



# iEngage

## Israel's Milestones and Their Meanings

The Legacy of the Past and the Challenge of the Future

**Bring the excellence of Hartman scholarship into your community with this special iEngage Video Lecture Series to mark 50 years since the Six Day War and 70 years since Israel's establishment.**

The Hartman Video Lecture Series enables community rabbis and educators across North America to partner with top Shalom Hartman Institute faculty to create a customized course of study that provides relevant, contemporary approaches to the urgent challenges facing the Jewish people.

Memory is a central element in defining modern Jewish identity. As we look to Israel's future, we need to engage anew with our past and explore its meanings and consequences. Through the consideration of major historic moments, this iEngage series grapples with the different ideas and values that shape the meaning of modern Israel, Zionism, and Jewish identity today.

This innovative course explores the pivotal events of 1947 and 1967 – following the 1917 Balfour Declaration – as key moments when Zionism unleashed new thinking about the meaning of Jewishness for generations to come. The course engages participants in an open and pluralistic discussion about issues of Jewish identity, peoplehood, ethics and theology as they relate to nationhood, land, sovereignty, Jerusalem, occupation, and moral red lines.

### **The iEngage Israel's Milestones and Their Meanings Video Lecture Series includes:**

**Videos:** Each session in this eight-unit course on Hartman Online includes a 20-25 minute video lecture and a 20-25 minute roundtable video discussion with senior Hartman faculty, as well as primary sources and background readings. Videos can be streamed or downloaded.

**Sourcebook:** Each chapter of the sourcebook includes primary sources for the relevant lecture as well as background readings. Sourcebook available for download on Hartman Online. Bound hard copies may be purchased for \$20 each (shipping included).

**Leader's Guides:** Video Leader's Guide includes explanations from Rabbi Dr. Donniel Hartman on the themes of each unit. Written Leader's Guide contains a comprehensive outline of each lecture, recommended study questions for primary sources, and discussion questions for each unit. Video and written Leader's Guides available for download on Hartman Online.

**Cost:** \$500, includes online access to course videos, leader's guides, and PDF of the sourcebook. Additional hard copies of sourcebooks sold separately, \$20 each (includes ground shipping).

# Central Themes of the iEngage Israel's Milestones and Their Meanings Curriculum

- 1 1917 - The Balfour Declaration: The Idea of a Homeland for the Jewish People**

This unit explores the conceptual framework underlying the Zionist idea of a homeland for the Jewish people and delves into two core principles of Jewish identity: the Judaism of Belonging and the Judaism of Becoming. 1917 marks a turning point in the balance between these two pillars of Jewish Peoplehood, and the implications of this shift continue to play out in modern Israel today.
- 2 1947 - The United Nations Partition Plan: The Jews in the World**

The Partition Plan offered the unprecedented seal of legal status and international recognition for the Zionist aspiration. This unit examines the consequences of world acceptance as well as the conceptual and ideological implications of the Jewish people's acceptance of the Partition plan. Finally, the Arab responses to the Partition Plan raised critical questions for us as a People. Can we hear the other's narrative without having to delegitimize our own?
- 3 1967 - The Six Day War: Power, Land and God**

The victory in 1967 dramatically reshaped the meanings and experiences of Jewish and Israeli identity. In this unit, we explore the deep cultural conflict over Israel's identity, shaped by the events of 1967, through the transformation of the way in which we think about God, Power and Land.
- 4 Judea and Samaria: Occupation or Liberation**

The word, "occupation," is loaded with significance for the Jewish people. In this session, we will explore a spectrum of legal positions regarding Israel's status in Judea and Samaria. Our goal is not to choose a position on this divisive issue, but to enhance our understanding of one another and to grasp the complexity of the situation before us.
- 5 One State, Two States: Moral Red Lines**

Over the last few decades, the consensus around "the Two-State Solution" has diminished. In this unit, we explore how Israelis can forge a shared vision for the future directions of the State with the deterioration of this consensus. As we look back 50 years since 1967, is there a possibility of creating a new shared moral discourse around Israel despite our political disagreements?
- 6 Jerusalem of God, Prayer and Peoplehood**

The Six Day War will always be remembered as the moment when we regained sovereignty over Jerusalem. Since the time of King David, Jerusalem has captured the Jewish imagination. Jerusalem today continues to mean different things to different people. In this unit, we will explore the multiple faces of this unique city, and how the events of 1967 impacted the Jerusalem of God, Prayer and Peoplehood.
- 7 Jerusalem of Responsibility, Loss and Hope**

In this session, we continue to delve into the diverse ways that our tradition understands Jerusalem. We will focus on the ways that Jerusalem can shape our behavior as both individuals and as a nation, by exploring the Jerusalem of Responsibility, the Jerusalem of Loss, and the Jerusalem of Hope.
- 8 The Jubilee Year and Beyond: Milestones and their Meanings**

This final unit examines the way in which we relate to the passing of time. What are our responsibilities as individuals and a people who are now capable of shaping our own future? How can we, in the shadow of the debates over the meaning of our shared past, embark on a path which will enable us to maintain a shared future?



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