

Lewis Glinert, Dartmouth College
Jerusalem: Vision and Reality

Description

Jerusalem, as a vision and as a reality, has always mesmerized Jewish minds -- Royal City of Solomon, Holy of Holies, kabbalistic core of the world, site of a foretold apocalypse, twice rased to the ground, focus of Diaspora dreams, since 1948 once more a Jewish capital, but divided for two decades by war and still savagely fought over. In this course, we will sample the symbolism of Jerusalem across 3000 years of Hebrew and Jewish intellectual and artistic expression, from the Bible down to the contemporary Israeli and Diaspora arts, in poetry and prose, in film, music and the visual arts. Through the Biblical prophets, medieval folklore, Israeli cinema, Elie Wiesel's Nobel Prize winning fiction, Yiddish lullabies and many other forms of expression, we will ask: Can one find in "Jerusalem" a consistent set of symbols and values holding firm down the centuries, uniting contemporary Jews with their distant ancestors? And why has this city evoked such passions?

No knowledge of Hebrew is required.

Books referred to in this syllabus:

Abramson, G. *The Writing of Yehuda Amichai*. Albany, NY : SUNY Press, 1989.

Amichai, Y. *Poems of Jerusalem and Love Poems*, Riverdale-on-Hudson: The Sheep Meadow Press, 1992.

Bahat, D. *Illustrated Atlas of Jerusalem* New York: Simon & Schuster, 1990.

Bar-Am, Micha. *Israel: A photobiography*. New York: Simon & Schuster. 1998.

Bialik, H N & Y Ravnitzky (eds). *The Book of Legends* , Schocken

Burnshaw, Stanley et al. *The Modern Hebrew Poem Itself*, Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1989

Carmi, T. *The Penguin Book of Hebrew Verse*. Penguin, 1981.

The five Megilloth with an introd. and commentary by Cohen, A. Hindhead, Surrey, The Soncino Press, 1946

Cohen, Arthur A. & Paul Mendes-Flohr (eds). *Contemporary Jewish Religious Thought*, New York : Scribner, 1987

Gilbert, Martin. Jerusalem History Atlas. New York : MacMillan , 1977.

Grindea, Miron (ed). Jerusalem: The Holy City In Literature, London: Kahn & Averill. 1996

Halevi, Judah. The Kuzari. New York: Schocken, 1964.

Hammer, Reuven. The Jerusalem anthology : a literary guide. Philadelphia : Jewish Publication Society, 1995.

Hareven, Shulamith. City of Many Days. San Francisco, Calif. : Mercury House, 1993.

Hertz, J H (ed) The Authorized Daily Prayer Book , London, Soncino, 1976.

Hertz, J H (ed) The Pentateuch and Haftorahs, New York, 1941.

Hertzberg, Arthur. The Zionist Idea. New York, Atheneum, 1972

Heschel, Abraham Joshua. Israel: An Echo of Eternity. Woodstock, VT: Jewish Lights, 1997.

Isaiah, with an introduction by I. W. Slotki. London, Soncino Press, 1949

Kings, with an introd. and commentary by I. W. Slotki. London, Soncino Press, 1950

Kollek, Teddy and Moshe Pearlman, Jerusalem; a history of forty centuries, New York: Random House, 1968

Levenson, Jon. Sinai and Zion, Minneapolis : Winston Press, 1985

Maimonides, Moses. Guide for the Perplexed. (ed. M. Friedlander). New York, E.P. Dutton & Co., 1928

Mendes-Flohr & Reinhartz The Jew in the Modern World, New York : Oxford University Press, 1980

Ofrat, Gideon One Hundred Years of Art in Israel, Boulder, Colo. : Westview Press, 1998

Psalms. (ed. A Cohen) Hindhead, Surrey, The Soncino Press, 1945

Rosenfeld, Avraham. Tisha B'Av Companion New York: Judaica Press, 1986.

Rosovsky, Nitza (ed). City of the Great King: Jerusalem from David to the Present. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1996.

Sarna, Nahum M. On the Book of Psalms. [alternative title: Songs of the Heart]. Schocken, 1993.

Scheindlin, Raymond. The Gazelle: Medieval Poems on God, Israel and the Soul. New York: Jewish Publication Society, 1991.

Sholom Aleichem. Stories and Satires (ed. Curt Leviant). New York: Thomas Yoseloff, 1959.

The Twelve Prophets, with an introd. and commentary by A.Cohen. Bournemouth, Hants., Soncino Press, 1948

Vilnai, Z. Legends of Jerusalem, Jewish Publication Society of America, 1973.

Wiesel, E. A Beggar in Jerusalem. New York : Schocken Books, 1985

Syllabus

Historical background:

Gilbert, Jerusalem History Atlas

Kollek & Pearlman, Jerusalem: a history of forty centuries,

Bahat, Illustrated Atlas of Jerusalem

0: Orientation in space, time and spirit

March 30

Introduction, course mechanics, goals, etc.

videorecording: Melodies of Jerusalem

1: Jerusalem in the Bible

In reading the following Biblical passages, consult a commentary based on Jewish traditions, such as J. Hertz 'The Pentateuch' and the various volumes of the Soncino edition of the Bible.

Genesis ch. 14 v.17-23, ch. 22 [in Hertz, Pentateuch]

Kings part one, ch 8, ch 9 v1-9

Isaiah ch 52

Lamentations ch. 1 [in Cohen, Five Megilloth.]

Psalms ch. 48, 122-126, 137

Zechariah ch 14 [in The Twelve prophets]

Rosovsky pp. 1-8, and Broshi in Rosovsky (ch. 1, 9-34)

Peters in Rosovsky (ch. 2, 37-59)

Levenson, 89-145, 176-184.

Sarna, 151-166

2: Jerusalem in ancient rabbinic writings

Hammer: 71-82, 92-139

Bialik & Ravnitzky, 142-3, 160-2, 177, 183, 189-200

Hertz, J H The Authorized Daily Prayer Book , 130-156, 284, 964-979,
1012-3

3: Jerusalem in medieval writings

Hertz, J H (ed) The Daily Prayer Book , 356-359 [Lekha Dodi]
Carmi, 250-1, 472-479
Scheindlin, 84-89

Hammer, 151-191
Maimonides, part 3, ch 45.
Dan, J. in Rosovsky 60-73
Halevi, Yehuda 89-91, 99-101, 293-5
Rosenfeld, 144-5, 176-9

4: Jerusalem in Ashkenazic and Sephardic folklore

Rosovsky 344-351
Vilnay:
 Ch II (Dome of the Rock): Sections 1-13, 16-18
 Ch IV: sections 1-3
 XIII (Temple Vessels): 3-7
 XVIII (The Wailing Wall): whole chapter
 XIX: 6-10, 19
 XX: 1-2, 10-12
 XXIII (Caves): 1-4, 6
 XXIV: 1-2
 XXVI: 1-3
 XXVIII (Mt of Olives, Scopus): 2-17
Sholom Aleichem, 222-229

5: Jerusalem in modern Jewish thought

Heschel A.J., Introduction and 1-38

Hertzberg in Rosovsky 149-177
Hertzberg The Zionist Idea, 103-114 (Alkalay, Kalischer), 201-4 (Herzl),
226-241 (Herzl), 242-5 (Nordau), 557-570 (Jabotinsky), 605-619 (Ben
Gurion)

Berkovits, E. 'Crisis and faith.' Tradition Tradition 14 (Fall, 1974), 5- 19
Mendes-Flohr & Reinhartz , 544-545

6: Jerusalem in modern Hebrew poetry

Burnshaw: poem by Greenberg 62-64.
Amichai, 3, 5, 7-9, 15, 23, 87, 101, 103, 105, 107, 109, 125-7
Abramson, ch 6 'Jerusalem'
Grindea, 56-58
Kosman, poem: 'Note in the Western Wall'

7: Jerusalem in Jewish music

Study the following tracks and attached graphics and texts at the Dartmouth Jewish Sound Archive (www.dartmouth.edu/~djsa)

Im eshkahech (ORIENTAL SONGS - JO AMAR)
Shir hamaalos (JOSEPH ROSENBLATT)
She-yibone beis hamikdosh (SOUL OF A PEOPLE)
Rozshinkes Mit Mandlin (RICHARD TUCKER - GOLDFADEN SONGS)
Se'u ziyyona (ISRAELI MUSIC - THE EARLY YEARS)
Meal pishgat har hatzofim (Songs of Yerushalayim)
Track 18 (ISRAEL'S INDEPENDENCE DAY)
Ki Mitzion (A TOWN HALL CONCERT -- ORANIM ZABAR)
Hakotel (THE CHOSEN ONES)
Yerushalayim shel zahav (SONGS OF YERUSHALAYIM)
Hatikvah (ZAMIR CHORALE -- Jerusalem 3000) -- this is the last track of the album
Uvneh yerushalayim, Hehorim rokdu, Motzi asirim (UVNEH YERUSHALAYIM -- CARLEBACH) -- these are the first 3 tracks

8: Jerusalem in contemporary Jewish fiction and nonfiction

Wiesel, A Beggar in Jerusalem
Hareven, City of Many Days

9: Jerusalem in Israeli film

My Michael (1975, based on Amos Oz's novel of that name)
Himmo King of Jerusalem (1987, based on Yoram Kaniuk's novel of that name)

10: Jerusalem in Israeli art and photography

Ofrat 7-19, 21-36, 87-106, 257-277
Bar-Am (selections)