIATIVE, IN COLLABORATION  
WITH THE NEW SOUTH WALES GOVERNMENT

Choose one Mitzvah (or more) from the list below as a practical step to bring light and hope and healing into the world, in honour of those whose lives were taken at Bondi.



## 1. DAILY GIVING

Set aside a small amount for charity each day. Give through a trusted organisation or a dedicated charity box at home, making generosity a consistent habit.

*In honour of Ruvien Morrison, a man of incredible generosity.*



## 2. COMPASSIONATE CONNECTION

Visit, call or message someone who is unwell alone or elderly to offer your genuine support and presence on a weekly basis.

*In honour of Marika Pogany, a tireless Meals on Wheels volunteer caring for the elderly and vulnerable.*



## 3. HONOUR YOUR PARENTS

Call a parent or elder relative to check in and perform one action to make their day easier.

*In honour of Rabbi Yaakov Levitan, a model of devotion and respect to his parents.*





#### 4. GRACIOUS HOSPITALITY

Open your home to others. Think of someone who would appreciate being welcomed into your home for a meal or simply to have a chat.

*In honour of Sofia Gurman, who expressed love so beautifully through hospitality.*



#### 5. MINDFUL DRIVING

Practise kindness on the road by letting others merge, being patient in traffic and offering rides to those in need.

*In honour of Boris Gurman, who put the interests of others ahead of his own.*



#### 6. PURPOSEFUL REFLECTION

Begin your day at work, school or sport with a meditative moment of silence to reflect on purpose and responsibility.

*In honour of Rabbi Eli Schlanger, who saw the potential in every soul he met.*

##### SUGGESTED MEDITATION:

Almighty G-d, help us see the goodness in every person and guide us to live with kindness, integrity, and joy as we fulfil the unique mission each of us is given. Bless us with clarity, courage, and wisdom so that our lives may be a blessing to others.



#### 7. FAMILY FIRST HOUR

Put your phone away for at least the first hour you are home. Give your undivided attention to the people you love and care about.

*In honour of Tibor Weitzen, who welcomed others with warmth and sweetness.*



#### 8. AN ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE

As you open your eyes in the morning, start your day with a simple sentence of thanks to G-d for the gift of life for everything that you have, and for the natural beauty in the world we live in.

*In honour of Dan Elkayam, who carried a deep sense of gratitude for life and for G-d's beautiful world, with a particular love for nature and for travelling to discover new places.*



## 9. PRAYER FOR HEALING

Recite a daily prayer asking for the complete material and spiritual recovery of those injured in the Bondi attack. You could pray this or a similar prayer.

*In honour of Alex Kleytman, who was killed while shielding his wife from gunfire.*

### SUGGESTED MEDITATION:

May Almighty G-d heal those who were injured at Bondi Beach on the first night of Chanukah. May He restore them to health, strengthen and revitalize them, and speedily send them a complete recovery from Heaven. A healing of body, mind and spirit.



## 10. HONEST WORK ETHIC

Work the full time you are paid for. If you take a personal call, stay late to make it up. Don't scroll on your phone while you are working.

*In honour of Peter "Marzo" Meagher, retired police officer, volunteer, and servant of the public.*



## 11. ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO GIVE

If you are an employer, give each employee a coin or bill at the end of the work week inviting them to donate it to a charity of their choice.

*In honour of Edith Brutman, an exemplary employer and a model of generosity.*



## 12. BOUNDARIES OF INTEGRITY

Protect trust and holiness in marriage by setting boundaries with people outside the relationship.

*In honour of Boris Tetleroyd, a devoted family man and gifted musician.*



## 13. KINDNESS FOR ITS OWN SAKE

Quietly perform an act of kindness to brighten someone else's day, without expectation of recognition or return.

*In honour of Adam Smyth, a true mensch—generous, kind, and always giving without expecting anything in return.*



## 14. VALUES AT BEDTIME

Read your children bedtime stories that teach positive moral lessons, encourage good behaviour, build character and inspire integrity.

*In honour of Tania Tretiak, a grandmother who loved her family.*



## 15. LEGACY OF LIFE

Choose to bring more children into the world in place of innocent lives lost to carry forward their light, or mentor and support children already in the world so that they can fulfil their potential.

*In honour of Matilda Bee Britvan (age 10), a radiant child who brought light and joy.*

# OTHER MITZVAH OPTIONS

Do not feel limited to the 15 good deeds listed above. Here are some other suggestions.

### KINDNESS TO ANIMALS

Care for your pets—feed them and tend to their needs—before sitting down to your own meal.

### BE FRIENDLY

Greet others with a smile and a kind word.

### FAVOURABLE JUDGEMENT

When someone irritates you, say one possible positive explanation for their behaviour—quietly to yourself.

### PAUSE BEFORE ANGER

If you feel anger rising, pause for 30 seconds before responding.

### GUARDING THE EYES

Today, intentionally scroll past or look away from an image that objectifies the human body.

### EAT WITH AWARENESS

Before eating, pause briefly and acknowledge that this food sustains life.

### LEARN ONE MORAL TEACHING

Before going to sleep, read or listen to one short verse, teaching, or thought about living better.

# MEDITATIONS

The following are additional meditations written by Rabbi Tzvi Freeman and suggested for this campaign by Rabbi Nochum Schapiro, President of the Rabbinical Association of Australasia

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## 1. THE PURPOSE OF CREATION

The mandate of all Creation is stated almost immediately: "Let there be light." More precisely, it means: "It should be light." That even the darkness itself should become a source of illumination and wisdom. And that sacred task was placed in our hands.

## 2. UNCOVERING HIDDEN LIGHT

All the world's problems stem from light being withheld. Our role is to restore it. Wherever light is found, we must remove its coverings, expose it to the world, and let it shine to the furthest reaches of darkness—beginning with the light you carry within yourself.

## 3. LIGHT IS GIVEN FOR THE DARK

G-d does not give light to be displayed in the middle of the day. Light is given in order to accomplish something—to enter places that are difficult, unfamiliar, or resistant. Take your light into the dark places and transform them until they, too, begin to shine.

## 4. NO PLACE IS OUTSIDE OF G-D

When you arrive at a place that seems outside G-d's domain—too coarse, too distant, too dark—and you feel the urge to flee, know this: there is no place devoid of Him. Not even here. Rejoice in the privilege of uncovering His presence in that place.

## 5. OUR MISSION IS LIGHT

Fighting evil can be necessary, and at times noble. But it is not our life's mission. Our mission is simpler—and far greater: to bring in more light.

## **6. THE PLACE WAITING FOR YOU**

For centuries—perhaps since the beginning of Creation—  
a specific part of the world has been waiting for your soul  
to refine it and restore it.

And your soul, from the moment it was first conceived,  
waited to descend into this world to fulfill that task.

Your steps were guided to that place.

And now, you are there.

## **7. DESPAIR IS A DENIAL OF REALITY**

Despair stands in direct opposition to everything we believe.

It is, in essence, a denial of reality—  
a denial that there is a G-d who directs His creation,  
who watches over every individual,  
and who assists each person in fulfilling their purpose.

## **8. CONFRONTING SADNESS AND DESPAIR**

Sadness is not a crime.

But it can pull a person into a deeper abyss  
than many crimes ever could.

Despair is a strategy of the self-destructive forces within us.

Once a person is depressed, anything becomes possible.

Treat despair as a sworn enemy.

Run from it as you would from danger itself.

## **9. ACTING YOUR WAY TO JOY**

You may ask, "How can I be joyful if I don't feel joy?"

While you cannot always control your emotions,  
you can control your thoughts, your words, and your actions.

Think good thoughts.

Speak positive words.

Act as a joyful person acts—even if the feeling has not yet arrived.

In time, the inner joy of the soul will break through.

## **10. FROM SELF TO SERVICE**

If you focus on yourself all day,  
depression is almost inevitable.

Set aside time each day to think about those who need you.

Not about what you need—

but about who needs you.

## **11. A LIFE THAT MAKES AN IMPACT**

A passive life breeds anxiety.

A healthy life is an active one—

a life that makes a difference,

uplifts others,

and continually brings more light into the world.



## **A GLOBAL RESPONSE OF UNITY, MEMORY, AND CONTINUITY**

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IN THE WAKE OF THE TRAGEDY IN BONDI, OUR COMMUNITY WAS LEFT GRIEVING — CARRYING SHOCK, LOSS, AND A PAIN THAT WORDS CANNOT FULLY HOLD.

WHAT FOLLOWED WAS AN OUTPOURING OF CARE AND SUPPORT FROM PEOPLE NEAR AND FAR. MESSAGES, PRAYERS, AND GESTURES OF SOLIDARITY CAME FROM ACROSS AUSTRALIA AND AROUND THE WORLD, REMINDING US THAT MOMENTS LIKE THIS ARE FELT FAR BEYOND ONE PLACE.

WHEN A MOMENT TOUCHES SO MANY LIVES, THE RESPONSE MUST REFLECT THAT SHARED SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY AND CONNECTION.

**LIGHT WILL WIN IS A NATIONAL AND GLOBAL CAMPAIGN, UNITING PEOPLE ACROSS COMMUNITIES AND CONTINENTS TO FUND THE WRITING OF A SEFER TORAH AND THE RENEWAL OF CHABAD OF BONDI — TRANSFORMING LOSS INTO CONTINUITY AND LIGHT.**

## WHAT HAS CARRIED US

For over 3,000 years, the Torah has stood at the centre of Jewish life.

It has guided how Jewish communities live, gather, and care for one another — through generations, across countries, and in moments of both joy and hardship. It is read aloud, celebrated, and carried forward, forming a living link between past, present, and future.

In times of uncertainty, the Torah has offered direction, strength, and light.



## WHY A SEFER TORAH

A Sefer Torah is created through a process of great care and precision. It is written by hand, on parchment, by a trained scribe, using traditional methods passed down through generations.

Each letter is formed slowly and intentionally, with focus, patience, and deep respect for tradition. Writing a Torah reflects the belief that what we build together matters, and that continuity requires care.

This Sefer Torah is being written to become part of active community life — read from, gathered around, and carried forward for generations to come.

## WHY WRITING A LETTER MATTERS

Participating in the writing of a Torah allows individuals to take part in something larger than themselves.

Dedicating a letter is a personal connection to Torah, reflecting the idea that each person has a place within a shared story.

Supporting the writing of this Torah helps ensure that memory, learning, and community life continue to have a home.

This Torah represents unity — people of different backgrounds contributing toward something lasting and meaningful.

## FROM LOSS TO CONTINUITY

Through Light Will Win, people across communities and continents are coming together to help write one Sefer Torah in memory of the lives lost

This Torah is being created as a response to grief and as a commitment to the future, carrying remembrance forward through learning, gathering, and shared life.



## RENEWING OUR SPIRITUAL HOME

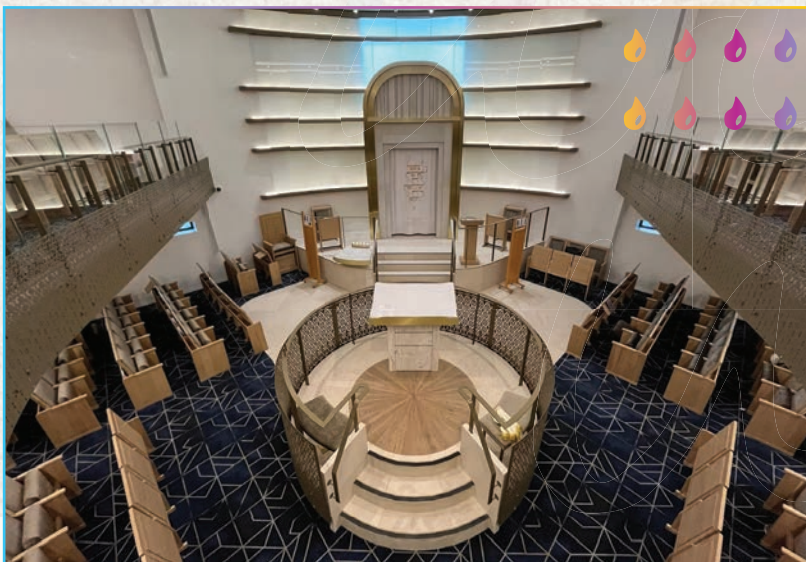
Alongside the writing of the Sefer Torah, Light Will Win includes the renewal and rededication of Chabad of Bondi.

This renewal includes the creation and restoration of spaces for gathering, learning, reflection, and support, ensuring Chabad of Bondi continues to serve as a place of warmth, care, and connection.

For many, this space has long been a source of comfort and community. This campaign helps ensure it continues to fulfil that role for years to come.

## A SHARED MOMENT

The completion of the Sefer Torah will be marked with a public Hachnosas Sefer Torah, bringing people together to share in a moment of unity, resilience, and hope.





## **HOW YOU CAN TAKE PART**

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EVERY JEW CAN TAKE PART IN THE WRITING OF THIS TORAH BY DEDICATING A LETTER, A WORD, A VERSE, OR A LARGER PORTION OF THE SCROLL.

WHILE DEDICATING A LETTER IS A JEWISH OBLIGATION, WE ARE DEEPLY GRATEFUL TO OUR FRIENDS BEYOND THE JEWISH COMMUNITY, WHO ARE WARMLY INVITED TO SUPPORT THE RENEWAL OF CHABAD OF BONDI AND THE LIFE IT SUSTAINS.

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TO PARTICIPATE, VISIT  
**LIGHTWILLWIN.ORG**

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### **OUR MESSAGE**

THIS CAMPAIGN REFLECTS HOW WE RESPOND.

BY CHOOSING CONTINUITY.

BY STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY.

BY BRINGING LIGHT.

**LIGHT WILL WIN.**

# ABOUT CHABAD OF BONDI



## ORGANISATIONAL OVERVIEW

Chabad of Bondi is a leading centre for Jewish life, education, and community support in Bondi and the wider Sydney area. Our mission is to make Jewish values, tradition, and heritage accessible, relevant, and meaningful to Jews of all backgrounds, levels of knowledge, and affiliation. Through education, pastoral care, lifecycle services, and communal programming, Chabad of Bondi strengthens Jewish identity, fosters social cohesion, and supports individual and communal wellbeing.

## PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

We deliver a comprehensive range of services designed to meet the diverse and evolving needs of the Jewish community locally, nationally, and internationally.

## EDUCATION AND YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

Education is central to our work. We provide weekly educational programs for children of all ages, including Hebrew School and age-appropriate Jewish learning frameworks. For adults, we offer regular Torah study classes delivered both in person and online, enabling broad participation and ongoing engagement. These programs support cultural continuity, personal growth, and intergenerational connection.

## LIFECYCLE AND JEWISH STATUS SERVICES

Chabad of Bondi offers essential lifecycle services including baby namings, circumcision ceremonies, bar and bat mitzvah education and celebrations, Jewish weddings, funerals, and pastoral care. Through the Institute of Jewish Status, we play an integral role within Jewish communities worldwide by providing verification of Jewish identity, support for Jewish marriages, assistance with conversions, and guidance with kosher IVF. These services support both local families and international applicants, reinforcing Jewish continuity on a global scale.

## **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND RELIGIOUS LIFE**

We facilitate regular communal experiences that strengthen social connection and communal resilience. These include weekly Friday night Shabbat dinners, communal Shabbat lunches, and kiddushim, which attract a broad cross-section of the community. Chabad of Bondi also serves as a welcoming home away from home for international travellers, students, and visitors to Sydney, providing inclusive and accessible Jewish experiences.

## **CULTURAL AND HOLIDAY PROGRAMMING**

Our annual calendar features large-scale and family-focused events that promote Jewish culture and communal participation. These include communal Passover Seders, Chanukah family carnivals and public menorah lightings, and celebrations for Sukkot, Simchat Torah, Purim, and Shavuot. These programs foster community visibility, cultural pride, and social inclusion.

## **PASTORAL CARE AND CHAPLAINCY SERVICES**

Chabad of Bondi provides vital pastoral and chaplaincy services through hospital and corrective services chaplaincy, prison visits, couple's counselling, and bereavement support. These services address emotional, spiritual, and social needs, particularly for individuals and families experiencing vulnerability, illness, or crisis.

## **ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY SUPPORT PROGRAMS**

We operate a range of complementary initiatives including youth camps, teen leadership programs, a seniors club, day camps, tourist assistance, and outreach through Burger Centre programs. Together, these services ensure that individuals across all life stages have access to support, education, and meaningful community connection.

## **IMPACT AND REACH**

Through its integrated model of education, pastoral care, and community engagement, Chabad of Bondi reaches thousands of individuals annually. Our work supports social cohesion, cultural preservation, mental and emotional wellbeing, and religious continuity. With strong local roots and active global partnerships, Chabad of Bondi is uniquely positioned to serve both the Bondi community and the wider Jewish world.

**TO LEARN MORE OR TO SUPPORT THE WORK OF CHABAD BONDI,  
VISIT [CHABADOFBONDI.COM](http://CHABADOFBONDI.COM)**

## PSALM 23

RECITED BY: **HER EXCELLENCY MS SAM MOSTYN AC**  
GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

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The L-rd is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He causes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside still waters.

He restores my soul; He leads me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

Even as I walk in the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

You set a table before me in the presence of my adversaries; You anointed my head with oil; my cup overflows.

May only goodness and kindness pursue me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the L-rd for length of days.

## PSALM 124

HEBREW RECITED BY: **RABBI NOCHUM SCHAPIRO**  
ENGLISH RECITED BY: **RABBI SHUA SOLOMON**

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Had it not been for the Lord Who was with us,  
let Israel declare now.

שִׁיר הַמַּעֲלוֹת לְדָוִד יְהוָה שְׁהִיָּה  
לָנוּ יְאֹמֵר-נָא יִשְׂרָאֵל:

Had it not been for the Lord Who was with us  
when men rose up against us,

לְדָוִד יְהוָה שְׁהִיָּה לָנוּ בְּקוֹם עָלֵינוּ אֲדָם:

Then they would have swallowed us raw when  
their anger was kindled against us.

אֲזִי חַיִּים בִּלְעוֹנוּ בְּחַרוֹת אַפָּם בָּנוּ:

Then the waters would have washed us away;  
illness would have passed over our soul.

אֲזִי הַמַּיִם שִׁטְפוּנוּ נַחֲלָה עֵבֶר עַל-  
נַפְשֵׁנוּ:

Then the wicked waters would have passed  
over our soul.

אֲזִי עֵבֶר עַל-נַפְשֵׁנוּ הַמַּיִם הַזֵּידוֹנִים:

Blessed is the Lord, Who did not give us as  
prey for their teeth.

בְּרוּךְ יְהוָה שֶׁלֹּא נַחְנוּנוּ טָרֶף לְשִׁנֵּיהֶם:

Our soul escaped like a bird from the hunters'  
snare; the snare broke, and we escaped.

נַפְשֵׁנוּ כָּצִפּוֹר נִמְלָטָה מִפַּח יוֹקְשִׁים  
הַפַּח נִשְׁבַּר וְאַנְחָנוּ נִמְלָטָנוּ:

Our help is in the name of the Lord, Who made  
heaven and earth.

עֲזָרָנוּ בְּשֵׁם יְהוָה עֹשֵׂה שָׁמַיִם וָאָרֶץ:

## SONG: **CANDLES**

PERFORMED BY:  
**YEHUDA & YEHOSHUA NIASOFF**

---

All it takes is one small candle.  
One small flickering, shining candle.  
That is all it takes to penetrate the dark.

And all it takes is one soft word.  
One soft, soothing, gentle word.  
That is all it takes to mend a broken heart.

When we put our hearts and minds together,  
a thousand glowing candles burning bright,  
then we become a force that can't be measured,  
and together, we can drive away the night.

All it takes is one small tear.  
One small, glistening, earnest tear.  
That is all it takes to melt a heart of stone.

And all it takes is one bright smile. One sweet, caring, loving smile.  
That is all it really takes to know you're not alone.

When we put our hearts and minds together,  
a thousand glowing candles burning bright,  
then we become a force that can't be measured,  
and together, we can drive away the night

Together. Everyone together let us raise our voices in harmony,  
and someday soon we will all be free, if only we could all stand together.

All we have is one small dream.  
One small, glorious, hopeful dream.  
And it's all we've ever had help to pull us through.

19And all we ask for is one more miracle.  
One last long awaited miracle.  
That is all we need to make our dreams come true.

So let's all put our hearts and minds together,  
a thousand glowing candles burning bright.  
We'll become a force that can't be measured,  
and together, we can drive away the night.

## PRAYER: **MISHNAYOS**

RECITED BY:  
**RABBI MOSHE KAHN**

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הָלֵל וְשִׁמְאֵי קִבְּלוּ מֵהֶם. הָלֵל אָמַר, הָיוּ מִתְּלַמְּדֵי שֶׁל אַהֲרֹן, אוֹהֵב שְׁלוֹם וְרוֹדֵף שְׁלוֹם,  
אוֹהֵב אֶת הַבְּרִיּוֹת וּמְקַרְבֵּן לַתּוֹרָה:

Hillel and Shammai received [the oral tradition] from them. Hillel used to say: be of the disciples of Aaron, loving peace and pursuing peace, loving mankind and drawing them close to the Torah.

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## SONG: **HABEIT**

PERFORMED BY:  
**MEIR WILENKIN & RABBI CHAIM KONCEPOLSKI**

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הִבֵּט מִשָּׁמַיִם וּרְאֵה, כִּי הָיִינוּ לְעַג וְקִלְס בְּגוֹיִם, נִחְשָׁבְנוּ כְּצֹאן לְשׂוּבָה יוֹבֵל, לְהִרְגוֹ וּלְאַבֵּד  
וּלְמַכָּה וּלְחִרְפָּה. וּבְכָל זֹאת שְׁמֶךָ לֹא שָׁכַחְנוּ, נָא, אֵל תִּשְׁכַּחֲנוּ.

Gaze down from heaven and see that we have become an object of scorn and derision among the nations.

We have become considered like sheep led to the slaughter, to be slain, to be obliterated, to be stricken and to be disgraced.

Nevertheless, we have not forgotten Your name. Please, do not forget us.

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## SONG: **ANI MA'AMIN**

PERFORMED BY:  
**ZALMAN SIMONS & SADYA LIBEROW**

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אֲנִי מֵאֲמִין בְּאַמוּנָה שֶׁלְמָה בְּבִיאַת הַמָּשִׁיחַ, וְאֶף עַל פִּי שִׁיתְמַהֵמָה, עִם כָּל זֶה אֶחְכֶּה לוֹ  
בְּכָל יוֹם שִׁבּוּא.

I believe with complete faith in the coming of the Messiah. And even though he may tarry, nonetheless I will wait every day for him to come.

# SONG: **LIGHT WILL WIN** האור ינצח בלי לפחד

COMPOSED AND PERFORMED BY:  
**MIZZI & EZRY ISRAEL**

להתאחד כעם אחד  
ולהמשיך בלי לפחד

[Not as a memory of death, but as a legacy of life. To be better. To be warmer. To unite as one people and continue without fear.]

Every mitzvah  
Every act of kindness  
Every candle we light  
They are there

"May the memories of those we lost be a blessing, May the injured be healed, May our sorrow be comforted, And may G-d give us the strength to make goodness prevail, Light will win! Moshiach now!"

אלו הקדושים  
אלו הנשמות

[These are the holy ones, these are the souls.]

## CHORUS

כי האור שלהם לא כבה  
והאמונה לא נשברה  
על קידוש השם נלקחו  
ועל קידוש השם נחיה

תלמד אותנו להסיר את החשכה  
איך לאהוב ואחד על השני לשמור  
תתן לנו תקווה, שמחה ואמונה  
תראה לנו אור שלנצח יאיר

We will live with more meaning  
We will love without fear  
We will carry them forward  
Year after year

ריבוננו של עולם  
קבל את נשמותיהם ברחמים  
ותן לנו כח  
להיות המשך שלהם

[Master of the Universe, receive their souls with mercy. Grant us the strength to be their continuation.]

## VERSE 1

גלים חוזרים אל הים  
לבבות של שמחה ואמונה  
משפחות, ילדים וחברים  
בלב פתוח, באהבת ישראל

[Waves return back to the sea, Hearts with joy and faith, Families, children, and friends, Open hearts, bound Ahavat Yisrael]

They came with families  
Hearts full of life  
With nothing but hope  
For a night of light

## CHORUS

כי האור שלהם לא כבה  
והאמונה לא נשברה  
על קידוש השם נלקחו  
ועל קידוש השם נחיה

תלמד אותנו להסיר את החשכה  
איך לאהוב ואחד על השני לשמור  
תתן לנו תקווה, שמחה ואמונה  
תראה לנו אור שלנצח יאיר

[For their light has not extinguished, and our faith has not broken. For the sanctification of God they were taken, and for the sanctification of God we shall live. Teach us how to remove the darkness, how to love and protect one another. Grant us hope, joy, and faith. Show us a light that will forever shine.]

## BRIDGE

We remember  
We carry  
We become the light they were

## VERSE 2

לא נזכרון של מוות  
אלא כצוואה של חיים  
להיות טובים יותר  
להיות חמים יותר

## SONG: I STILL CALL AUSTRALIA HOME

PERFORMED BY:  
**RABBI MENACHEM FELDMAN**

---

I've been to cities that never close down  
From New York to Rio and old London town  
But no matter how far or how wide I roam  
I still call Australia home.

I'm always travelling and I love being free  
So I keep leaving the sun and the sea  
But my heart lies waiting over the foam  
I still call Australia home.

All the sons and daughters spinning round the world  
Away from their families and friends  
Ah, but as the world gets older and colder  
It's good to know where your journey ends.

And someday we'll all be together once more  
When all the ships come back to the shore  
Then I realise something I've always known  
I still call Australia home.

No matter how far or how wide I roam  
I still call Australia home.

---

## SONG: KOL HAOLAM KULO & OSEH SHALOM

PERFORMED BY:  
**ALL SINGERS**

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כָּל הָעוֹלָם כְּלוֹ גֶּשֶׁר צָר מְאוֹד וְהַעֲקָר לֹא  
לְפָחַד כָּלֵל.

The whole entire world is a very  
narrow bridge and the main thing is  
to have no fear at all.

[Kol ha'olam kulo geshar tzar me'od  
v'ha'ikar lo l'fached klal]

עוֹשֶׂה שְׁלוֹם בְּמִרְמָוִי הוּא יַעֲשֶׂה שְׁלוֹם  
עָלֵינוּ וְעַל כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל וְאָמְרוּ: אָמֵן.

May the one who creates peace on  
high bring peace to us and to all  
Israel. And we say: Amen.

[Oseh shalom bimromav, Hu ya'aseh  
shalom aleinu. V'al kol Yisrael, V'imru:  
Amen.]



Tania Tutiak

Let us **show up for one another**, even when we are different and be allies to those who need us.

Marika Pogary

Let us **care for the elderly, the vulnerable, and those who feel forgotten.**

Adam Smyth

Let us **open our homes** and our hearts and make others feel welcome.

Peter Meagher

Let us **commit to service**, to showing up for others, and giving back to the places we call home.

Dan Elkayan

Let us not postpone what matters. Let us **live with meaning** now, not someday in the future.

Matilda Britan

Let us **bring a smile**, a sense of pure goodness into the lives of those around us.

Boris Avram

Let us **find courage to speak up** and act when we see evil and injustice.

Sofia Avram

Let us **respond** to hatred **with dignity, humanity** and **moral strength.**

Alex Krayman

Let us **put the safety** and **dignity of others before our own** comfort.

Lior Weitzman

Let us **make our community a place where the next generation feels safe, happy, and loved.**

Boris Letkayev

Let us **work hard for our families** and use our talents to **bring beauty into the world.**

Edith Britman

Let our decisions **be guided by conscience, not convenience.**

Raven Morrison

Let us **stand firm** in what we believe is right.

Rabbi Yaakov Lentin

Let us **put meaning before money** and purpose before profit.

Rabbi Eli Schlanger

Let us try each in our own way to **see people as he did.**  
**Every human being is precious** and a soul deserving of love.

# NATIONAL DAY OF MOURNING FOR BONDI VICTIMS

THURSDAY 22 JANUARY 2026

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## **WHAT IS THE NATIONAL DAY OF MOURNING?**

The Australian Government has declared Thursday, 22 January 2026, a National Day of Mourning to honour the victims and all those affected by the Bondi Beach terrorist attack.

### **PURPOSE:**

- To remember the lives lost
- To show national unity and solidarity
- To affirm shared values of hope, respect, and compassion

### **THEME:**

"Light will win — a gathering of unity and remembrance."

This theme was chosen by the Chabad community in Bondi and embraced nationally.

## **HOW YOU CAN OBSERVE**

### **ONE MINUTE OF SILENCE**

A nationwide minute of silence at 19:01 AEDT on 22 January.

Members of the public, organisations, and media are encouraged to participate.

### **LIGHT A CANDLE**

Place a candle on your doorstep or in your window as a symbol of remembrance, mourning, and solidarity with the Jewish community.

### **COMMUNITY AND FAMILY**

Come together, share a meal, and spend time with family, friends, and neighbours of all faiths and backgrounds.

## **HOW YOU CAN OBSERVE**

Australians are invited to undertake acts of kindness to honour victims through 15 suggested Mitzvahs — Acts of kindness, compassion, and moral action — see 'Mitzvah for Bondi' page for more info.

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## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION — "MITZVAHS FOR BONDI"**

### **FLAGS AT HALF-MAST**

As a mark of mourning and respect, the Australian National Flag will be flown at half-mast on 22 January 2026 from all Commonwealth and New South Wales Government buildings.

### **ILLUMINATION OF INSTITUTIONS**

National institutions in Canberra and across New South Wales will be illuminated on the evening of the National Day of Mourning, symbolising light and remembrance.

### **NATIONAL MEMORIAL EVENT**

A memorial event organised by Chabad of Bondi will be recognised as a National Event. The service will be live streamed for public viewing.

### **MESSAGE OF HOPE**

The National Day of Mourning is intended not only to honour those who lost their lives but to unify Australians in mourning, remembrance, and hope — reaffirming that light will win in the face of tragedy.



SUPPORT FOR VICTIMS  
**SUPPORTSYDNEY.ORG**



UNITY SEFER TORAH  
**LIGHTWILLWIN.ORG**



CHABAD OF BONDI  
**CHABADOFBONDI.COM**