



Israel Up Close

News beyond the headlines

Curriculum Guide - Volume 18

- 18.1: Israeli Doctors Care for the World
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- 18.3: Historical Photojournalist Reminisces

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Israeli Doctors Care for the World: Volume 18.1

The Israeli organization "Save a Child's Heart," based at the Wolfson Medical Center near Tel Aviv, provides urgently-needed pediatric heart surgery and follow-up care for children from developing countries. Its entire staff is made up of professional volunteers: surgeons, intensive care personnel, nurses and support staff, and all services are performed free of charge. Thousands of children from all over the world, of many races and religions, have had their lives saved with the cutting edge medical technology used by Save a Child's Heart. *Running time: 4:30 minutes*



Rationale

This lesson provides an opportunity for participants to learn about a life-saving medical initiative in Israel that is also helping to build bridges of understanding between nations.

Objectives

The participant will

- Become aware of this international medical humanitarian project based in Israel
- Learn about the concept of *tikkun olam* – repairing the world – and its application through volunteer service (see handout attached)
- Participate in a hands-on service project to send comfort to children with severe health challenges

Materials

- Bulletin board with world map
- Pushpins to mark map – if possible, all red pins (plus one white or blue)
- 8.5x11 light cardstock (enough for every participant to have 1-2 pieces)
- Colored markers, pens, crayons (students can bring their own)

Handout (post-viewing)

- Tikkun Olam – Repairing the World
- Save a Child's Heart Foundation: Mission, History, Children, Volunteers

Preparing the class to view the story

- Prior to the class, using the Save a Child's Heart spreadsheet (page 7 of this packet), place a red pushpin on -- or as close as possible to -- every one of the 42 countries listed on the sheet. Add one red pushpin on Israel.
- Ask the class if anyone can identify what all of these countries have in common. Write responses on the board or a flip pad. Circle the word(s) that come closest to the concepts of *crisis, humanitarian work, or children*.
- Ask the class what the color red is known for. Write responses on the board or flip pad. Circle the word *heart* (a certain response, or a guided response)\
- Replace the red pushpin on Israel with a blue or white one, and tell the class that what these countries have in common is the Israeli volunteer organization, Save a Child's Heart. Read the introduction above.

View the DVD

Discussion/Activities

1. Update

- At the time this video story was made, 1700 children had received lifesaving care from Save a Child's Heart. As of February 2011, the number is **over 2,500**.
- Also, the number of countries from which children have been treated has grown from 28, as noted in the video story, to **42**. These 42 are identified by the pushpins in our map.

2. Distribute handouts. Review handout on *tikkun olam* – repairing the world. Class discussion – how do we see this concept reflected in the story?

- *Doctor who says "there is no room for discrimination here"*
- *Weekly cardiology clinic for Palestinian children*
- *Arab father who says Israeli-Palestinian strife does not exist here*
- *A mother from Gaza who says Israelis and Palestinians are brothers and should help each other in times of trouble*
- *Nurses and volunteers from around the world help at the house where the families live while their child is being treated.*
- *Save a Child's Heart Foundation also trains foreign doctors and nurses to create centers of competence in their home countries.*

3. **Activity:** Distribute the cardstock – one piece per student (with extra stock available for participants who need to re-do, or want to make an additional card). If students do not have their own colored markers or crayons, distribute or have available in a central location. **Each student will make a "get well" card for a child who is being treated by Save a Child's Heart.** Keep messages simple. Sign with first name only. Emphasis on decorative, happy images. Collect all cards and mail, with a cover letter from your school or organization, to Save a Child's Heart (see "Contact" at www.saveachildsheart.org for the address of the office nearest to you).

Closing

While medical humanitarian aid is most often in the spotlight whenever there is a natural disaster, such as an earthquake or tsunami, this story shows us that doctors, nurses and other health personnel are taking care of urgent needs, and doing so as volunteers, day after day.

Repairing the world – one person at a time, one act at a time -- is a concept that traces its origins to Jewish sages of two thousand years ago. Yet its practice in our time has no ethnic or religious limits. Each one of us, in our own way, can play a part in repairing the world through volunteer service.

We have just taken one step in this direction, by creating a get-well card for a child being treated by Save a Child's Heart. Let's think about the other ways we can make a difference and repair the world, in our neighborhoods and our communities.

Tikkun Olam

(pronunciation: tee-KOON oh-LAHM)

Tikkun olam (Hebrew: תיקון עולם) is a Hebrew phrase that means "repairing the world." The phrase is first found in the Mishnah, a body of Jewish rabbinic teachings compiled in the 3rd Century. In the Mishnah, the phrase is used when discussing issues of social policy, insuring a safeguard to those who may be at a disadvantage.

Tikkun olam also refers to 'repairs' performed on an individual level, as found in the *kabbalah*, the books of Jewish mysticism. This view of tikkun olam is more abstract and cosmological. A kabbalist rabbi of the 16th century explained that the world is made up of good and evil, and that in order for the balance between good and evil intended by God to be restored, humans must be involved in the world's reparation.



The most modern and broadly understood notion of *tikkun olam* is that of repairing the world through human actions – social action, the pursuit of social justice, peace, freedom, equality and the preservation of our environment. Humanity's responsibility to change, improve, and fix its earthly surroundings is powerful. It implies that each person has a hand in working towards the betterment of his or her own existence as well as the lives of future generations.

We meet similar concepts in religions other than Judaism: Christ promised to return with the coming of the Kingdom of Heaven and exhorted people to prepare through love, mindfulness and charity. In Buddhism, the Bodhisattva vows to forgo final liberation until all beings have been freed from suffering. The Gnostics held that a spark of Divinity resides entrapped within the soul of humans, and that the key to connection with that spark is through good deeds.

This concept is echoed in the writings and statements of people from many different traditions and faiths. A few examples:

- ❖ "One kind word can warm three winter months." - Japanese Proverb
- ❖ "Never believe that a few caring people can't change the world. For indeed, that's all who ever have." - Margaret Mead

Something that is in need of repair is something that has been broken. Tikkun olam means that whatever is broken – a family, a community, a world -- it is every person's job to try to put the pieces back together again. To make things whole. One way we achieve this goal is by giving of ourselves to people less fortunate.

Sources: learningtogive.org; myjewishlearning.com; innerfrontier.org



Mission Statement

Save a Child's Heart (SACH) is an Israeli-based international humanitarian project, whose mission is to improve the quality of pediatric cardiac care for children from developing countries who suffer from heart disease and to create centers of competence in these countries. SACH is totally dedicated to the idea that every child deserves the best medical treatment available, regardless of the child's nationality, religion, color, gender or financial situation.

SACH is motivated by the age-old Jewish tradition of Tikkun Olam – repairing the world. By mending the hearts of children, regardless of their origin, SACH is contributing to a better and more peaceful future for all of our children.

The SACH mission is achieved through:

- ♥ Providing life-saving cardiac surgery and other life saving procedures for children from developing countries at the Wolfson Medical Center in Holon, Israel;
- ♥ Providing a full outreach training program for the medical personnel from these countries in Israel;
- ♥ Leading surgical and teaching missions to partner countries in the developing world;
- ♥ Holding pre-operative and follow-up cardiology clinics in Israel and abroad.



Print



Dr. Ami Cohen & History

Save a Child's Heart (SACH) exists today because of the vision, passion and boundless energies of the late Dr. Amram (Ami) Cohen. An excellent surgeon, an inspiring leader, and a warm and caring person, Ami was the driving force that created SACH and turned it into an important contributor to children's health worldwide. Ami immigrated to Israel from the United States in 1992. He joined the staff of the Wolfson Medical Center and served as the Deputy Chief of Cardiovascular Surgery, and Head of Pediatric Cardiac Surgery.

In 1988, while serving in the U.S. Armed Forces in Korea, the head of the international organization, Save the Hearts approached Dr. Cohen. The organization was sending orphaned and indigent Korean children to western countries for medical care not available locally. Dr. Cohen was so impressed with the concept that he requested and received permission from his superiors to participate in the program. During the remainder of his time in Korea, he performed 35 pediatric cardiac surgeries.

Save A Child's Heart came into being in 1995 when an Ethiopian doctor referred to him by a mutual friend at the University of Massachusetts contacted Dr. Cohen. He asked for Dr. Cohen's help with two children in desperate need of heart surgery. From this beginning, SACH has repaired the hearts of more than 2,500 children from a wide variety of countries. Our greatest achievement is that all the children, regardless of race, color, gender, religion, or financial consideration are treated with finest medical care at the cutting edge of technology, provided by Save a Child's Heart in cooperation with the Wolfson Medical Center.

Ami died in a tragic accident while climbing the Kilimanjaro Mountain in August of 2001. Ami's passing left a painful void and deep sense of loss in the hearts of all who knew and worked with him. His life's project, Save a Child's Heart, transcends national boundaries and political differences, building bridges of peace and understanding between Israel and the nations of the world. The goals that he lived for are being carried on by the organization he so successfully created. This is a most fitting memorial to his uniquely productive life.

In His Own Words...

"I am convinced that for the vast majority of people who chose cardiothoracic surgery as a profession, idealism was initially a strong factor. For those of you who are reading this and just starting out, hold fast to your 'day after-vision' because, if it fades, despite all the skills acquired, there will be something missing. For those who are searching, join us and together let us make the network to help children with heart disease globally big enough to be equal to the task. There is work for everybody. There are no dollars and cents in it, but it is worth a fortune." - Dr. Amram Cohen

♥ [Save A Child's Heart Endowment Fund In Memory of its founder, Dr. Amram \(Ami\) Cohen z"l](#)

 Print





Children We Help

The Children brought to Israel are treated at the [Wolfson Medical Center](#) in Holon and hosted at the Children's home in nearby Azor.

Since 1995, Save a Child's Heart (SACH) has treated more than 2,500 children suffering from congenital and rheumatic heart disease aging from infancy to 18 years of age from the "four corners of the Earth" - 43 countries where adequate medical care is unavailable.

40% of the children who underwent cardiac surgeries are from Africa; 49% are from the Palestinian Authority, Jordan, Iraq and Morocco; 4% are from Eastern Europe and the Americas and 7% are from Asia.

The annual number of children treated by SACH has grown dramatically from 48 cases in 1996 to over 200 in 2010.

At any given moment there are thousands of children suffering from heart disease around the world who require our assistance.


♥ [Find out more about the children treated by SACH](#)

 Print



More Details

Downloads

 Total number of children treated

Figures up to and including February 27th 2011

COUNTRY	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Total
1 Angola													10	25	17	4	56
2 Burkino Faso															1		1
3 P.R. of China							2		2	1			1	2	3		11
P.R. of China			3	22	12		16	17	10		21		8		1		110
4 D.R. of Congo						6	7	7		2			1				23
5 Ecuador				1	1												2
6 El Salvador															1		1
7 Eritrea							3		3					1			7
8 Ethiopia	20	23	38	32	39	30	18	17	29	28	25	20	9	1	8		337
Ethiopia					24			2									26
9 Gambia															1		1
10 Ghana								1					2	6	4	1	14
11 Haiti													2		4		6
12 Indonesia															1		1
13 Iraq									4	8	5	26	37	24	23	2	129
Iraq												3	1	2			6
14 Ivory Coast									1								1
15 Jordan			1				1	1	1		1						5
16 Kazakhstan						1		1									2
17 Kenya												3		5	2		10
18 Liberia														1	1		2
19 Mauritania							4										4
20 Moldova	14	19	15	3	3	1				8		7	3	1			59
Moldova																	15
21 Morocco															1		1
22 Nigeria			8	17	23	43	19	20	21			7		2			160
23 Palestinian Authority	14	16	25	48	47	49	54	63	71	147	155	136	109	108	147	34	1223
Palestinian Authority						1	4	4			3	2		1			15
24 Panama															2		2
25 Philippines														2		1	3
26 Rawanda												4			1		5
27 Romania							1	4			1			6	11	2	25
28 Russia						9	9	3	3		1						25
29 Rep. of Senegal												1	1				2
30 Sierra Leone											1						1
31 Somalia					1												1
32 Somaliland									1								1
33 Sri Lanka										8							8
34 St. Vincent						1											1
35 Sudan														1			1
36 Tanzania													4		4	1	9
Tanzania													4				4
37 Trinidad & Tobago											1						1
38 Uganda													1	1	3		5
39 Ukraine					1								1				2
40 Vietnam						2					1						3
41 Zanzibar				5	24	7	37	23	37	24	23	16	24	17	9		246
42 Zimbabwe							1								1		2
Total	48	58	90	128	175	150	176	163	183	226	238	225	218	206	246	45	2575

children treated overseas

Our Volunteers

Being a Save a Child's Heart (SACH) Volunteer is special.

All our volunteers go out of their way to make life for the children and parents at the SACH house, clinic and in the hospital less stressful and more pleasant. They sit with parents or an unaccompanied child in hospital when they need extra attention or when the pressure of the unknown is getting to them, even if it means being in the hospital on a weekend or at night, and for some reason language is never a barrier; they muddle through. It is just something they do to help someone in distress feel more relaxed.

The volunteers give photographs as a remembrance of being at SACH, send emails and photographs to parents who are not here to keep them informed and in short – they help make life a bit nicer for everyone and free the overworked SACH Staff to concentrate on other things that must be done.

After all this is what a family does.



This is a partial list highlighting a number of our long term volunteers both in the hospital and in the children's home:

♥ Azor Ladies Circle

The Azor Ladies Circle became involved with SACH in 2007, often organising parties with activities in the Save a Child's Heart children's home, making all the children and mothers very happy.

♥ Bank Leumi Staff

Since 2008, the local branch of Leumi Bank in Holon visits the children's home every holiday, bringing lots of goodies for the children, creating an exciting and festive atmosphere.

♥ Bruria Gal

Bruria is from Kibbutz Lahav in South Israel. She has been volunteering at the hospital with Dr. Tamir and his team since 2004. Bruria keeps the SACH Archives for the Pediatric Cardiology Clinic up-to-date and filed so that the medical records of the children are easily accessible. Bruria also regularly take children and parents to the airport when they return home after their life saving treatment in Israel.

♥ Einav Barazany

Einav is an Israeli Aeronautical Engineer and world traveller. Einav has been volunteering at the Save a Child's Heart children's home since 2004. It is great to have a male volunteer, especially for the older boys in the home who love playing and speaking with him. Over the years Einav has taken children on trips as well as befriending and taking many of the volunteers living at the SACH House and the doctors and the nurses who are training with SACH, on trips around Israel.

♥ EL AL Social Committee

Since 2008, the EL AL Social committee visits the children's home every Israeli holiday bringing gifts and chocolates to for the children and mothers.

♥ Eva Gross

Eva joined us in 2008. She is an Israeli retired dentist who volunteers at the Tuesday weekly Palestinian clinic with Dr. Tamir and his team.

♥ Lea Labi

Since 2004 Lea has been coming every week, with a smile, to the children's home to volunteer and play with the children. The children look forward to her arrival and eagerly await the days' activities. She always has a special treat for the children. Lea keeps the "clothes closet" in order, a daunting job with all the activity at the SACH House.

♥ Lolitta Markus

Lolitta lived for many years in Congo. She has been volunteering in the Save a Child's Heart children's home since 2003. Lolita is a Friday regular. Armed with ice-cream and treats for the children she makes her day a special celebration each week. She also helps keep the clothes and shoes cupboard stocked to give to the children and mothers.

♥ Maureen Benita

Maureen was born in Britain and has been living in Israel since 1969. Maureen worked at the Catheterization Laboratory at the Wolfson Medical Center and after retiring in 2007 she wanted to continue and help the children of Save a Child's Heart. She joined Dr. Tamir and his team at the Tuesday weekly clinic for Palestinian children and has been part of the team since then.

♥ Sheila Shalhevet

American born Sheila has been living in Israel since the 60s. She has been with Save a Child's Heart since 2002. Sheila is an active board member and volunteer and she is the Save a Child's Heart photographer – taking the photo of each and every child arriving in Israel and writing the profile of all the children. In addition Sheila makes herself available at all times helping out in the SACH house and with visitors.

♥ Tali Shaked

Tali manages a kindergarden in Holon and has been volunteering for Save a Child's Heart since 2005. Every week she comes on her single day off from work and helps Dr. Tamir and his team in the Tuesday weekly Palestinian clinic.

♥ Yossef Yacobi

Yossef, or as we all call him – Papa Lemon – lives in Azor and is a neighbour to the children's home. Since 2006 Yossef has been coming to the house to help with the gardening and the day to day jobs. He speaks to the children and mothers in the many languages he knows and brings a neighbourly feeling to the SACH House when he visits in the evenings, bringing lots of lemons freshly picked from his garden.



Print

Israel Fights Internet Hate - Volume 18.2

We all know about the wonders of the Internet, and the worlds of information and communication it has opened up. But there is a dark side to the Net as well, with the stunning growth of hate sites spewing everything from anti-Semitism to terrorist propaganda. Under the auspices of the Anti-Defamation League, mass communications experts from Israel and the United States convened an international conference in Tel Aviv that explored how hatred is poisoning the Web and what can be done about it. *Running time: 3:39 minutes*



Rationale

Lesson 18.1 provided participants with an inspirational example of “repairing the world.” This lesson highlights one example of why repair of the world is needed, and presents expert viewpoints on how to combat hate on the Web.

Objectives

The participant will

- Gain a greater understanding of how widespread and virulent Internet-based hate messaging has become
- Learn how exposure and open discussion is considered, by many experts, to be the best remedy for countering hate on the Web. Discover how the traditional classroom method of learning has evolved in Israel, utilizing the latest technology

Materials

- Since this is predominantly a discussion-based lesson, the only materials needed are the traditional whiteboard or blackboard in the classroom

Handouts (post-viewing)

- Anti-Defamation League
- Southern Poverty Law Center
- New York Times Article: Online Hate Sites Grow with Social Networks

Preparing the class to view the story

There are almost 13 million websites on the Internet. According to one recent estimate, several thousand websites, chat forums, blogs and social network pages worldwide promote hate and terror. The growth of such sites has been exponential in the last 15 years: in 1995, just one hate site was known to exist. This brings new, and rather chilling, meaning to the term “going viral”. The virus is hate. Under the auspices of the Anti-Defamation League, mass communications experts from Israel and the United States convened an international conference in Tel Aviv that explored how hatred is poisoning the Web and what can be done about it.

View the DVD

Discussion (with sample answers):

- 1. What aspects of the Internet make it appealing to hate groups?**
 - *Anonymity*
 - *Accessible everywhere*
 - *Unregulated*
 - *Relatively easy to "hide" the organization that is behind a site*
 - *Cheap way to get the message out*
- 2. The Internet is a tool that can be used for good or for evil. Name some similarities and differences between how legitimate groups (charities, humanitarian organizations) and terrorist or hate groups use the Internet**
 - *Both use it to raise money*
 - *Both use it to recruit people to the cause*
 - *Both use it to convey their message and promote their agenda*
 - *Only terrorist groups use it to plan and launch attacks*
 - *Only terrorist groups use it to publicize the terrible results of their work*
- 3. Discussion: How can a country balance its needs for civil liberties with its need for cyber-security and freedom from hate speech and incitement to terror?**
- 4. Discussion: What are some things a civilized society can do to combat Internet hate and terror?**
 - *Increase public scrutiny of groups that advocate hate and terror*
 - *Track hate group and terror activity and expose it to law enforcement, the media and the public*
 - *Use the court system and other forms of advocacy to fight on behalf of victims of discrimination, bigotry and hate (passing hate crime laws)*
 - *EDUCATION: Providing resources to teach people of all ages, particularly young people, to reject hate and respect differences*
 - *Individuals can contact Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to demand that hateful sites be taken down*
 - *You can report online hate to the police – attach a copy of the website homepage to your letter*
 - *File a complaint with a Human Rights Commission*

Closing

As the world saw in the 1930s and 1940s, and far too many times since then, hate speech can and does lead to hate crimes, whether the victim of hate is one person, or millions – in Germany, Armenia, Darfur and beyond. As noted by the Media Awareness Network, "the line between hate speech and free speech is a thin one, and the line is even thinner on the Internet, where hateful comments posted lawfully in one country can be read in other countries where such postings are unlawful."

Hatred thrives on fear, ignorance and false information. The best thing we can do is to become educated, and to explore every opportunity for civil dialogue, particularly with people different from ourselves. When we build bridges of mutual respect and understanding, we take very big steps to end hatred.

Since 1913

To stop the defamation of the Jewish people... to secure justice and fair treatment to all



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- INTERFAITH
- INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
- INTERNET
- ISRAEL
- LAW ENFORCEMENT (L.E.A.R.N.)
- RELIGIOUS FREEDOM
- SECURITY AWARENESS
- TERRORISM

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IN THE HEADLINES



Anti-Israel Facebook Page

ADL said a Facebook page that calls for a 'Third Palestinian Intifada,' or violent uprising against the State of Israel, should be taken down immediately. The League called the site "an appalling abuse of technology to promote terrorist violence."

[More](#)

As Featured in *The New York Times*

ADL'S BULLYING & CYBERBULLYING RESOURCES

See why ADL is a leader in combating cyberbullying.

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[NEW Anti-Israel Bias at Human Rights Council](#)

['Third Intifada' Facebook Page Promotes Terror](#)

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The Southern Poverty Law Center monitors hate groups and other extremists throughout the United States and exposes their activities to law enforcement agencies, the media and the public. We publish our investigative findings online and in the [Intelligence Report](#), our award-winning quarterly journal. We've crippled some of the country's most notorious hate groups by suing them for murders and other violent acts committed by their members.

Currently, there are [1,002 known hate groups](#) operating across the country, including [neo-Nazis](#), [Klansmen](#), [white nationalists](#), [neo-Confederates](#), [racist skinheads](#), [black separatists](#), border vigilantes and others.

And their numbers are growing.



Since 2000, the number of hate groups has increased by 54 percent. This surge has been fueled by fears of Latino immigration and, more recently, by the election of the country's first African-American president and the economic crisis.

These factors also are feeding a [growing antigovernment militia movement](#), which in the 1990s led to a string of domestic terrorist plots, including the Oklahoma City bombing.

Group Listings

[Hate Map](#)

[Active 'Patriot' Groups in the United States in 2010](#)

['Nativist Extremist' Groups 2010](#)

In This Section

[Law Enforcement Resources](#)

Intelligence Files

Learn more about the ideologies, groups and individuals in extremist movements.

[Explore the Intelligence Files](#)

Hatewatch Blog

[After 'Liberty Dollars' Creator Convicted, Feds Seek Millions](#)

[Justice Keeping Blanket of Secrecy Over MLK Parade Bomb Case](#)

[Steve Emerson, Backing King Hearings, Pushes Misleading Statistic on Muslim Terrorism](#)

[Alaska Congressman Seeks Distance From Accused Militia Plotter](#)

[More Blog Posts](#)

This growth in extremism has been aided by mainstream media figures and politicians who have used their platforms to legitimize false propaganda about immigrants and other minorities and spread the kind of paranoid conspiracy theories on which militia groups thrive.

Fighting Hate in Court

In the early 1980s, SPLC co-founder and chief trial counsel Morris Dees pioneered the strategy of using the courts to battle organized, violent hate groups. Since then, we have won numerous large damage awards on behalf of victims of hate group violence. These cases are funded entirely by our supporters; we accept no legal fees from the clients we represent.

Among the groups shut down by crushing jury verdicts in SPLC cases are the White Aryan Resistance, the United Klans of America, the White Patriot Party militia and the Aryan Nations.

These cases have made the SPLC and Dees reviled enemies of the extremist movement. Our headquarters in Montgomery has been the target of numerous plots by extremist groups, including a firebombing that destroyed our offices in 1983. Several dozen people have been sent to prison for plotting against Dees or the SPLC.

Training Law Enforcement

SPLC representatives communicate regularly with law enforcement agencies about extremist activity and conduct in-person training for officers at the local, state and federal level. Thousands of officers have received training that helps them recognize and deal with hate crimes as well as threats posed by extremists. This training is available free to law enforcement agencies.

Publications

[Greenwash: Nativists, Environmentalism and the Hypocrisy of Hate](#)

[Terror From the Right](#)

[Climate of Fear: Latino Immigrants in Suffolk County, N.Y.](#)

[The Second Wave: Return of the Militias](#)

[More Publications](#)

Case Docket Highlights

[Jouhari/Horton v. United Klans of America/Frankhouser](#)

[Keenan v. Aryan Nations](#)

[Johnson v. Amox et al.](#)

[More Hate and Extremism Cases](#)

The New York Times

Bits

Business ■ Innovation ■ Technology ■ Society

MARCH 16, 2010, 9:28 AM

Online Hate Sites Grow With Social Networks

Terrorists and racists are turning to online social networks and depending less on traditional Web sites, according to a new report on digital terror and hate speech.

The report, by the [Simon Wiesenthal Center](#), found a 20 percent increase in the number of hate and terrorist-abetting Web sites, social network pages, chat forums and micro-bloggers over the last year, to a total of 11,500.

“The real growth is where it is for everyone: in social networks,” said Rabbi Abraham Cooper, an associate dean at the center, a Jewish human rights group, which issued the report on Monday.

Longtime Web sites like Stormfront, which bills itself as a leading site of the “White Nationalist Community,” are still around and active, Rabbi Cooper said. But such sites have become the old-line media of online racism.

The annual report is intended as a “collective snapshot” of the activities of hate groups and terrorists online, Rabbi Cooper said. It is distributed as a CD-ROM, mainly to law enforcement agencies and nonprofit groups, instead of online because it includes terrorist tutorials, like video clips of bomb-making instructions.

“We don’t want to help the bad guys,” Rabbi Cooper explained.

The report is part of the center’s effort to raise awareness about hate groups, and the center urges Web users who encounter hate sites, videos or groups to e-mail links to ireport@wiesenthal.com. The center then contacts Web companies or law enforcement agencies, as appropriate.

“The goal is to get the collective genius of the Internet to help combat this problem,” he said.

Historical Photojournalist Reminisces: Volume 18.3

When traveling through Israel today it's hard to believe that the country celebrated its 60th anniversary only a few years ago. But if you want to see how it all started, a major photography exhibit in Jerusalem offers a rare glimpse of the historic rebirth of the nation. The display features the work of photojournalist David Harris, who documented Israel's epic struggle, against all the odds, to establish its independence. His images capture the Zionist dream of shaping a new country while absorbing refugees from a multitude of different cultures. *Running time: 3:06 minutes*



Rationale

This lesson provides an opportunity for participants to experience the early days of Israel through the work of acclaimed photojournalist David Harris.

Objectives

The participant will

- Become familiar with the photography of David Harris and how it documented the birth of a new country
- Explore the early years of the State of Israel, through the historic Camp David Accords, through iconic images that represent Israel's leadership, immigration, religious pluralism, battles for survival and more

Materials

- Wireless internet access is needed, as well as multiple devices with access (laptops, desktop computers, iPad, Kindle, etc.)
- Projector and whiteboard or screen (for PowerPoint presentations) OR overhead projector (for paper resources)

Handout

- About David Harris (PDF)

Preparing the class to view the story

Birthdays, for people, are times when photographs are traditionally taken, to capture significant moments and to become part of one's personal archive – a life in pictures. The late David Harris, a photojournalist of international renown, did just that for the birth of Israel in 1948, for its early years of statehood and its struggles for survival through the historic Camp David Accords.

View the DVD

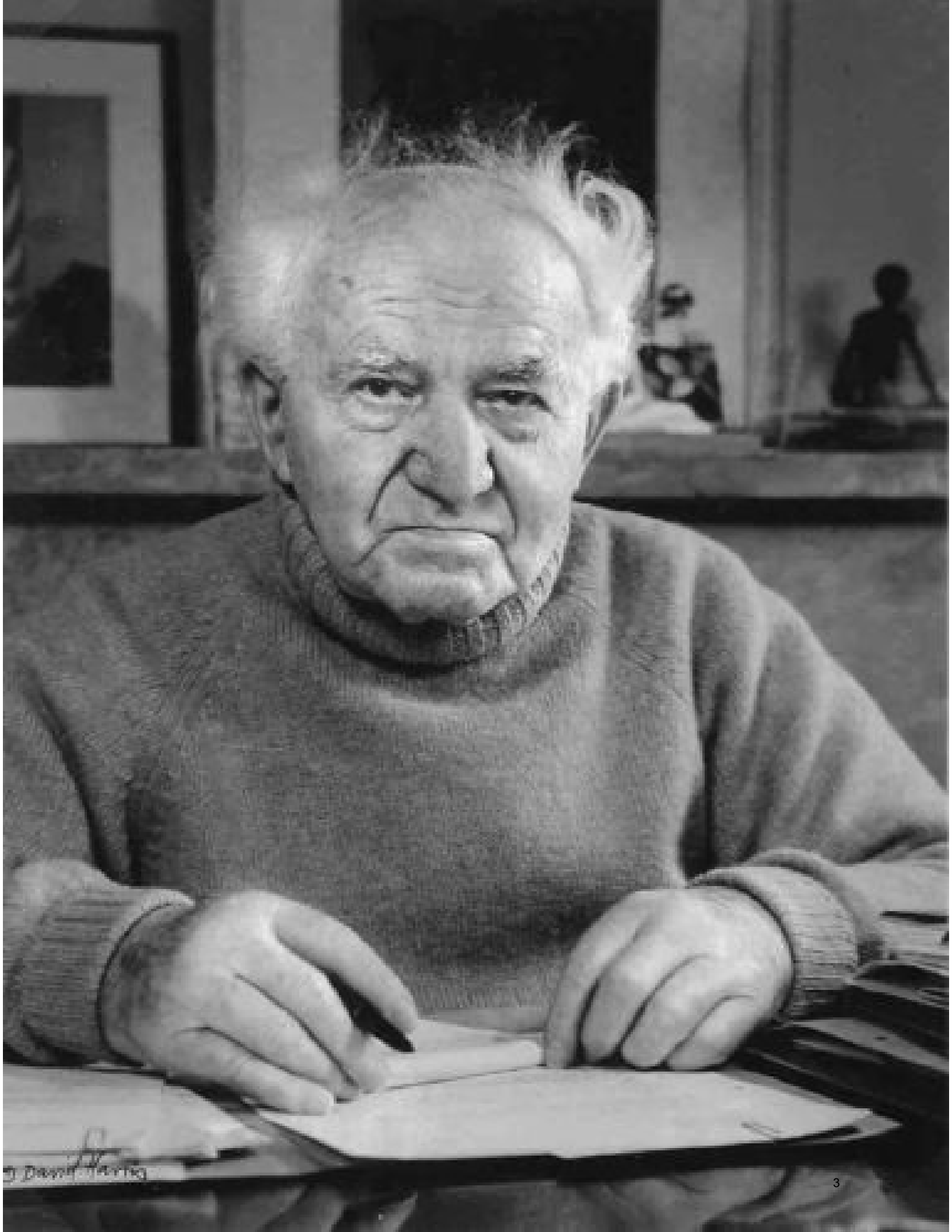
Activity

- Divide the class into small groups of 3 to 5 students each. Distribute one of the attached David Harris images to each group, to be the subject of their report/presentation:
 - David Ben-Gurion (subject: leadership, vision at an historical moment)

- New Immigrants, Haifa (subject: immigration, building a new country)
 - Easter, Jerusalem (subject: religious pluralism)
 - Sinai, Six Day War (subject: struggles for survival)
 - Digging, Qumeran Caves (subject: Israel as major archaeological site)
- Participants should visit http://www.visiongallery.com/index.php?tPath=1_3_161_231 to access additional images that relate to their subject matter (i.e. David Ben-Gurion with his wife, with soldiers; religious pluralism – images of Druse, nuns, etc.)
 - Participants should research and prepare a brief report using images and text, on their subject:
 - **Leadership and Vision:** David Ben-Gurion: who was he? What was his role in the birth of Israel? What were his greatest challenges as a leader? What does it take to lead a country through a battle for independence into early years of statehood? Who were some of the other leaders (see image: Moshe Dayan)
 - **Immigration to a New Land:** from where did immigrants come to Israel? From how many countries? Why did they come? What were the struggles they faced (see images of Mahabarot – “tent camps”, an outdoor oven, etc. documenting the struggle for survival post-war).
 - **Religious Pluralism:** Jerusalem, the capital of Israel, is holy to three major world religions: Judaism, Islam and Christianity. Through Harris’ images, tell the story of how Israel honors these religions (restoration and preservation of holy places, freedom of religion, etc.) and how Israel is home to a diverse Jewish population, from secular to ultra-Orthodox.
 - **The Battle for Survival:** Surrounding countries declared war on Israel the moment it gained independence through a UN resolution. Subsequent wars (Six-Day War in the 60s, Yom Kippur War in the 70s) were aimed at destroying Israel. How did Israel overcome these challenges? What has happened in the years since (see image: Camp David Accords)
 - **Preserving the Past:** Major archaeological discoveries – the most famous of which are the Dead Sea Scrolls – have been made in Israel. David Harris was the photographer chosen by archaeologist Yigal Yadin when he explored the Qumeran Caves where the Scrolls were found. Tell the story of the Dead Sea Scrolls and at least one other archaeological find that has put Israel on the world map.
 - When all groups are finished with the research/preparation, each group presents to the rest of the class; discussion and Q&A follows.

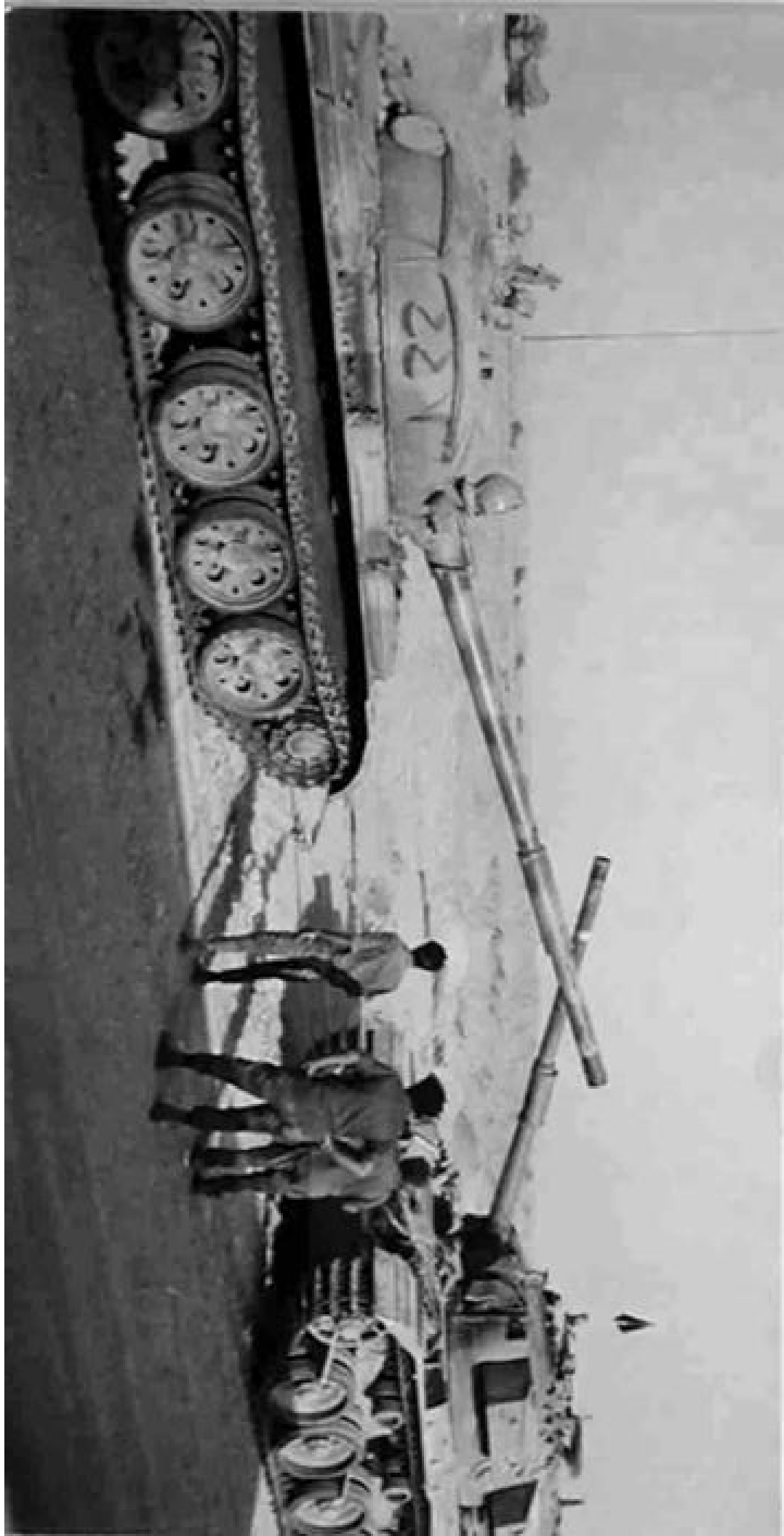
Closing

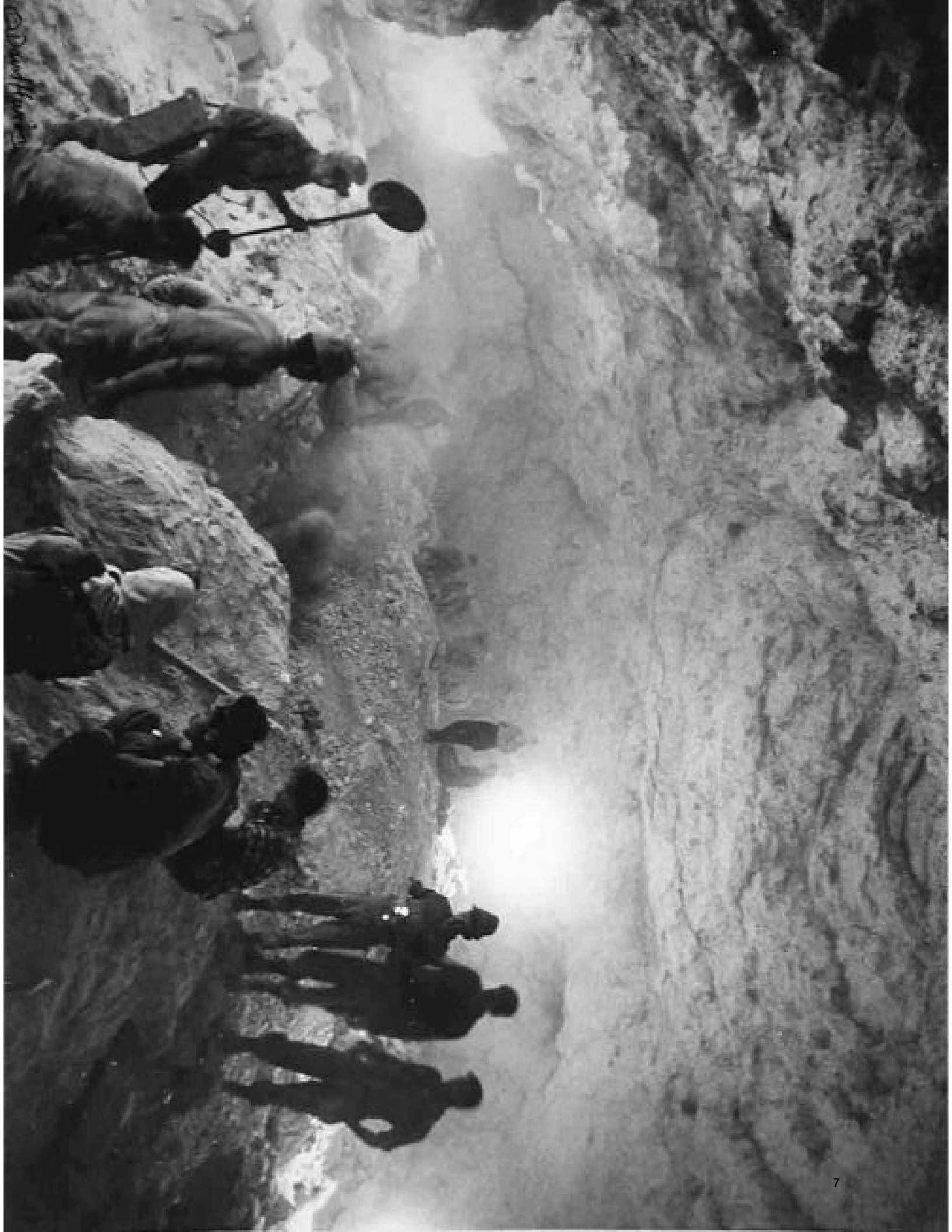
David Harris had a passion for Israel, for people and for the art of photography. These passions carried through 78 years until his life ended tragically on a Jerusalem street, where he was hit by a car and killed in 2008. The legacy he leaves us is a powerful archive of images that captured the birth and development of Israel and its people: a significant chapter in the human story that continues to be written today.











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David Harris

By *Anonymous*

Created 3 Jul 2008 - 11:00pm

Obituaries

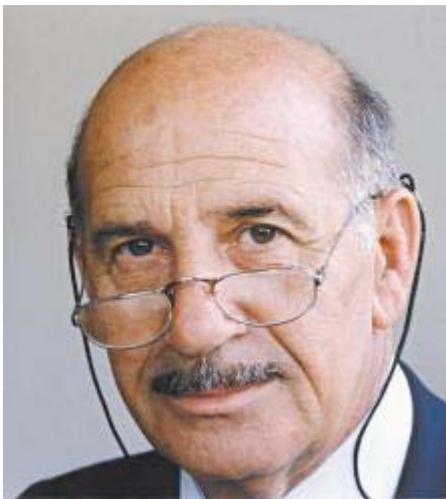
Born Jerusalem, November 29, 1929.

Died Jerusalem, April 24, 2008, aged 78.

An outstanding Israeli photo-journalist, David Harris recorded many of the country's most significant events with a trademark style, writes Mordechai Beck.

The child of a Russian-born father and English-born mother, David attended the prestigious Ma'ale religious school in Jerusalem.

He then took himself to be trained for three years by the noted artist and photographer, Leo Robitscheck, whose studio he used to pass on the way to school. He also studied under the famous naturalist painter, Shmuel Charuvi.



With the outbreak of the 1948 War of Independence, he joined the army as a military correspondent, which allowed him to use his photographic skills.

When he left the army, he married fellow-soldier Rivkah Sucharman, the daughter of Russian immigrants, and took up a scholarship to New York's School of Modern Photography, where he

graduated as top student in 1952.

Returning to Israel, he was appointed director of the Jewish Agency's photography department.

In his six years there he captured with his lens the state's early years, in particular the various waves of immigration and the country's multi-faceted development.

Thereafter he worked freelance for commercial and institutional commissions. He was hired by Professor Yigael Yadin for his pioneer excavations of the Judean desert and elsewhere in Israel.

Using his specially developed shooting techniques, he disclosed the image of a lion, invisible to the naked eye, on a seal he had been asked to photograph.

From 1978-83, he headed the photography department at Jerusalem's Hadassah Community College, where he endeared himself to his students for his positive approach and encouragement, supporting rather than disparaging their efforts.

His love of people is well expressed in his many portraits, of the famous and quotidian alike, which he never took without the subject's permission. Like all his work, these are characterised by a powerful use of light, natural or studio.

His photographs have illustrated hundreds of books and been exhibited in Israel and abroad. He received numerous prizes, the most recent from the Israel Museum earlier this year.

His style is considered classical, with subjects rendered in a clear and often dramatic fashion.

He died from complications following a road accident, in which he was knocked down on a pedestrian crossing.

He is survived by his wife, two daughters, a son — also in film and photography — and 10 grandchildren.

Source URL: <http://www.thejc.com/social/obituaries/david-harris>



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