

Ani Maamin

I believe
ANI MAAMIM

Our faith firm is as iron and steel
UNDZER GLOYBN FEST IZ VI AYZN UN SHTOL

Our faith us rob can our enemy never
UNDZER GLOYBN UNDZ BAROYBN KON UNDZER SOYNE KEYNMOL

Stronger than suffering and than hardship
SHTARKER FUN YESORIM UN FUN NOYT

And even stronger than the death
UN AFIL SHTARKER FUN DEM TOYT

Come must the desired time
KUMEN MUZ DI GEGARTE TSAYT

When our people will stand up freed freed
VEN UNDZER FOLK VET OYSHTEYN OYSDERLEYZT BAFRAYT

I believe. Our faith is firm as iron and steel. Our enemy can never rob us of our faith, stronger than suffering and hardship, and even stronger than death. The desired time must come when our people will stand up freed, freed.

This is a Yiddish version of the original Hebrew song Ani Maamin, which professes belief in the coming of the Messiah. This in turn dates back to Maimonides, twelfth-century philosopher and physician, who compiled the Thirteen Articles of Faith, professing belief in God, the Prophets, Moses, Torah, and the coming of the Messiah.

The Hebrew Ani Maamim is based on Maimonides' Twelfth Principle: "I believe with perfect faith in the coming of the Messiah, and even though he may tarry, nevertheless, I wait each day for his coming." This was sung by many Jews during the Holocaust, in the ghettos, cattle cars, and death camps.