

# Parshat Shemot

Exodus Chapter 1:1-22

## First Aliyah

<sup>1</sup> These are the names of the sons of Israel who came to Egypt with Jacob, each coming with his household: <sup>2</sup> Reuben, Simeon, Levi, and Judah; <sup>3</sup> Issachar, Zebulun, and Benjamin; <sup>4</sup> Dan and Naphtali, Gad and Asher. <sup>5</sup> The total number of persons that were of Jacob's issue came to seventy, Joseph being already in Egypt. <sup>6</sup> Joseph died, and all his brothers, and all that generation. <sup>7</sup> But the Israelites were fertile and prolific; they multiplied and increased very greatly, so that the land was filled with them.

## Second Aliyah

<sup>8</sup> A new king arose over Egypt who did not know Joseph. <sup>9</sup> And he said to his people, "Look, the Israelite people are much too numerous for us. <sup>10</sup> Let us deal shrewdly with them, so that they may not increase; otherwise in the event of war they may join our enemies in fighting against us and rise from the ground." <sup>11</sup> So they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor; and they built garrison cities for Pharaoh: Pithom and Raamses. <sup>12</sup> But the more they were oppressed, the more they increased and spread out, so that the [Egyptians] came to dread the Israelites.

### **Third Aliyah**

<sup>13</sup> The Egyptians ruthlessly imposed upon the Israelites  
<sup>14</sup> the various labors that they made them perform.  
Ruthlessly they made life bitter for them with harsh  
labor at mortar and bricks and with all sorts of tasks in  
the field. <sup>15</sup> The king of Egypt spoke to the Hebrew  
midwives, one of whom was named Shifrah and the other  
Puah, <sup>16</sup> saying, “When you deliver the Hebrew women,  
look at the birthstool: if it is a boy, kill him; if it is a girl,  
let her live.” <sup>17</sup> The midwives, fearing God, did not do as  
the king of Egypt had told them; they let the boys live.

### **Fourth Aliyah**

<sup>18</sup> So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said  
to them, “Why have you done this thing, letting the boys  
live?” <sup>19</sup> The midwives said to Pharaoh, “Because the  
Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women: they  
are vigorous. Before the midwife can come to them, they  
have given birth.” <sup>20</sup> And God dealt well with the  
midwives; and the people multiplied and increased  
greatly. <sup>21</sup> And because the midwives feared God, the  
Eternal established households for them. <sup>22</sup> Then  
Pharaoh charged all his people, saying, “Every boy that is  
born you shall throw into the Nile, but let every girl live.”