TAI Introductory Israel Series Sundays at 2pm by Zoom May 9-June 13

Lectures: Professor Paul Liptz



Paul Liptz is a social historian who has been a member of the faculty at Tel Aviv University and Hebrew Union College, Jerusalem. He currently is director of education for the World Union for Progressive Judaism.

Tours: Julia Newman



Julia Newman has been a tour guide since 2001, conducting individual and group tours for diverse groups ranging from Volunteers for Israel to Christian pilgrims. Julia has an M.A in the land of Israel Studies and specializes in Jerusalem. She loves touring hiking and guiding the amazing land of Israel.

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May 9 Lecture Fulfilling the Dream: Livingin a Fascinating World Banias and Tel Dan Jewish people have a history of creative periods as well as traumatic episodes over thousands of years. This session will analyze one response to the past- the growth of the Zionist movement and the creation of the State of Israel during a tough war which saw the incoming of immigrants from around the world.

May 16 Tour Banias and Tel Dan

This tour is a combination of 2 Biblical sites - one next to the other, both naturally beautiful. We will visit the ancient city of Dan, then see the ancient walls and an altar at the "Gate of Abraham," one of the most ancient walls arches in the world. We will proceed to the city of Banias which originated as the cultic center of Pan and was later central to the Romans, Christians, and Syrian Muslims.

May 23
Lecture
The Tribes of Israel:
A Sociological
Analysis of a Complex Society

A young and struggling State, Israel accepted Jewish immigrants from 105 countries and grappled with the goal of trying to make them one people, while at the same time recognizing the differences between them. We will discuss the three important ethnic groups from Yemen, Iraq and Ethiopia.

May 30 Tour Tel Aviv Tel Aviv is a modern and happy city loved by young adults. We will visit the city center, the beach, and the Carmel market, full of all kinds of foods from the different Diasporas (such a pity you can't taste all we will see...). We will conclude with the Nahalat Binyamin Arts and Crafts market.

June 6 Lecture Judaism, Christianity, and Islam in the Holy City of Jerusalem The City of Peace has also been the city of tears and violence. For thousands of years the three religions have grappled with the tensions between spirituality and territorial goals, with both internal and external conflicts. The dramatic story requires critical analysis and the narrative which expresses the legitimate claims of Jews, Christians and Muslims

June 13 Tour Jerusalem: The Jewish Quarter We will be visiting the most famous and significant sites of the Jewish Quarter in the Old City of Jerusalem, before ascending to the Temple Mount. We will enter Zion Gate—the closest one to the traditional tomb of King David and the same gate which was used for the last attempt to break into the Jewish quarter during the Independent War. We will see the Card, the Hurva synagogue, the Broad Wall, and the Common Grave before proceeding to the Western Wall to put a note and ascend to the Temple Mount. We will see what is left from the magnificent Temple which was destroyed on the 9th of AV 70 AD, and walk into the mosque open to Muslims only, to the Foundation Rock, the Footprint of Muhammad, the Stables of King Solomon, and the Gate of Mercy overlooking the Mount of Olives and longing for the Messiah.