ARTZA ALINU

This song was a favorite of the Israeli pioneers who returned to live in the land of Israel. As they planted crops and brought the land back to cultivation, they sang and danced in the hope that the land of Israel would be rebuilt.

Pronunciation Guide and general translation:

Artza alinu AHR-tzah ah-LEE-noo	We have gone up to our land,
K'var *charashnu v'gam zaranu	There we have plowed and sown,
Kih-VAHR *hah-RAHSH-noo vih-GAHM zah-RAH-noo	
Aval **od **lo katzarnu	but we still have not reaped.
Ah-VAHL ohd loh kaht-ZAHR-noo	

- The "ch" is pronounced using a guttural sound (not a hard "k"), and uses air to begin the sound. Actually, the sound is somewhere in between an "h" and a "k."

** These words use the long "o" sound (i. e., like the English "ode" and "low").

TOEMBAI

Toembai – There is no translation for "toembai." This is a dance tune, sung in a round at celebrations. Pronounced: TOOM-bah ee ("bai" is actually the long "I" sound)