

Poetry of Song of Songs - Song 2:1-17 (as generally in the Song,  
 mainly in "Qinah meter"<sup>1</sup>)

by David Steinberg

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**N.b. The Guidelines I Have Used in Reconstructing the Pronunciation of First Temple Period Hebrew are found at [http://www.houseofdavid.ca/anc\\_heb\\_6.htm#guidelines](http://www.houseofdavid.ca/anc_heb_6.htm#guidelines)**

**For convenience of students I have generally laid out the poetry as in modern translations.**

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Companion [E-book](#) - [History of the Hebrew Language](#)

Reconstructed Late First Temple Orthography and Vocalization (EBHP) with  
 Sound Files  
 by David Steinberg

Chapter/ Verse	Reconstructed Vocalization <a href="#">[EBHP]</a> <sup>2</sup>	Reconstructed Vocalization <a href="#">/EBHP/</a> <sup>*3</sup>	Reconstructed Text <a href="#">JEH</a> Style Spelling (9 <sup>th</sup> - 6 <sup>th</sup> c. BCE)	<a href="#">Masoretic Text</a> <sup>4</sup>
<b>130:1b</b>	mimmē <sub>̄</sub> me <sub>̄</sub> k'i:m k'ere <sub>̄</sub> ?ti:ke <sub>̄</sub> yeh'we <sub>̄</sub> :	mimmē <sub>̄</sub> ma'qīm qara'tika(:) yah'wê	ממעמקמ קראתב יהוה	ממעמקים קראתיך יהוה
<b>130:2</b>	?edo:'ney [ē'me <sub>̄</sub> e' bek'o:'li: tiH'yeyne' ?oz'neyke' k'effu:'bo:t	'ado:'nay š'ma <sup>ca</sup> (:) baqō'lī tiH'yayna(:) 'uz'nayka(:) qaššu:'bōt	אדני שמעה בקלי תהיינה אזניכ קשבת	אדני שמעה בקולי תהיינה אזניך קשבות

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	le,kʰo:l teħnu:r'ney	la,qōl taħnu:r'nay	לקל תחנני	לְקוֹל תַּחֲנוּנַי
	<a href="#">MP3 sound file</a>			
130:3	?im- <a href="#">y</a> ewo:'no:t tɪf'mur 'yeh  ?edo:'ney 'mi: yɪ' mud	'im- <a href="#">ḡ</a> awō'nōt tiš'mur 'yah  'ado:'nay <a href="#">mī</a> yɪ' mud	אמ עונת תשמר יה  אדני מי יעמד	אִם-עֹנֹת תִּשְׁמַר-יְהוָה  אֲדֹנָי מִי יַעֲמֵד
130:4	,ki: <a href="#">ʕ</a> im'meke' hesseli:' <a href="#">x</a> e:  le,meʔē n tiwwa't?	,ki: ʕim'maka(:) hassali:' <a href="#">ḥ</a> â  la,maʕn tiwwa'ri'	כי עמכ הסלחה  למענ תורא	כִּי-עֲמַךְ הַסְּלִיחָה  לְמַעַן תִּתְּנֶנּוּ
	<a href="#">MP3 sound file</a>			
130:5	kʰIw'wi:ti' yeh'wɛ:  kʰIw'wite' nep'ʃi:  weledebe'ro: <a href="#">ḥ</a> w'helti'	qiw'wītī yah'wê  qiw'wītâ nap'šî  waładaba' <a href="#">r</a> ô haw'haltî	קותי יהוה  קותה נפשי  ולדברה הוחלתי	קִנִּיתִי יְהוָה  קוֹתָהּ נַפְשִׁי  וּלְדַבְרָהּ הוֹחַלְתִּי
130:6	nep'ʃi: le?edo:'ney  miʃfo:mi'ri:m leb'bukʰr  ʃo:mi'ri:m leb'bukʰr	nap'šî la'ado:'nay  miššōmī'rīm lab'buqr  šōmī'rīm lab'buqr	נפשי לאדני  משמרמ לבקר  שמרמ לבקר	נַפְשִׁי לְאֲדֹנָי  מִשְׁמַרְמ לְבָקֵר  שֹׁמְרִים לְבָקֵר
	<a href="#">MP3 sound file</a>			
130:7	yeh'hil yɪ're:'ʔe:l ?el-yeh'wɛ:  ,ki: <a href="#">ʕ</a> imm yeh'wɛ: heħ'həsɔd  weher'be: <a href="#">ʕ</a> im'mo: pi'du:t	yah'hil yisra:'e:l 'il-yah'wê  ,ki: ʕimm yah'wê haħ'həsɔd  waħar'bê ʕim'mô pi'du:t <sup>5</sup>	יחל ישראל אל יהוה  כי עמ יהוה החסד  והרבה עמה פדת	יַחַל יִשְׂרָאֵל אֱלֹהֵי-יְהוָה  כִּי-עַם יְהוָה הַחֲסֵד וְהִרְבָּה עִמּוֹ פְדוֹת

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130:8	we'hu: yip'de: ʔet-yiʔre:ʔe:l  mik,kull <u>yewo: no:'ta:w</u>	wa'hû yip'dê 'at-yiśra:'e:l  mik, <u>kull</u> ḡawōnō'tāw	והא יפדה את ישראל  מכל עונתיו	והוא יפְדֶה אֶת־יִשְׂרָאֵל  מִכָּל עֲוֹנֹתָיו
	<a href="#"><u>MP3 sound file</u></a>			

<sup>1</sup> Anchor Bible *Song of Songs*, Doubleday, NY 1977, pp. 37-40.

<sup>2</sup> Note, in reconstructed [EBHP] transliterations and sound files -

1. there is no spirantization of the *bgdkpt* consonants -

[http://www.houseofdauid.ca/anc\\_heb\\_tegu.htm#bgdpt](http://www.houseofdauid.ca/anc_heb_tegu.htm#bgdpt);

2. vowel qualities are outlined here - [http://www.houseofdauid.ca/anc\\_heb\\_6.htm#ebhp\\_vow\\_qual](http://www.houseofdauid.ca/anc_heb_6.htm#ebhp_vow_qual);

3. I use the most probable form. Where no one form stands out as most probable, I select the one closest to the MT vocalization.

4. when multiple forms are possible, the form used is underlined.

<sup>3</sup> See *Phones and Phonemes* - [http://www.houseofdauid.ca/anc\\_heb\\_6.htm#phone\\_phonym](http://www.houseofdauid.ca/anc_heb_6.htm#phone_phonym).

<sup>4</sup> From The Westminster Leningrad Codex <http://www.tanach.us/>.

**IN EBHP and LBHP THE JUSSIVE (PC<sub>jus</sub>), COHORTATIVE (PC<sub>coh</sub>), IMPERFECT (PC<sub>imp</sub>) AND PRETERITE (PC<sub>pret\_sim</sub>/PC<sub>pretWC</sub>) are, in some forms, distinguished by the placement of syllabic stress when not carrying object suffixes. See -**

- [http://www.adath-shalom.ca/history\\_of\\_hebrew3a.htm#indic\\_jus](http://www.adath-shalom.ca/history_of_hebrew3a.htm#indic_jus) AND

- [http://www.adath-shalom.ca/history\\_of\\_hebrew3a.htm#Prefix\\_Conjugation](http://www.adath-shalom.ca/history_of_hebrew3a.htm#Prefix_Conjugation)

<sup>5</sup> Could also be reconstructed pu'du:t