


JEWISH HISTORY TIMELINE

Lesson IV: Jews Enter and React to the Modern World

1776-1929

| Jewish Year | Civil Date | Jewish Events | World Events |
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| 5536 | 1776 C.E. | Beginnings of liberalization in Western Europe • Jews slowly begin to leave the ghettos | American Revolution, Declaration of Independence |
| 5543 | 1783 C.E. | Moses Mendelssohn develops concept of "Religion due to Reason" • New form of anti-Semitism: Pseudo-scientific, racial (precursor to Nazis) | Immanuel Kant |
| 5549 | 1789 C.E. | Jacob Frank, false messiah in Poland, dies • Russia establishes the Pale of Settlement | French Revolution |
| 5551 | 1791 C.E. | Equal rights for French Jews on condition (Napoleon - "For Jews as Jews nothing, for Jews as Frenchmen everything") • Napoleon organizes "Sanhedrin" • Jews react to pressure to assimilate by (1) Individual assimilation (Baptism, intermarriage); (2) Adaptation of Judaism to Zeitgeist (Reform, science of Judaism); (3) Isolation from emancipation and modernity (Chassidim, Chatam Sofer); (4) Involvement in modern world without compromising of Halachic standards (Rabbi S. R. Hirsch) | Napoleon • French Constitution |
| 5575 | 1815 C.E. | European Jews take on surnames • Immigration to Israel by both Chassidim & students of the Vilna Gaon - Safed, Tiberias, Hebron, Jerusalem • Rothschilds | Battle of Waterloo |
| 5578 | 1818 C.E. | Beginning Reform Movement, Hamburg Temple has bells, organ, German prayers and sermon • Czar Nicholas I issues 600 anti-Semitic decrees in Russia | Beethoven • Nicholas I (reigned 1825 -1855) |
| 5600 | 1840 C.E. | Development of "Modern Orthodoxy" (Torah & Derech Eretz), R' Samson Raphael Hirsch writes Horeb, 19 Letters. Separate communities • Damascus Blood Libel | Queen Victoria (1819-1901) |
| 5608 | 1848 C.E. | The Emancipation: Emperor Franz-Josef of Austria-Hungary grants citizenship to the Jews, entrance to universities and professions as well as permission to leave ghettos and enter society • | Karl Marx (1818-1883) Communist Manifesto Published 1848 |
| 5614 | 1854 C.E. | R' Israel Salanter/the Mussar movement emphasizes ethics, self-improvement, and general reinforcement of inner aspects of Judaism (Lithuania) | Crimean War • Florence Nightingale • American Civil War (1861 - 1865) |
| 5641 | 1881 C.E. | Pogroms in the Ukraine • Benjamin D'Israeli (1804-1881) (elected British Prime Minister 1874) • Czar Alexander II of Russia assassinated by Jewish anarchist leads to May Laws | Benjamin D'Israeli  |
| 5645 | 1885 C.E. | Reform Movement issues Pittsburgh Platform | |

*Events listed did not necessarily happen at the year listed, rather on or in-between that date and the next.

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| 5646 | 1886 C.E. | "Treif" Banquet lead to beginning of Jewish Theological Seminary and the Conservative Movement | Rise of nationalism in Europe |
| 5654 | 1894 C.E. | Alfred Dreyfus' spy trial in France • Theodore Herzl begins Zionist push • Collapse and scandals of French investments (Panama Canal and Vatican Bank) leads to rise in anti-Semitism | Czar Nicholas II (1868-1918) |
| 5657 | 1897 C.E. | 1st Zionist Congress held in Basel • Agudath Israel founded as political representation of non-Zionist or anti-Zionist Orthodox Jews | First modern Olympic Games |
| 5663 | 1903 C.E. | Zionist vote on land of Israel over Uganda or Madagascar proposals • Sir Moses Montefiore and the Rothchilds are influential in international politics • Mass Immigrations to USA where there is no official anti-Semitism • Assimilation in America very high due to difficulty keeping Shabbat and job, no Jewish education, difficult to keep kosher, etc. • Rise of Yiddish newspapers, left-wing (Jewish Daily Forward) socialist and assimilationist • Kishinev Pogrom | Sigmund Freud (1856-1939) |
| 5664 | 1904 C.E. | Solomon Schechter unified Conservative movement | |
| 5665 | 1905 C.E. | The Protocols of the Elders of Zion, written by Russian anti-Semite posing as a Jew, led to pogroms to "Kill the Jews & save Russia" | Albert Einstein (1879-1955) |
| 5673 | 1913 C.E. | Beilis Trial, Russian blood libel • Leo Frank lynched by mob in Georgia after being falsely accused of murder | |
| 5674 | 1914 C.E. | First World War: Britain declares war on the 9th of Av 500,000 Jewish soldiers fought in War | First World War, 21 million wounded, 8.5 million dead |
| 5677 | 1917 C.E. | Britain captures Palestine from Turks (led by General Allenby with help of Nili spy network) • Jewish Legion--organized units in British army (Jabotinsky, Trumpeldor) • Sarah Schneirer starts Beit Yaacov, Jewish schools for girls | Bolshevik Revolution • Lawrence of Arabia forms Arab Legion to help British defeat Turks |
| 5677 | 1917 C.E. | Chaim Weizman pushes England to issue The Balfour Declaration proclaiming desire to help Jews establish state • 3,250,000 Jews in the USA | Demonstrations and riots against Czar Nicholas II |
| 5679 | 1919 C.E. | 60,000 Jews killed during Russian Revolution • Ukraine independence leads to pogroms, thousands brutally murdered | Ukrainian independence • Treaty of Versailles |
| 5680 | 1920 C.E. | British Mandate of Palestine begins: the Hagganah & the Irgun organized to defend Jews • British issue White Paper limiting Jewish immigration to Palestine, leading to organization of Aliyah Bet (illegal immigration) • Arabs attack Jewish settlements in Israel • M. Kaplan begins Reconstructionist movement | League of Nations established |
| 5681 | 1921 C.E. | Arab riots in Jaffa, 47 Jews killed | Russian civil war ends |
| 5684 | 1923 C.E. | 120,000 Jews in Israel, >3,000,000 Jews in USA • Arab riots against Jews in Israel, 67 Jews murdered in Hebron riots • Important Jewish thinkers: Franz Rosenzweig, Chafetz Chaim, Rav Avraham Yitzchak HaCohen Kook | |
| 5689 | 1929 C.E. | 18 Jews killed in Arab riots in Tel-Aviv-Jaffa, beginning of "Arab Revolt" that claims lives of 500 Jews in three years | Wall Street Crash |