

A PEOPLES' HISTORY OF THE JEWS:

Current Issues in Light of the PAST

JOIN OUR COMMUNITIES IN FIVE SUNDAY MORNING DISCUSSIONS EXAMINING JEWISH HISTORY FROM TODAY'S PERSPECTIVES — A REFRESHINGLY DIFFERENT APPROACH. (*Plus coffee, beygol 'n' shmirtz in a friendly, open atmosphere: questions and disagreements welcomed.*)

CO-SPONSORED BY: ARBETER RING/WORKMEN'S CIRCLE, SO. CAL. DISTRICT
THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR SECULAR HUMANISTIC JUDAISM



SUNDAY, OCT. 25, 10:15 AM—Whose “Promised Land?”

What the Bible does—and doesn't—say. Ancient Hebrews: wandering tribes or offshoot of Canaanites? Egyptian bondage and exodus: fiction or fact? Biblical priests, prophets, and today's *hasidim*, *haredim* and religious freedom in Israel.

Plus—what's kosher? what's *treyf*? Who says so?

SUNDAY, DEC. 6, 10:15 AM—Peoplehood Under Cross and Crescent

“Everyone knows” that the Middle Ages were an unbroken era of anti-Jewish persecution and oppression: the ghettos...the Inquisition...forced conversions...expulsions...pervasive anti-Semitism. Really? Was that all there was? Do *facts* challenge what's been called “the lachrymose concept” of Jewish history?

Plus—how Judaism totally changed as Jewish peoplehood changed.

SUNDAY, JAN. 31, 2010, 10:15 AM—Discovering the “Yiddish Empire”

The thousand-year saga of Jewish life in Central and Eastern Europe and the culture created there. Theories about the origins of “the people of Ashkenaz.”

Is there only one Jewish People? Culture...genetics...politics...and more.

Plus—the roles of Yiddish and Hebrew in today's Secular Jewish Movements.

SUNDAY, MAR. 14, 10:15 AM—Behind the “sea washed, sunset gates”

Fairly common beliefs: Jews in the U.S. have always been on the side of social justice...Jewish immigrants' children became middle class in one generation...U.S. Zionist support played a major role in creating the State of Israel. All true...or?

Plus—is intercultural marriage the major factor in “Jewish decline?”

SUNDAY, APRIL 11, 10:15 AM—The momentous 20th Century...and beyond

The unbelievable roller-coaster ride: highest hopes...deepest despair...near euphoria. “Forgotten history” of revolution/rebirth...the “Holocaust industry”...birth of Israel.

The decline of religious membership and observance. What does the future hold?

Plus—Zionism/Israel/Palestine: myths that block the road to peace.

**All Sessions at American Jewish University
15600 Mullholland Drive, Los Angeles, CA**

FEE SCHEDULE PER ATTENDEE

Sholem, AR/WC members	\$10. Single, \$30. Series
Non-members	\$15. Single, \$50. Series



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