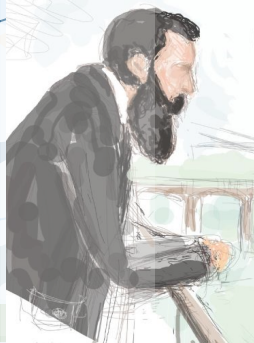


The Declaration of Independence you didn't know

*An Illustrated Journey along the Length and Breadth of Israel
in the Spirit of its Declaration of Independence*

Michael Slatkine

Zvi Tadmor



The Declaration of Independence You didn't Know

*A Drawing Journey along the Length and Breadth of Israel in
the Spirit of its Declaration of Independence*

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Zvi Tadmor



*"A nation that doesn't respect its past will have a dull
present and an uncertain future" (Yigal Allon)*

The Declaration of Independence you didn't know

*An Illustrated Journey along the length and breadth of
Israel in the spirit of its Declaration of Independence*

Michael Slatkine

Zvi Tadmor

**The Declaration of Independence you have never
seen before**

An illustrated journey along the length and breadth
of Israel in the spirit of its declaration of
independence

On the front cover: David Ben Gurion and Theodor
Herzl.

On the back cover: View of Jerusalem from Mount
Scopus.

Drawings: Michael Slatkine.

Research and text: Zvi Tadmor.

All the drawings in this book can be found on the
website: www.israel-in-color.com

It can also be found on the YouTube channel
“Israel Cities – Living in a Painting”.

The book is dedicated to my* beloved son-in-law Erez Flekser, a Cobra combat helicopter pilot who fell during operational training as a result of a malfunction in the tail rotor on March 12, 2013 when he was only 31 years old. Erez was a Man, a researcher, a pilot, a father, and trekked around the whole country. You can read about his very special life in the book "Erez Way- Touching the person - touching the sky" by scanning the code below.

The book is also dedicated to Lt. Col. Noam Ron, Erez partner in their last flight, and also to all the IDF fallen soldiers in the battles of "Iron Swords" war in Gaza. It is also dedicated to all residents of Gaza strip border, who were slaughtered or kidnapped on Oct. 7 2023 while peacefully building their homes and growing their families in fulfilment of the vision of return of the Jewish people to Zion.

*Michael Slatkine



The Declaration of Independence

Recently, seventy-five years after the establishment of the state of Israel, the “Declaration of Independence” returned and grabbed “headlines” in Israeli and Jewish society. A large sector of the public feels the need and considers it important to revisit the Declaration of Independence, and to draw strength from it in the struggle for its principles and values. The idea to illustrate the Declaration of Independence was actually born in these fateful days, in which we find ourselves, at a time when we are facing a major crossroad of identity. Perhaps the time has come to return to the starting point of the establishment of the state on May 14, 1948, bringing to our hearts the ideas and principles embodied in the Declaration of Independence, that were agreed upon and signed by the nation's leaders of all political fractions.

The artistic work of Michael Slatkine makes the Declaration of Independence accessible to us with the help of a visual dimension - a visual like no other. His illustrations reflect great optimism and a good spirit, when they accompany the literal content of the Declaration. Thus, they add and give it greater meaning, and value along with the familiarity of landscapes, places and personalities.

Many see the Declaration as a document, declaring the fundamental principles of rule in the State of Israel. As stated in the Declaration: "The State of Israel...will be founded on the foundations of freedom, justice and peace in the light of the vision of the Prophets of Israel. There will be complete social and political equality of rights for all its citizens, without discrimination of religion, race or gender." It will also guarantee freedom of opinion, language, education and culture, as well as safeguarding the holy places of all religions. Full and equal citizenship for all ethnic minorities, and seeking peace with the neighbouring countries.

Israeli governments see the Declaration of Independence as a document of moral-legal importance that guides. In 1992, in furtherance of the Declaration, two basic laws were enacted: the Basic Law on Human Dignity and Freedom, and the Basic Law on Freedom of Occupation. These laws strengthened the legal status of the Declaration of Independence. The Declaration of Independence states that an elected parliament will be established "in accordance with a constitution to be written by the future elected constituent assembly (the Knesset) no later than October 1, 1948". To date, seventy-five years after its establishment, the State of Israel does not yet have a constitution. In a country that does not have agreed borders, that does not have a full charter of human

rights, and the Israeli governance is not fully anchored in a constitution, there a need to continue to cling to the Declaration of Independence.

The Declaration of Independence embodies the over three thousand-year history of the people of Israel, which began in the Land of Israel, where the Jewish Nation was born and and formed and created cultural assets. Two thousand years after the Jews were exiled from their land, to which all generations longed, they began to return and resettle the Land of Israel and revive their Hebrew language.

After about fifty years, the vision of Benjamin Ze'ev Herzl and the Zionist movement was fulfilled and the Jewish people won their national uprising. In the Balfour Declaration in 1917, the Jewish people were promised the establishment of a national home in the Land of Israel, which was confirmed by the mandate of the League of Nations in 1920 and recognized the right of the Jewish people to establish their national home. The Holocaust, which took place in Europe during World War II, in which six million Jews died, required a solution for the Jewish people without a homeland.

In November 1947, the partition plan was approved by Resolution 181 of the United Nations, which recognized the right of the Jewish people to establish a sovereign state alongside that of an Arab state, whose leaders rejected and declared a war.

In the War of Independence, in May 1948, the few against the many defended the lives of the newly born nation. Later, two peace agreements and four "normalization" agreements were signed with six Arab countries. After 75 years of our rebirth we are still fighting for our existence.

Zvi Tadmor

The E-pencil drawing technique

In this book we present 94 illustrations of communities, cities and landscapes in Israel that reflect each paragraph of the Declaration of Independence according to its fulfillment in 2023. The paintings were made in over a hundred walking tours along the length and breadth of dozens of sites in Israel, where about 800 paintings were produced in just a few years. The production of such a quantity of paintings was made possible thanks to the E-pencil painting technique that I developed. In this technique, the sketches are made from a direct view (not from postcards or photographs), freehand, using a digital pen on the screen of my smartphone (Samsung NOTE 20). During the sketching phase I hardly look at the screen and my eyes are focused on the object. This creates an eye and hand contact without the mediation of thought. The availability of the phone makes it possible to pull it out of the pocket at any place or event that appeals to my heart and sketch it immediately. I don't need cumbersome tools or preparation time - my studio is in my shirt pocket.

Michael Slatkine

About the authors

Zvi Tadmor, born in Rehovot, obtained a Master degree in geography from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem with a specialization in urban studies. He previously served as a member of the Board of Director of Bank of Israel's general management. Zvi has been researching the history of the city of Rehovot for over a decade and his research is published on the website of the Rehovot city archive: www.rehovotarchive.org.il
Today he lectures on history and geography, and is also an artist.

Michael Slatkine is a painter and a physicist who shares his time between painting and science. He did his doctorate at the Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot and here he was exposed to the uniqueness of the city and its beauty. In the last ten years, Michael has been illustrating many cities in Israel using the E-pencil technique which he has developed, and has published over 800 of his paintings on the website www.Israel-in-color.com . In addition he published nine books and over forty videos on the YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/@Israel-in-Color/videos>

ERETZ-ISRAEL, the Land of Israel was the birthplace of the Jewish people. Here their spiritual, religious and political identity was shaped. Here they first attained to statehood, created cultural values of national and universal significance and gave to the world the eternal Book of Books.



View of Jerusalem from
[Mount Scopus](#)



In the [Israel Museum](#), the [Shrine of the Book](#) building displays the Qumran Scrolls which were found in the Judean desert. The earliest manuscripts of the Bible were written about two thousand years ago.

After being forcibly exiled from their land, the people kept faith with it throughout their Dispersion and never ceased to pray and hope for their return to it and for the restoration in it of their political freedom.



The [Titus Arch](#) in Rome. This monument was built in the year 82 AD to celebrate the Roman victory over the Jewish State



The [Western Wall](#)



Praying by the Western Wall



The “Hurva” Synagogue in the Jewish Quarter of the old city of Jerusalem



Moshe Maimonides Tomb in Tiberias



The [HaAri Synagogue](#) in [Safad](#),
was built in 1578



[Beit She'arim](#), center for Jewish
learning in the 2nd century

Impelled by this historic and traditional attachment, Jews strove in every successive generation to re-establish themselves in their ancient homeland.



Praying in [Western Wall Tunnel](#)



The [Tower of David](#)
in Jerusalem



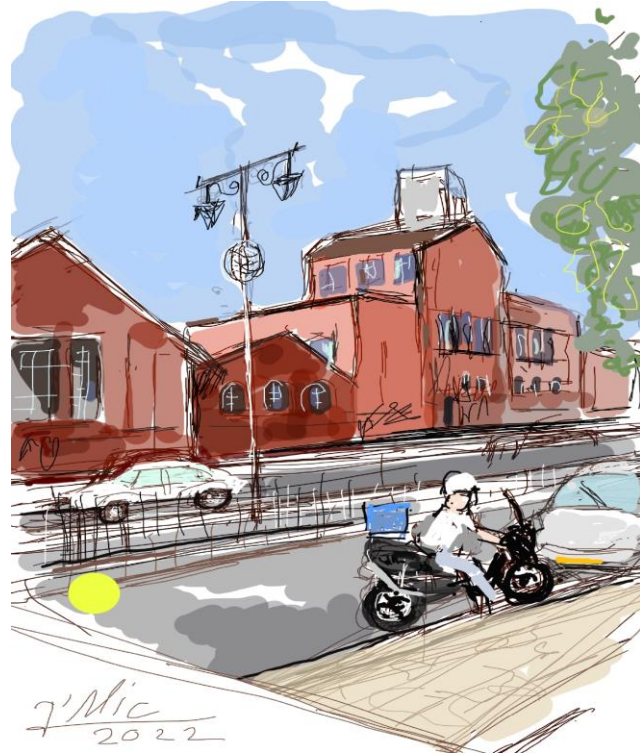
The Yarkon River.

It's source is in
Biblical Tel Afek
(Antipatris)

Wadi Beer Sheba



In recent decades they returned in their masses. Pioneers, ma'pilim [(Hebrew) - immigrants coming to Eretz-Israel in defiance of restrictive legislation] and defenders, they made deserts bloom, revived the Hebrew language,



The [Winery in Rishon Lezion](#). Founded in 1887
by [Baron Edmund James de Rothschild](#)



**שני הדברים שבלעדיהם
לא יהיו היהודים לעם:
הארץ והלשון**

א.ב. יהודה

**DOS SON LAS COZAS QUE SIN EYAS
NO PUEDRAN LOS JUDIOS SER
NACION: LA TIERRA Y LA LINGUA**

**צווי זאכן און וועלכע
ידן וועלן נישט זיין קיין
פאלק: לאנד און שפראך**

משרד התנור והתרבות • מבצע הנהלת הלשון לעם

יום חמישי ה'ת
שנה ראשונה
נלין א
שני נוספות חצי גיל
בית שדה קטנה

העביר

יבשר סנה בשבוע רחוקות סעניו וסבינו וסבינו וסבינו בכל סקופות
נשיך על ידי **בן יהודה** טולק ירושלים ה'ז

הביר, דעם לסרימא
אין סעניו חיות עתה למספלות שני
ענין לעסן ב' (ב) תכל דעת מספלות סעניו
ספלות ספלות ספלות, (ב) אין ספלות
לספלות יום יום, וספלות ספלות ספלות
לספלות יום יום, וספלות ספלות ספלות
לספלות יום יום, וספלות ספלות ספלות
לספלות יום יום, וספלות ספלות ספלות

The first Hebrew Newspaper,
founded by Eliezer Ben Yehuda in 1884

[Eliezer Ben Yehuda](#), revivor of
the Hebrew language

built villages and towns, and created a thriving community controlling its own economy and culture,



[Kfar Malal](#), founded in 1911



[Haifa](#). Many immigrants settled on the [Carmel](#) on the beginning of the 20th century



View of [Tel Aviv](#) founded in 1909 from [Jaffa](#)



One of the first
buildings in [Herzliya](#).
built in 1924



View of the [Sea of Galilee](#)
around which many
“[Kibbutzim](#)” were built



The [Hebrew University](#)
Amphitheater [on Mount](#)
[Scopus](#). Founded 1925



The Hebrew [Reali](#)
[High School](#) in Haifa.
Founded 1913



The Jerusalem [Bezalel Art](#)
[Academy](#). Founded 1906

loving peace but
knowing how to
defend itself,
bringing the
blessings of
progress to all the
country's
inhabitants, and
aspiring towards
independent
nationhood.



Statue of [Alexander Zaid](#), one of the founders of
the Jewish self defence organization “[Hashomer](#)”
in 1909, looking over the [Jezreel Valley](#)



View of Jezreel Valley
from [Mount Gilboa](#)



[Tel-Yosef Kibbutz](#). Founded 1921



In the year 5657 (1897), at the summons of the spiritual father of the Jewish State, Theodore Herzl, the First Zionist Congress convened and proclaimed the right of the Jewish people to national rebirth in its own country.



The statue of Theodor Herzl meeting receiving the [Kaiser Wilhelm](#) II at the [Mikveh Israel School](#) in 1898

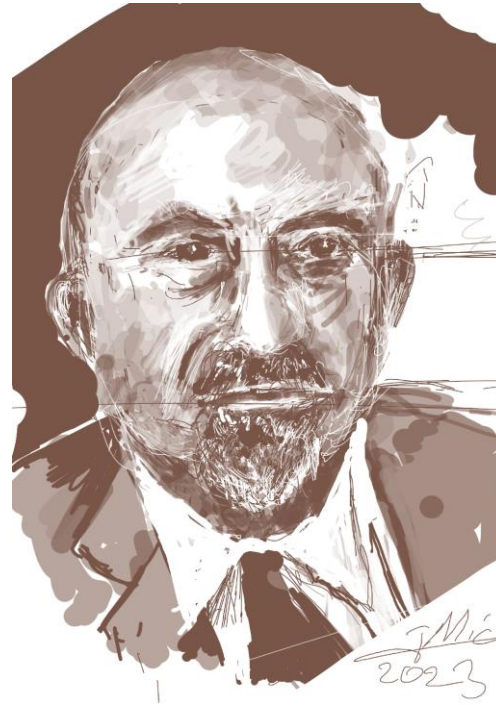


Illustration from a photograph of [Theodor Herzl](#) on the balcony of the “Three Kings Hotel” in Basel in 1897



View of Jerusalem from [Mount Olives](#)

This right was recognized in the Balfour Declaration of the 2nd November, 1917, and re-affirmed in the Mandate of the League of Nations which, in particular, gave international sanction to the historic connection between the Jewish people and Eretz-Israel and to the right of the Jewish people to rebuild its National Home.



Dr. [Chaim Weizmann](#) Israel's First President. The [Balfour Declaration](#) was given in response to a proposal submitted by Weizmann and the Zionist leadership to the British government



The Balfour Declaration as presented to Lord Rothschild on Nov. 2 1917

Design: [“Bezalel” School of Art](#) in the 1920’s

The catastrophe which recently befell the Jewish people - the massacre of millions of Jews in Europe - was another clear demonstration of the urgency of solving the problem of its homelessness by re-establishing in Eretz-Israel the Jewish State,



[Warsaw Ghetto Uprising Memorial](#), and
the [Jewish Museum in Warsaw](#)



Krakow in Poland: the [Transportation Site of Jews](#) to
[The concentration camps](#) during WWII

which would open the gates of the homeland wide to every Jew and confer upon the Jewish people the status of a fully privileged member of the comity of nations.



[Jaffa Harbour](#), the main Port of Entry to the country under [Ottoman](#) and British Rule until

1932



[Haifa Harbour](#) replaced Jaffa Port as the main entrance to the country in 1933

Survivors of the Nazi holocaust in Europe, as well as Jews from other parts of the world, continued to migrate to Eretz-Israel, undaunted by difficulties, restrictions and dangers,



Illustrations from the Atlit [Detention Camp Museum](#).

1. A C-46 aeroplane which brought refugees from Iraq in 1947



2. The bus used to move refugees for
[deportation ships to Cyprus](#)



3. A [refugees ship](#)

and never ceased to assert their right to a life of dignity, freedom and honest toil in their national homeland.



Tel Aviv Harbour and the [Electric Power Station](#) were built in 1937 by immigrants from [Saloniki](#), Greece

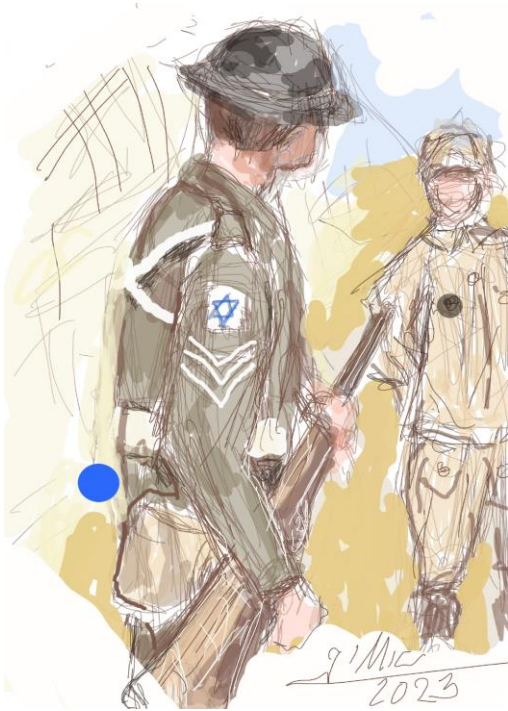


Carpentry and Agriculturing work in [Kibbutz Regavim](#), which was established in 1949 by a group of Jewish Tunisian and Italian refugees

In the Second World War, the Jewish community of this country contributed its full share to the struggle of the freedom- and peace-loving nations against the forces of Nazi wickedness and, by the blood of its soldiers and its war effort, gained the right to be reckoned among the peoples who founded the United Nations.



The Jewish leadership convinced the British to establish a [Jewish Brigade](#) to fight the Nazis in Europe in 1944



A Jewish Brigade soldier captures a Nazi soldier in the [Western Desert](#) (from Photograph)



[Hannah Szenes](#) dropped behind enemy lines in Hungary in 1944

On the 29th November, 1947, the United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution calling for the establishment of a Jewish State in Eretz-Israel; the General Assembly required the inhabitants of Eretz-Israel to take such steps as were necessary on their part for the implementation of that resolution.



Everyone listened to the [UN Voting Process on the establishment of a Jewish State](#)



The residents of Tel Aviv dancing for joy after the vote

This recognition by the United Nations of the right of the Jewish people to establish their State is irrevocable.

This right is the natural right of the Jewish people to be masters of their own fate, like all other nations, in their own sovereign State.



Israel 1st year



Israel 75th year



Israel 25th year

Since the establishment of the State of Israel a tradition has been created for producing [Independence Day stamps](#), with emphasis on showing significant achievements



The [Reali IDF Military Colleges](#)
in Haifa



A Skyhawk Aircraft stationed
in a square in Beer Sheba

ACCORDINGLY WE,
MEMBERS OF THE
PEOPLE'S
COUNCIL,
REPRESENTATIVES
OF THE JEWISH
COMMUNITY OF
ERETZ-ISRAEL AND
OF THE ZIONIST
MOVEMENT, ARE
HERE ASSEMBLED



[David Ben Gurion](#), the first prime minister of
Israel. He led to victory in the [War of](#)
[Independence](#) in 1948 (from photo)



The [Independence Hall](#) in Rothschild Boulevard in Tel Aviv. Here David Ben Gurion announced the establishment of the state of Israel

ON THE DAY OF
THE
TERMINATION
OF THE BRITISH
MANDATE OVER
ERETZ-ISRAEL



Alan Cunningham, the British High
Commissioner, left the Land of Israel on
14.5.1948



Rehovot Police Station

The British built dozens of ["Taggart" style buildings](#) for their Palestine Police Force across the country. Most of them are still used by the police.



Former [Latrun](#) British Palestine Police Force station

AND, BY VIRTUE OF
OUR NATURAL AND
HISTORIC RIGHT
AND ON THE
STRENGTH OF THE
RESOLUTION OF THE
UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY,
HEREBY DECLARE
THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF
A JEWISH STATE IN
ERETZ-ISRAEL, TO BE
KNOWN AS THE
STATE OF ISRAEL.



The [Temple Menorah](#) depicted on the Arch
of Titus in Rome was chosen as the symbol
of the State of Israel.



Modern buildings in Tel Aviv



View of the [Underwater Observatory in Eilat](#)



Rail Transport in Jerusalem

WE DECLARE that,
with effect from the
moment of the
termination of the
Mandate being tonight,
the eve of Sabbath, the
6th Iyar, 5708 (15th
May, 1948), until the
establishment of the
elected, regular
authorities of the State
in accordance with the
Constitution which
shall be adopted by the
Elected Constituent
Assembly not later
than the 1st October
1948,



[Knesset Building](#) in Jerusalem

The Declaration of Independence uses the term
"Constituent Assembly" which is charged with
the duty of establishing a constitution. This
obligation has not been fulfilled to date.

From UN resolution 181 of November 29 1947

Each country will hold... elections for a constituent assembly, which will be conducted on democratic principles. Voters with the right to vote... must be 18 years of age or older... The Constituent Assembly... shall work out a democratic constitution... to establish... a legislative institution, elected in general and secret elections... to guarantee equal rights for everyone, without discrimination in civil, political, economic and religious matters, for the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms, such as freedom Religion, language, speech and advertising, education, assembly and association... freedom of conscience and freedom of worship... will be guaranteed to all... no discrimination... will be made between the residents for reasons of race, religion, language or sex.

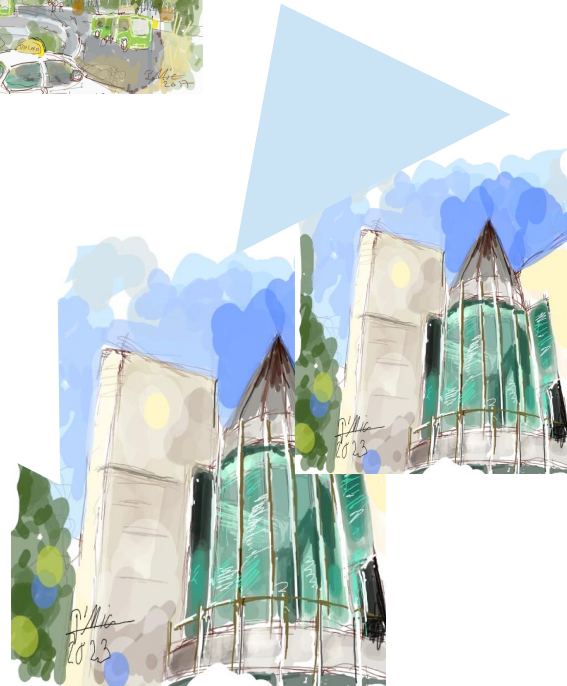


The [Israel Supreme Court](#) in
Jerusalem

the People's Council shall act as a Provisional Council of State, and its executive institution, the people's administration, will be the temporary government of the Jewish state, which will be called by the name of Israel.



Government buildings
in Jerusalem



Separation of three Authorities: Legislative (Knesset), Executive and Judicial

THE STATE OF ISRAEL will be open for Jewish immigration and for the Ingathering of the Exiles; it will foster the development of the country for the benefit of all its inhabitants; it will be based on freedom, justice and peace as envisaged by the prophets of Israel;



Ingathering of the exiles:

[Immigrant from
Morocco](#)



Immigrant from the
[Diaspora](#)

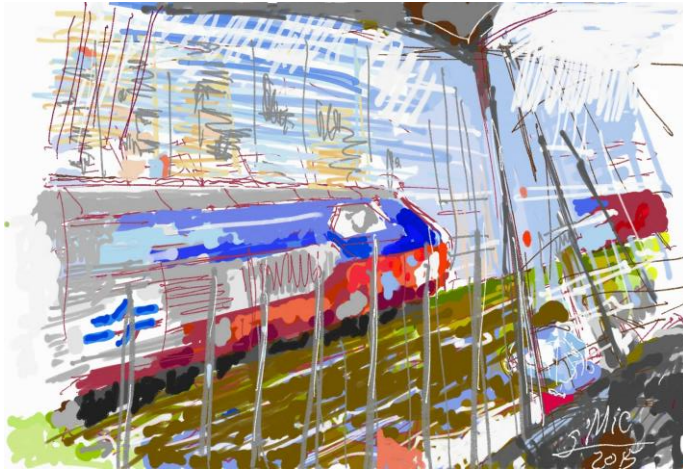


A couple near a “French Crepe”
standing in Sameday



Riding a bicycle in the [Florentine](#)
[Neighbourhood](#) of Tel Aviv

Modernization for All



Israel Railways



Government building in Haifa



The market in the Old
City of Jerusalem



Christmas tourism in the Galilee

it will ensure complete equality of social and political rights to all its inhabitants irrespective of religion, race or sex; it will guarantee freedom of religion, conscience, language, education and culture; it will safeguard the Holy Places of all religions; and it will be faithful to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations



A Bedouin woman in
Yeruham



Mea Shearim
neighbourhood in
Jerusalem



in a Herzlyia caffe



An Immigrant from
Russia in Yeruham



In a Beer Sheva Mall



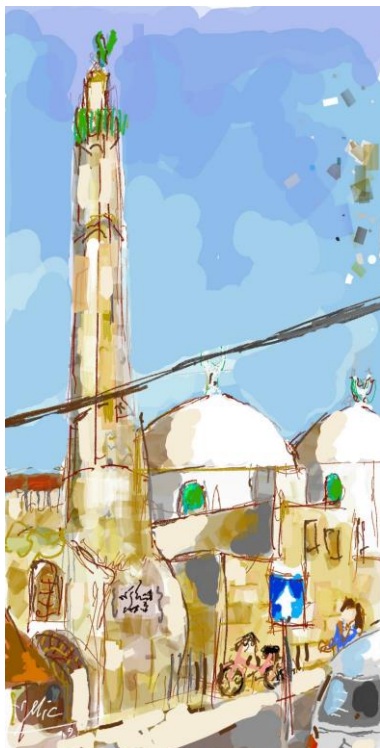
The Great Synagogue in
Ness Ziona



Church of the Holy
Sepulchre in Jerusalem



The Church of the
Annunciation in Nazareth



[“Mahmudiyah”](#)
[Mosque in Jaffa](#)



[“Istiklal” Mosque in Haifa](#)



[“Ahavat Hesed”](#)
[Synagogue in Tel Aviv](#)

THE STATE OF ISRAEL is prepared to cooperate with the agencies and representatives of the United Nations in implementing the resolution of the General Assembly of the 29th November, 1947, and will take steps to bring about the economic union of the whole of Eretz-Israel.



Since the War of Independence, observers of the [Armistice Agreements](#) have been operated by the United Nations



Herzliya Street in
Haifa



In the lower city in
Haifa



Domestic tourism in
Daliat El Carmel

WE APPEAL to
the United
Nations to assist
the Jewish people
in the building-up
of its State and to
receive the State
of Israel into the
comity of nations.



Flags of nations for [which Jewish soldiers](#)
[fought against the Nazis](#) in WWII in [Latrun](#)



The Avenue of Flags at [Reichman University](#) in Herzliay . Thousands of students from all nations come to study in Israel's universities

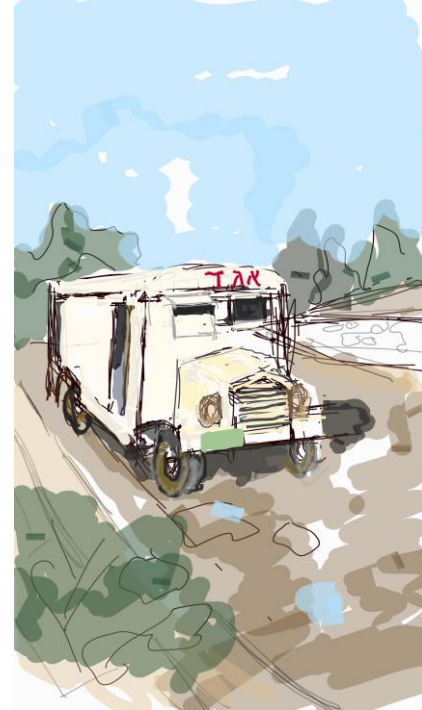
WE APPEAL - in the very midst of the onslaught launched against us now for months - to the Arab inhabitants of the State of Israel to preserve peace and participate in the upbuilding of the State on the basis of full and equal citizenship and due representation in all its provisional and permanent institutions.



[Shaar Hagai](#) and on the way to Jerusalem. Tough battles took place in the [War of Independence](#) in attempts to break through to besieged Jerusalem



Monument in remembrance of those who
opened the road to besieged Jerusalem

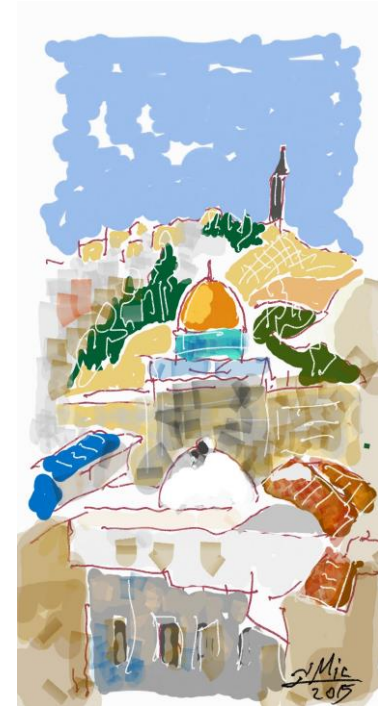


Buses converted to armored
vehicles accompanied the supply
convoys to besieged Jerusalem

WE EXTEND our hand to all neighboring states and their peoples in an offer of peace and good neighborliness, and appeal to them to establish bonds of cooperation and mutual help with the sovereign Jewish people settled in its own land. The State of Israel is prepared to do its share in a common effort for the advancement of the entire Middle East.



Acre



Jerusalem

Israeli Arabs are full partners in all areas of the economy in Israel

Abraham agreements

Peace treaties



(2020) United Emmirates



(2022) Bahrein



(1994) Jordan



(2020) Morocco



(2021) Sudan



(1979) Egypt

Arab countries with which peace or normalization agreements were signed

WE APPEAL to the Jewish people throughout the Diaspora to rally round the Jews of Eretz-Israel in the tasks of immigration and upbuilding and to stand by them in the great struggle for the realization of the age-old dream - the redemption of Israel.



The Science Oriented School in [Yeruham](#). The city in the [Negev](#) was under developed in the 1950s and turned into a thriving high-tech centre



In Yeruham

At the [Weizmann Institute of Science](#)
which became a worldwide high ranking
science centre

PLACING OUR TRUST
IN THE "ROCK OF
ISRAEL," WE AFFIX
OUR SIGNATURES TO
THIS
PROCLAMATION AT
THIS SESSION OF
THE PROVISIONAL
COUNCIL OF STATE,
ON THE SOIL OF THE
HOMELAND, IN THE
CITY OF TEL-AVIV,
ON THIS SABBATH
EVE, THE 5TH DAY
OF IYAR, 5708 (14TH
MAY, 1948).



A brief history of drafting the Declaration of Independence *

Jurists, public figures and leaders of the state took part in the drafting of the Declaration of Independence. Several formulations were written and discussions were held in various forums. Among them the "People's Administration" established on April 12, 1948 which was the Yishuv's cabinet. It consisted of 13 members who were chosen from the 37 members of the "People's Council". The people council was the "Legislature body" immediately after the establishment of the state of Israel. On April 18, 1948, Pinchas Rosen was appointed to head the legal department in the People's Administration (as a government entity). As part of it, the proposal for the declaration of independence was compiled. This version, known as the "Baham's version", was completed on April 27. Excerpts from the text were taken from the American Declaration of Independence and several other sources. Few of his words survived at the end of the process but influenced the final wording.

Pinchas Rosen transferred the continuation of the drafting of the declaration, on May 7, to the jurist Zvi Berenson, who contributed several original contributions to the text. This outline was mainly kept until the final version. The "Berenson version" was delivered to the legal department on May 9 and was reworked by three jurists. After it was revised, it

was produced as the "Rosen Version". Moshe Zilberg from the legal department made some changes and his text was forwarded on May 11 to the members of the People's Directorate in preparation for a discussion on the text of the declaration. "The People's Executive" began to discuss the "Zilberg version" and the "Lauterpacht version" (one of the greatest international law experts of his generation) brought by Moshe Sharett from New York. The discussion was stopped in order to make decisions on essential policy questions, including the decision itself to establish a state and not a limited framework of self-government as well as a decision not to commit to the borders of the UN resolution. After deciding on these points, the "People's Administration" appointed a committee of five members (Pinchas Rosen, Moshe Sharett, David Ramez, Rabbi Fishman Maimon, Aharon Cizling) to draft the declaration. This opened a new phase in the formulation of the Declaration of Independence. On the night of May 12-13, Moshe Sharett, one of the members of the "Committee of the Five", composed a proposal for a new draft. At the meeting of the "Committee of Five" on the morning of May 13, its members discussed the "Servant version". It was the first text that bore a distinct political party character. The essence of the text was acceptable to the participants, but they demanded many corrections in the spirit of the ideologies of the factions they represented.

Toward the evening of that day, the "formula of the five" was placed on the table of the plenum of the people's administration at its last meeting. The text received sharp criticism for various stylistic, value and tactical reasons and the meeting ended with the decision to establish another four-member drafting committee - the "Committee of the Four" (David Ben-Gurion, Moshe Sharett, Rabbi Fishman Maimon, Aharon Cizling) The core of the "Committee of the Five" version survived. Immediately after the meeting, David Ben-Gurion re-edited the "Form of Five". He made many changes in it and also incorporated most of the amendment requests demanded by the members of the People's Directorate.

The "Committee of Four" was summoned to Ben-Gurion's house later in the evening. The final version was printed and duplicated on the morning of Friday, May 14, 1948, and in the afternoon David Ben-Gurion brought it to the "People's Council" for approval. Representatives of all the factions participated in the discussion (Mapai, MPM, the General Zionists, the Progressive Party, the Mizrahi, Hapoel HaMizrachi, Agudat Israel, Sephardim and the Mizrah Committee, the Zachariah Alliance, Poalei Agudat Israel, MKI, the Yemenite Association, Witzo). Ben-Gurion requested and received the council's approval for only one amendment - to add the freedom of "language" to the list of freedoms.

After four o'clock in the afternoon, David Ben-Gurion read the final text at the last meeting of the "Council of the People" and announced the establishment of the State of Israel.

Zvi Tadmor *

** Based on the book: Yoram Shahar, "Dignity, Liberty, and Honest Toil, Drafting the Israeli Declaration of Independence ",*

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