



Merciful God,

Tears anoint our hands as we pray for children whose
parents have been killed
for parents whose children have been killed
and for entire families who have been killed in the horror
of a moment.

Ease the grief-wracked hearts of those who have lost loved
ones.

Give guidance and strength to those whose homes have
been destroyed,
leaving no safe place to be.

Grant wisdom and comfort for those living in constant fear
of attacks.

We pray for sustenance and courage for the hostages.

Quicken their release.

May leaders, who have the power of decision-making,
choose life over death, compassion over revenge, love
over fear.

We pray that justice and peace will prevail.

God, have mercy on us, that we may have mercy for each
other.

- Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd