

# Institute of Judaica Activity Report 2020

In 2020, despite the Covid19 epidemic, the Institute carried out a number of educational, research and social projects in the field of Jewish history and culture. The institute worked with both Jewish and non-Jewish audiences: with teachers and students of Ukraine, members of Jewish communities, researchers of Judaism and connoisseurs of Jewish history from different countries.

## 1. Educational projects

1.1 In the spring of 2020, the project "Education of tolerance and anti-discrimination in Ukrainian society through the study of Jewish history and culture" was completed, which was supported by the Human Rights Fund of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands and the Dar Charitable Foundation. The project was carried out in cooperation with educational institutions of Mykolayiv, Ternopil and Ivano-Frankivsk regions. The books for participants were provided by the Dar Foundation and the Ukrainian-Jewish Meeting

96 teachers from 26 cities of Ukraine took part in the seminars for teachers. 189 school guides were trained, who worked at three exhibitions in 15 cities of Ukraine, which were visited by almost 29 thousand visitors.

The final seminar in Ivano-Frankivsk region could not take place due to the epidemic, so telephone and online meetings were held via Skype, participants received feedback and certificates were sent to all school guides and teachers involved in the project. 5 cities of Ivano-Frankivsk region.

Certificates were sent in April-May 2020.

Guised feedback:

<http://www.judaica.kiev.ua/ru/content/13-0>

<http://www.judaica.kiev.ua/ru/node/279>

<http://www.judaica.kiev.ua/ru/node/283>

<http://www.judaica.kiev.ua/ru/node/287>

<http://www.judaica.kiev.ua/ru/node/288>

<http://www.judaica.kiev.ua/ru/node/289>

<http://www.judaica.kiev.ua/ru/node/290>

For young guides, the project became a great school.

<http://www.judaica.kiev.ua/ru/node/289>

<http://www.judaica.kiev.ua/ru/node/290>

<http://www.judaica.kiev.ua/ru/node/288>

## 2. Research and publishing projects

2.1 The Institute of Judaica prepared and published a supplement to the Ukrainian edition "The Contribution of Immigrants from Ukraine to the Creation of the State of Israel." The publication is dedicated to people whose life and creative path was connected with Ukraine and played an important role in the struggle for the creation of the State of Israel. It tells of the first agricultural settlements, the first kibbutzim, the first cities and power plants in Eretz Israel, built by people from Ukrainian lands. About the struggle and victories of young Zionists in Kyiv and Odessa, Poltava and Zhytomyr, Kirovohrad, Kherson and many other cities of Ukraine. This is a publication devoted to the creation and strengthening of Israel.

The book was supplemented with materials about Shmuel Agnon, Haim-Nachman Bialik, Saul Chernihivsky, as well as news about the modern life of the State of Israel.

The publication represents the materials of the exhibition, developed by the Embassy of the State of Israel together with the Judaica Institute to disseminate information about the past and present of Israel and the role of Ukrainian Jews in these processes. This work is a common foundation for

new Ukrainian-Israeli studies and educational projects in the field of Ukrainian-Israeli history. Its goal is to build a common present and a common future for our countries.

**2.2** The Institute of Judaica worked on the materials for the guidebook "Travels in Space and Time. Journey through the Jewish places of Ukraine ". The guidebook was prepared for publishing.

### **3. Educational projects of the Institute of Judaica carried out together with other organizations:**

3.1 International seminar "Windows to Another" held together with the Sambation Travelling University (05 June – 04 August 2020)

<http://sambationline.tilda.ws/>

3.2 Seminar "Expeditions to the Beginnings. Local lore section" held together with the Sambation Travelling University (08 - 13 November 2020)

<http://sambationline.tilda.ws/>

3.3 Projects "Heritage Space: Jewish Cemeteries and Urban History" held together with the ISJF Eastern Europe Foundation (European Initiative for the Preservation of Jewish Cemeteries). Within the framework of the project, on December 1, 2020, the director of the Institute Yu. Smilianska held a seminar in Kaharlyk, Kyiv region, during the year.

<https://www.facebook.com/esjf.ua/posts/104382921694498/>

3.4 Together with the Massoret Jewish community, online work was conducted with young guides, during the year.

### **4. Educational excursions and lectures**

- Lecture "Ukrainian Jewry - History and Modernity" at the Jewish Club North Hollywood (USA) (15.02.2020)

- Series of online lectures for the general public on the platform of the Beit Dan Jewish Cultural Centre, during the year.

- Series of lectures for Kharkiv Hesed, during the year.

### **5. Participation of the staff of the Institute of Judaica in international projects, seminars and conferences.**

- Participation in international seminars and projects of the Sambation Creative Judaica community (Ukraine-Israel).

### **6. Community programs**

***Mnemosina Club*** (led by J. Smilianska).

The Mnemosina Club continues its work for twenty one years since September 2000 with the purpose of activating the creative potential of the Hesed wards. Each event is held in a warm and friendly atmosphere. Each member of the club writes his note in a harmonious melody, uniting those who came to share their new finds in the archives. Those who brought interesting information, or wrote their memories of any period of their lives, about a street in our city or about the place of their childhood, and those who thankfully listens and aptly comments on what is happening.

Members of the club take an active part in organizing the search for documents and photographs, working in archives and libraries, doing research in the field of Jewish life in Kiev from the mid-nineteenth to the beginning of the twenty-first century, preparing materials for club meetings, exchanging information, recording their memories of events related to Jewish history of modern times.

**In 2020, a member of the club E. Demchenko prepared for publication a book dedicated to the Kyiv artist V. Shavrin. The book was published and aroused great interest among artists, employees of museums and libraries in Kyiv, Lviv, Kamenets-Podolsky, St. Petersburg, etc.**

## **8. Internet projects.**

Web-site of the Institute of Judaica (E. Zaslavska) [www.judaica.kiev.ua](http://www.judaica.kiev.ua)

The site contains information about the work of the institute, its publications, programs and projects, as well as the table of contents and texts of the collections of the International Jewish Studies Conferences "Jewish History and Culture in Central and Eastern Europe", the magazine "Egupets" and some other books.

There is also news on the work of projects and programs of the Institute of Judaica and on some events in the life of the Jewish community of Ukraine.

The site is registered in more than 300 catalogues and search systems of Ukraine, Russia and other CIS countries. The information on the site is updated regularly. Attendance site - more than 2,000 a month.

### **Address of the institute:**

Ukraine, 03049, Kiev, 8/5 Voloska str.  
Building 5, Office 210  
Tel / fax: + 38 (044) 463-5789

**E-mail:** judaicainstitut@mail.ru,

**judaicainkiev@gmail.com**

**Web-site:**

[www.judaica.kiev.ua](http://www.judaica.kiev.ua)

***Director of the Institute – Julia Smilianska***