

Custom Yizkor Holocaust Remembrance Prayer  
Rabbi Max Chaiken  
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Judge of Truth,  
In this hour of memory,  
We remember the martyrs of our people in every generation.  
In every generation, dear God, you have helped us persevere through trials  
With your guidance and great love, time and again you helped us overcome oppressive forces

But we are not without our scars

Opened fresh today as they day they were made, as we stand before You  
Returning  
Repentant  
Renewing our commitment to living holy lives

Today and throughout the year we call to mind the horrors of the Shoah  
We speak the names  
The alphabet of woe scattered across Europe, marking the place where our ancestors and our  
people were murdered; trees cut down before their time

We name now twelve; twelve of the sites where hatred shaped the course of our people's  
history within the lifetime of people in this room.

Auschwitz  
Bergen Belsen  
Dachau  
Flossenberg  
Kovno  
Lodz  
Maidanek  
Ponar  
Theresinstadt  
Treblinka  
Vilna  
Warsaw

Twelve sites we name in honor of the twelve tribes of Israel, an alphabet of memory.

May this particular alphabet of woe remind us to live fully, and love well  
May the tragedies of our history, and the memory of the Shoah, be with us today.

