

# Hadracha Choveret



BNEI AKIVA'S WEEKLY EDUCATIONAL HANDBOOK FOR MADRICHIM

## Yom Ha'atzmaut



### Aims

- 1) To learn about why we celebrate Yom Ha'atzmaut
- 2) To view Yom Ha'atzmaut in it's historical context
- 3) To learn about the religious significance of the creation of a Jewish State in the Land of Israel

(Go to: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FiLMcnxYIaM&list=UU5GN5eVPyIc3I5608T\\_QI3Q&index=1&feature=plcp](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FiLMcnxYIaM&list=UU5GN5eVPyIc3I5608T_QI3Q&index=1&feature=plcp) or BAUKchinuch channel)

- Many people ridicule the recitation of Hallel on Yom Ha'atzmaut
- Rav Amital says (Yom Ha'atzmaut 5754):

*"Today we live in a 'now' generation: Peace now, Mashiach now, Terrorism now, Quiet now - everything must be now. We are incapable of imagining what tomorrow might bring...In 1948, it was a different generation, one with historical perspective. Recently we have suffered terrible terrorist attacks. Let me tell you something: During those few months, between the UN vote on the 29th of November and the Declaration of Statehood on the 5th of Iyyar, there were seven car bombs here. One of them, on Ben-Yehuda Street, killed fifty Jews. And this in addition to the victims killed by marauders on the roads and by snipers in the yishuvim...And do you know how many victims fell here in Gush Etzion on the 3rd and 4th of Iyyar, 5708? More than a hundred and fifty. Just two days before the declaration of the State! Two hundred and forty victims fell during those five months. And despite it all, the establishment of the State was declared, and the next day everyone recited Hallel with great excitement. People danced in the streets. Had they gone mad? It was the strong sense of history that prompted this. That generation knew and understood the significance of Jewish independence in Eretz Yisrael after two thousand years. A State meant not for the six hundred thousand Jews living there then, but for millions of Jews. Each person understood that he was fighting for the millions who would come. What were the borders of that State? They did not include the Kotel. Nahariya was not ours, nor were Nazareth, Lod, Ramle, Ashkelon, Be'er Sheva. Jerusalem was an international city. What were they saying Hallel for? They said Hallel for the sovereignty that had returned to Israel. They remembered the words of the Rambam in Hilchot Channuka, where he teaches that in the merit of the Chashmona'im, 'Sovereignty returned to Israel for two hundred years.' They understood the significance of that sovereignty. I'm not even discussing the fact that the next day I had to rush to finish reciting Hallel because I had been drafted. They began to invade from all sides: from Egypt, from Syria, from Jordan, from Lebanon. Units from Iraq. How were we supposed to stand up to them, after the British had forbidden us to stockpile arms? All in all we were six hundred thousand Jews. Someone who cannot see the past will also be incapable of seeing the future, and of perceiving God's hand, 'when God redeems the captivity of His nation.' Can a nation rising out of the ashes of the Sho'ah allow itself to ignore this? True, you are all young. You never saw all of this. You were born, as it were, to a life of freedom. You never experienced Jews living in bunkers, longing for any type of freedom, praying for the day when they could walk in the streets and look around without fear. Only someone who looks at the entire two thousand years and sees Jews being led into exile by Titus, sees the Crusades and pogroms - only someone who sees all of this understands the meaning of Jewish independence after two thousand years.*

- There are two main ways to view the independence of the state of Israel in Religious Zionism. One based on the teachings of Rav Kook and one based on the teachings of Rav Soloveitchik

## **Hadracha Hot Tips**

**Birthday Bingo:** make bingo cards of some of the reasons to be thankful for the State of Israel e.g. a safe space for Jews, scientific research leader, hundreds of new Yeshivot etc and play bingo.

**Good News, Bad News:** One person says 'Good News' followed by any random comment e.g. I just found a brand-new car. The next person says 'Bad News' followed by some way of turning that statement into bad news, e.g. It was stolen. The next person finds the 'good' in that i.e. 'Good News: As a policeman I get a bonus for that' etc. The aim is to try and be witty (!! ) but the serious message is that you can always find the good or bad in a situation – on Yom Ha'atzmaut one can find excuses not to thank Hashem; but is this what He wants from us?

## Planning Your Peulah

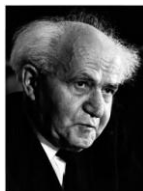
	Time (minutes)	Aim	Tziud	Age Range
1.	5	Fun intro games that will get people excited for sviva (I went to Israel and bought...!)	Funness!	<u>All Ages!</u>
2.	5/10	To learn about why we celebrate Yom Ha'atzmaut (Birthday Bingo)	Bingo Cards and Boards	<u>All Ages</u>
3.	10	To view Yom Ha'atzmaut in it's historical context		<u>Older Chanichim</u>
4.	15	To learn about the religious significance of the creation of the State of Israel in the Land of Israel		<u>All Ages</u>
5.	5	A short conclusion on Yom Ha'atzmaut		<u>All Ages</u>












**Remember that all your activities should lead in to a discussion about the specific aim that they are linked to**

Gathering Time (waiting for people)	10 minutes
Peulah Time	35-40 minutes
Transition Time (use sheet provided)	5 Minutes
Extra Time (Use ideas provided for what to do here)	40 minutes
Mifkad	15 minutes

# Personality of the Week

## David Ben-Gurion



-  Born in Plonsk, Poland, 16 October in 1886
-  Died 1 December 1973
-  Became executive head of the World Zionist Organisation in 1946
-  On 14 May 1948 he formally proclaimed the establishment of the State of Israel
-  At 14 he and two friends created a youth movement, Ezra, promoting Hebrew and moving to the Holy Land
-  In 1906 he made Aliyah
-  In 1909 he volunteered in Hashomer, a force of volunteers who helped guard isolated Jewish agricultural communities
-  He believed that settling the Negev gave Jews the opportunity to settle the land with minimal problems from Arabs living in the land already.
-  He set up a kibbutz called Sde Boker in the Negev. This is where he and his wife are buried
-  After leading Israel during the Independence War he was made prime minister in the first national election on 14 February 1949
-  He set up a national quiz of Tanach study, which later became international, because he believed the Jews right to Eretz Yisrael was from the Tanach

## רגע בעברית - Rega B'Ivrit

דגל

Flag

הדגל שלי הוא כחול ולבן

My flag is blue and white

Gathering Time (waiting for people)	10 minutes
Peulah Time	35-40 minutes
Transition Time (use sheet provided)	5 Minutes
Extra Time (Use ideas provided for what to do here)	40 minutes
Mifkad	15 minutes