



CIF ISRAEL

CIF ISRAEL PRESENTS

PEACE PROJECT : PAST - PRESENT- FUTURE

CIF Italy Peace conference

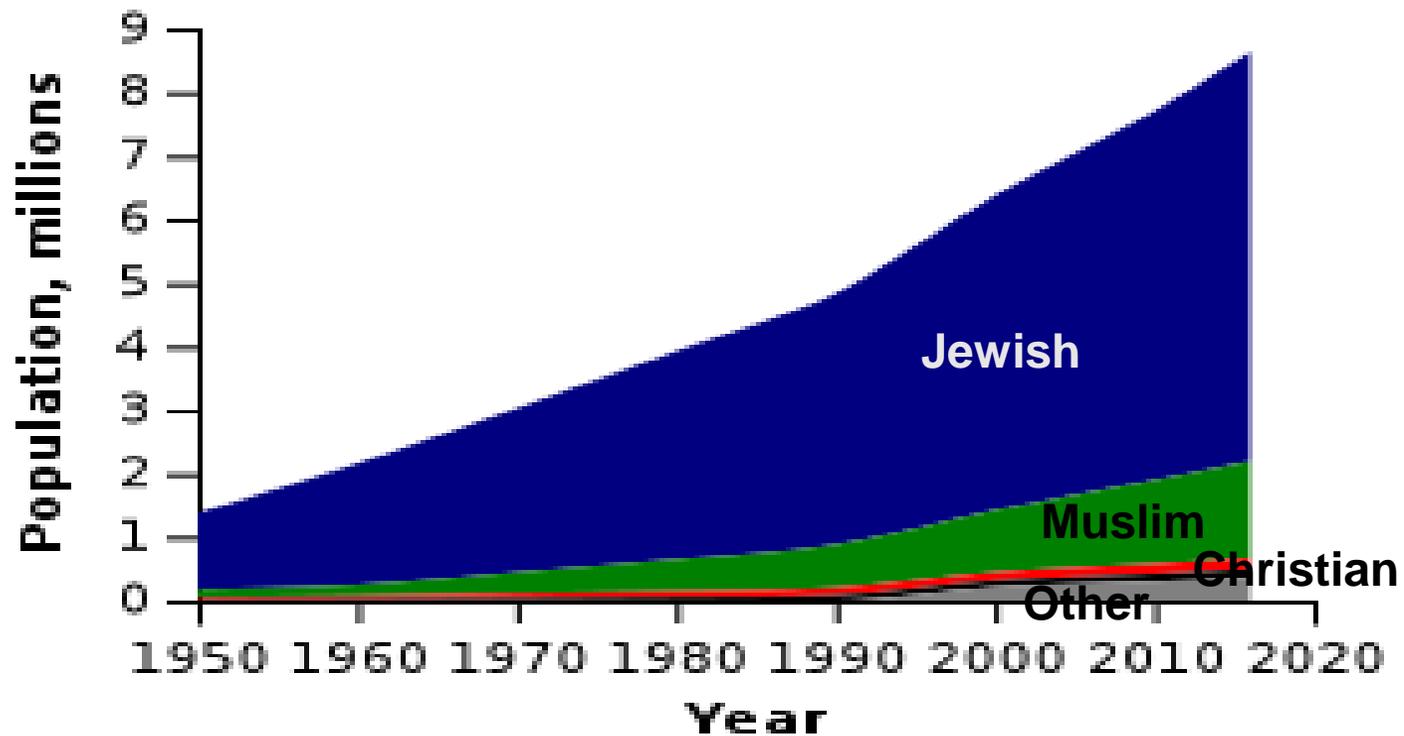
Edna Bar-On, CIF Israel President

August 2018

The demographics of Israel:

- Population - 8,855,000 (2018)*
- Jews (75%), Arabs (20%), others (5%)
- Main sub-groups: **Jews** (around 75%) and **Arabs** (around 21%)

* only includes officially held territories



Israeli Jews:

- Israeli-born mostly second or third-generation
- Descended from European Jews (50%) and from Arabic countries (50%)
- Coming from Europe and the Americas, Asia and Africa: Ethiopia and India
- Religious observance - A wide spectrum: Ultra-orthodox religious to a secular lifestyle

Ultra Orthodox
religious
community

Jerusalem



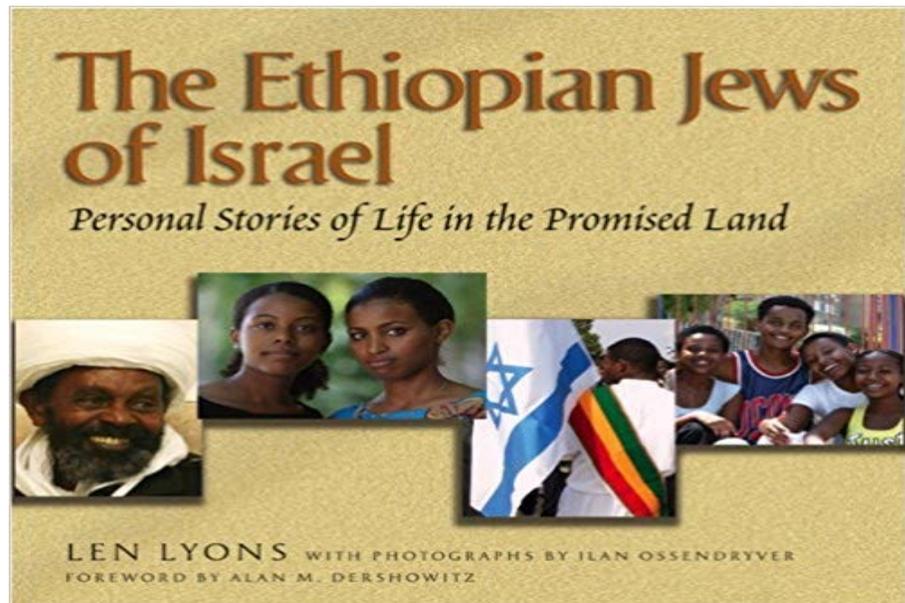
Secular
Lifestyle

Tel Aviv



Jewish population in Israel:

- Ashkenazi Jews and Sephardic Jews
- Other groups



Amazon.com

Sephardic Chief Rabbi (left)
Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi (right)



Not Jewish population (25%) among them:

Arab Muslims, Bedouin, Ahmadiyya, Arab Christians, Copts, Druze;
Syriac Christians (ethnic groups) such as: Assyrians, Samaritans, Armenians,
Circassians (Muslim Russians);

People from post-Soviet states, Finns, Baha'is, Vietnamese.



Bedouin tent hospitality



Druze home



The Bahá'í Gardens

- Israeli citizens **foreign workers** (very few mainly by marriage) from Philippines, Nepal, Nigeria, Senegal, Romania, China, Thailand, South America.
- Non-citizens (**residents** or with **limited permit**): African migrants (refugees, boarder violators) like Eritrea, Sudan; Chinese, Thai, Filipinos, Romanians.
- Refugees: Bosnia, Kosovo, Iraqi & Turkey Kurdistan, North Korea.



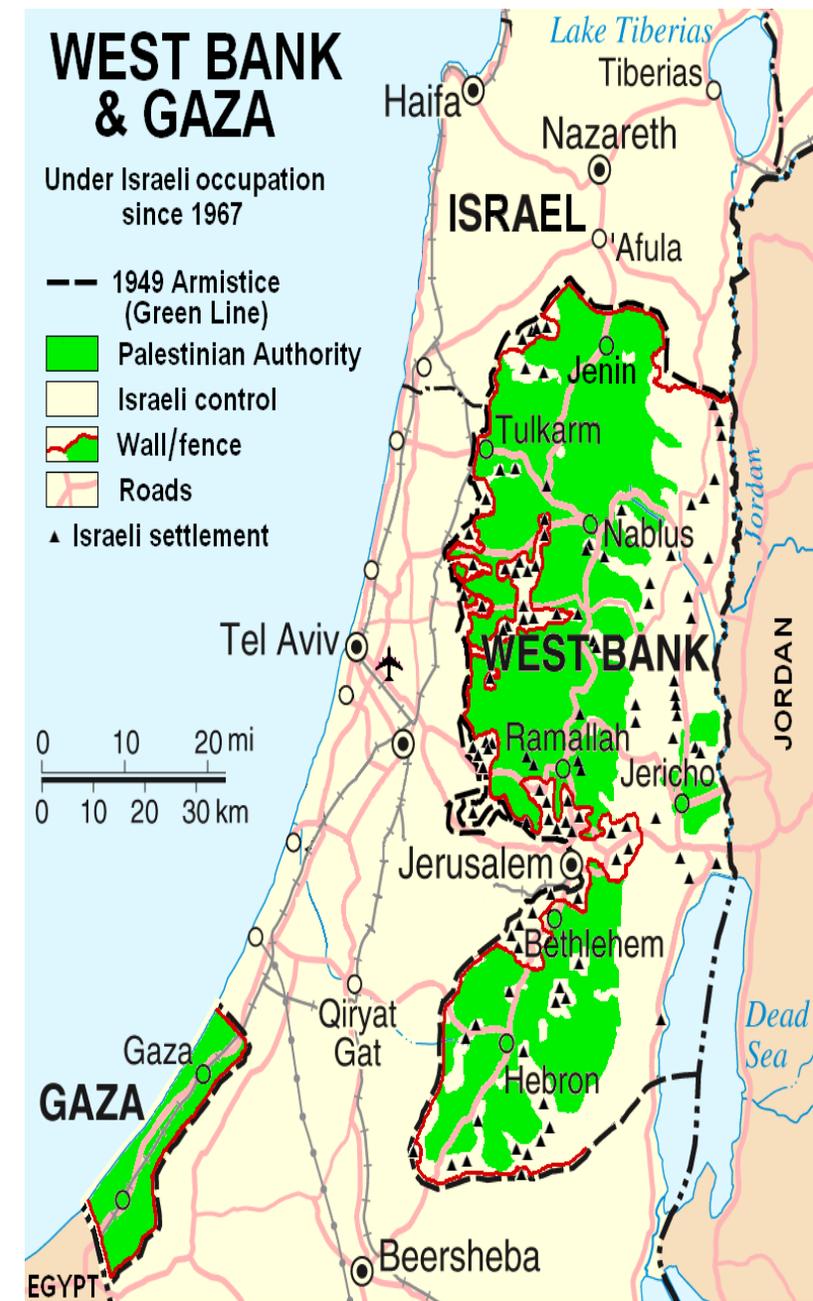
Samaritans - descent from ancient Israelites

Assyrian women in traditional clothing

Circassian

About the Palestinian Israeli conflict:

- **1920s: Intercommunal violence between Palestinian Jews and Arabs intensified during British Palestine Mandate by Jewish immigration.**
- **1947: Civil war derived from the Israel state UN declaration, consequent intervention of Arab armies on behalf of the Palestinian Arabs.**
- **Today's Key issues: mutual recognition, borders & security, water rights, control of Jerusalem, Israeli settlements, Palestinian freedom of movement, right of return.**
- **Neighbor Relationships: Israel surrounded by Arabic countries. Peace treaties established with Egypt (1979) and Jordan (1994).**
- **Israeli Palestinian citizens entitled to vote and several are members of the Israeli Parliament. Israeli Arabic citizens are involved in the academic and professional Israeli society.**



CIF Israel and CIF International



Council of International Fellowship – CIF Israel

- Israeli professionals participated in exchange programs since the 60th when CIP (Council of International Programs) offered Exchange Programs in the USA.
- More than 250 Israelis went to programs in the USA and later also to CIF (Council of International Fellowship) programs in Finland, India, Sweden, The Netherlands, Italy, Slovenia, Estonia, Latvia.
- CIF Israel branch was established in 1978.
- Since 1998 offers Professional Exchange Programs every spring for two-three weeks and had so far over 35 participants.



CIF Israel Professional Exchange Program (PEP) for the year 2019
Dates of the Program: May 17 – June 6 (18 days)

The program is targeted for 2 – 3 social workers and/or other related professionals in education and behavioral sciences. It provides cross-cultural exchange as participants come from different countries, thus providing opportunities for professional development, sharing and learning as well as broadening professional and personal horizons.

The program will introduce the many multi-cultural aspects of Israeli society including the Christian and Muslim Arab, Bedouin, Druze and other sectors of the country.

The Program includes orientation to the Israeli cultural-social-political-organizational structure as well as introduction to the welfare system.

We will be able to offer professional experience in services for the elderly, family, children and youth at high risk, services and rehabilitation for people with special needs, immigration and educational services.

Participants will visit places and agencies related to their own specialized field to observe and discuss professional work.

The program will take place in Jerusalem, Tamra (Arabic town in the northern Galilee), Yerucham in the Negev and Tel-Aviv area.

Participants should have **good English** because they will be engaged in discussions with Israeli professionals.

During the Program participants will stay with Jewish and Arabic host families to get acquainted with the multi-cultural Israeli way of life. Please, no smoking requested.

Participants will pay 350 Euro (or equivalent in US Dollars) as a contribution to the program costs and will be responsible for their personal luggage, health insurance and for overseas travel expenses.

Deadline for applications is December 31st 2018 through the national branch.

Recommendation required.

Application form can be found on the web: www.cifinternational.com at the Programs link.

General inquiries for information on **CIF Israel** and CIF applications for the program are welcome on-line at **CIF Israel President Dr. Edna Bar-On** e-mail: baroned@013.net.il



PEP 2013



PEP 2014



PEP 2015



PEP 2016



PEP 2017



PEP 2018

Peace Project and CIF Israel

- First initiative when Mimmo Merola, then CIF International President, approached CIF Israel to work together to bring an Israeli and Palestinian participant together to the Italian exchange programs (2012, 2015).
- Next step: In Cyprus (2011) and Turkey (2013), then, Edna Bar-On CIF International President, involving Palestinians in **CIF international conferences**.
- CIF Israel had the first Peace Project granted by CIF International in 2017.

Today, Peace Projects are part of the CIF International budget and agenda



Italian program 2012



Italian program 2015



Peace Project – How do CIF Israel understand it?

- ❖ **General definition:**
Initiative taken by organizations and/or communities to work together in bringing peace to societies through mutual respect for better understanding.
- ❖ Regarding the Palestinian – Israeli conflict: **many initiatives**
- ❖ CIF Israel, as part of the International Organization, follows the principals stated in the **Organization's Statute**

CIF Israel Peace Project to day

- ❖ **CIF Israel strives to bring understanding, equality and peace between people who are subject to conflicted situations no matter on what ground.**
- ❖ **Peace and understanding means cooperation, respect, preventing discrimination and to contribute to the society's wellbeing.**
- ❖ **Through and thanks to the Peace Project initiative, CIF Israel collaborated with “Ossim Shalom“ organization as CIF Israel members to host participants, enhance dialog and to discuss professional/cultural issues at sensitive and complex situations.**
- ❖ **CIF Israel PEPs offer an opportunity to meet many different cultures prevailing in the Israeli society, to learn about the minorities' professional viewpoint while dealing with the needy and disadvantaged populations as well as learning about everyday life.**

Peace Project CIF Israel 2017:



Participants at Arabic host family



Participant schooling youngsters at a Jewish host family



Participants at Jewish Elderly Center with CIF member Judy Shlasky





**Participants at Jewish Women Shelter with
CIF Israel member Ilana Engel**

**Arabic Agency visit
with CIF Israel
member
Dr. Muhamad Diab**



**Participants and a Druze family
at the Golan Heights**

**Participants at
Welfare Ministry with
CIF Israel member
Nili Dror**



CIF Israel future vision:

Peace projects will contribute to join together professionals from different countries and cultures, to host participants, to enhance dialog, build new professional, social, cultural and personal connections for better understanding as well as personal growth.



References:

Demographic data: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Demographics_of_Israel

Israel –Palestine conflict: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Israeli%E2%80%93Palestinian_conflict
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iRYZjOuUnIU>

Photos:

Israel's Chief Rabbis Form Panel to Set Standards for Recognizing Foreign Converts
The New York Jewish Week
By Andrew Tobin December 19, 2016, 1:30 pm

People walk through the ultra-Orthodox neighborhood of Mea Shearim in Jerusalem
Israel Stock Video Footage – Videoblocks

A popular day-to-night hangout on Ben Gurion Blvd.
The best of Tel Aviv nightlife: where to party in Israel
Lonely Planet Image by Dan

Inside a Bedouin tent
Tourists in Israel - WordPress.com

Some of the Druze community in Isfiya

A Secret Religion: Exploring Isfiya Druze Village, Israel

<http://dontstopliving.net/a-secret-religion-exploring-isfiya-druze-village-israel/>

‘Beni Israel’: The Samaritans of Palestine’s Mt. Gerizim

Claiming descent from ancient Israelites, Samaritans deny sacredness of Jerusalem and see contemporary Judaism as deviation from true faith

<https://www.aa.com.tr/en/culture-and-art/beni-israel-the-samaritans-of-palestine-s-mt-gerizim/492899>

Assyrian women in traditional clothing

Pinterest

Circassians in Israel

Wikipedia: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Circassians_in_Israel

Peace Project Exchange Programs in CIF Italy:

CIF International website and CIF Italia website

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION !



PEP 2017: CIF Israel and "Ossim Shalom" members welcome 4 participants