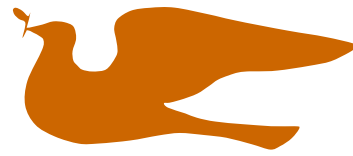


**Jerusalem Institute
for Israel Studies**

Journal of Activities

September-October 2008



The Institute summarizes its activities in the form of a journal that reports on the subjects it has been addressing, the publications it has produced, and the coverage it has received in the media.

Due to the autumn holidays, this journal covers both September and October.

In this issue:

- A New Project with the European Union
- New Publications
- Events
- In the Media
- Statistics: The Institute's Site and Publications



Success for the Institute with the European Union

- A project proposal prepared at the Institute by Dr. Dan Kaufman and Naomi Salomon won the support of the European Union in the framework of the Target Program. The aim of the Target Program is to help countries develop research and development policies that will encourage work in "R & D" (Research and Development).
- The Institute's proposal was for innovation in bio-technology, on two axes. One is the policy axis that is coordinated by the Israel Committee for Research and Development in the Ministry of Science and which includes representatives from France, Spain, Slovenia, and Lithuania. The other is the research axis that is coordinated by the Jerusalem Institute, and which includes researchers from Scotland and Spain.



- Of 19 proposals submitted to European Union on this subject, the Institute's was rated fourth by the judges and thus will be one of the recipients of a grant.

New Publications

- *War, Peace, and International Relations in Contemporary Islam: Fatwas on the Subject of Peace with Israel*, By **Dr. Yitzhak Reiter**.

Research Assistant: **Galit Hazan**

235 pages, in Hebrew, with an abstract in English.

The research presents the thinking of Muslim religious leaders and legal experts in the world and their attempts to adapt Muslim religious laws to modern realities. In particular, the book discusses the stances of Muslim thinkers regarding peace agreements with Israel. Alongside radical positions that reject peace with Israel are statements of pragmatists that find basis in the religious law for viewing the natural state of relations between Islam and the non-Islamic world – including Israel -- as one of peace.



- *Community Strategies for Dealing with Poverty in Jerusalem*, By **Roni Strier**

62 pages, in Hebrew with an abstract in English.

This publication is a follow-up to the Institute's 2006 book by **John Gal** and **Idit Weiss** on poverty in Jerusalem. In recent years poverty in the city has been growing constantly and policies for halting and reversing the trend are desperately needed. This paper proposes to harness the communal structure of Jerusalem's neighborhoods to save families, and especially children, from cycles of indigence. Some of the methods have been helpful in other cities and could be applied in the capital.



- *Indicators for Sustainability in Local Authorities – A Review of the Literature*, By **Lea Ettinger, Yair Assaf-Shapira, Maya Choshen, Noga Levtzion-Nadan, and Israel Kimhi**

75 pages, in Hebrew with an abstract in English.

One of the means now employed for bringing about improvement in environmental conditions and awareness is the development of indicators that can be used for monitoring these conditions. This publication reviews different types of indicators and offers recommendations for making use of what has been successfully introduced elsewhere and for creating new measurements that will be of relevance in Israel. The proposed indicators show



how environmental, social, and economic factors change over time and indicate both objective conditions and the successes or failures of policy to reach standards that have been set.

Events

- **Conference on Ecology and Community Gardening**

An evening held in memory of **Dr. Shimrit Ginot**, this event included lectures on Dr. Ginot and the community gardens she established, on desert snails, on acacia trees in the Arava, and the connection between gardens and community. Presenters were **Shuka Revach, Dr. Ayelet Shuster, Prof. Yossi Heller, Dr. Nourit Carmi, Israel Glon, Shai Ginot, and Dr. Ariel Hirshfeld.**



Shimrit Ginot

- **Lecture on Jerusalem**

Israel Kimhi and Dr. Maya Choshen lectured at the Institute on Jerusalem to students of the National Security College and Israel Kimhi led them on a tour of the separation fence.



Israel Kimhi guiding a tour to the separation fence

- **Lecture at Yad Ben-Zvi**




Dr. Maya Choshen delivered a lecture at Yad Ben-Zvi entitled, "Jerusalem, Between Image and Reality"

In the Media

Elections

- About the upcoming municipal elections: an article in the newspaper *El-Quds* (citing references made by **Nahum Barnea** in *Yediot Ahronot*) related to the importance of the secular voters participating in the elections and cited the document "A Vision for Jerusalem" published by the Institute.
- A large article on the internet site *Walla!* on the process of Haredi-zation (growing influence of the Ultra-Orthodox) of Jerusalem's neighborhoods interspersed many quotes from **Dr. Maya Choshen**



- Another large article on the internet site *Walla!* addressed the issue of the Ultra-Orthodox real estate market and its implications for the Haredi-zation of Jerusalem. It featured interviews with **Israel Kimhi and Dr. Maya Choshen**.
- A major article on *The Jerusalem Post* by **Peggy Sidor** on the Ultra-Orthodox candidates for the city council referred to work by the Institute's researchers.
- **Dr. Maya Choshen** was interviewed on *Radio 99* about the voting of the Ultra-Orthodox versus that of the rest of the population. 
- **Yair Assaf-Shapira** was interviewed for the Economic section of *Haaretz* in the framework of an article on how secular young people in Jerusalem are organizing for the municipal elections. 
- An article in *Haaretz* reporting on Jerusalem's municipal elections drew on the Jerusalem Statistical Yearbook published by the Institute. 
- In an interview for *The Jerusalem Post*, a secular candidate for mayor of Jerusalem, **Nir Barkat**, cited figures from the *Jerusalem Statistical Yearbook*.

A Vision for Jerusalem

The Institute's publication by **Prof. Gur Ofer** *A Vision for Jerusalem* and in particular – ways to strengthen the city by encouraging young, secular population to live in the city – received wide media attention. Articles published regarding the publication included:

- "Legitimate Racism", in the Ultra-Orthodox paper *Yated Hayom*;
- "From Whom Must Jerusalem be Saved," by **Uzi Benziman**, in *Haaretz* in its Hebrew and English versions;
- references to this article in the Arabic papers *Al Quds* and *Al-Iyam*;
- an additional article by **Uzi Benziman** in *Haaretz* entitled "A New Plan for Reviving Jerusalem: Reverse Discrimination for the Secular";
- "Reverse Discrimination for the Secular" on *Hot News*.




Moderate Growth in the Ultra-Orthodox Population in Jerusalem

Following the research of the Institute on the subject, a number of articles appeared:

- On the front page of *Haaretz*;

- In the weekly Ultra-Orthodox paper *Hamodiyya*;
- In the Russian-language journal *Nash*.

With the Opening of the School Year

- Rabbi **Shai Piron** wrote an article in *Yisrael Hayom* in which he related to the research of **Dr. Dan Kaufman** on higher education for the Ultra-Orthodox;
- Many papers cited the *Jerusalem Statistical Yearbook* and its statistics regarding poverty among children in Jerusalem;
- *The Jerusalem Post* interviewed **Dr. Maya Choshen** on the subject of Jerusalem's Arab educational system.
- The Institute's weekly column in the newspaper *Ha'ir* addressed the following subjects: The "Key" Program for Job Placement for the Ultra-Orthodox; Refuse Per Capita in Jerusalem and Other Cities; Voter Turn-Out for Elections in Jerusalem, According to Sector; and Turn-Out in Adjacent Cities in Comparison – all by **Michal Korach**. The Christian Population of Jerusalem, by **Aviel Yelinek**. Voter Turn-Out in Jerusalem Over the Years, by **Dr. Maya Choshen**, and Voting Patterns In Jerusalem's Neighborhoods, by **Yair Assaf-Shapira**.
- The Institute's bi-weekly column in *the Jerusalem Post* dealt with:  population migration into Jerusalem, an article written by **Michal Korach**; Voter Turn-Out in Municipal Elections in Jerusalem, by **Michal Korach**, and Voting Trends in Jerusalem, by **Yair Assaf-Shapira**.



Also noted:

- The Return of the Sergei Courtyard to the Russian Government – **Dr. Amnon Ramon** was interviewed on the subject by radio station *Reshet Bet*
- A Legal and Institutional Framework for Fighting Invasive Species of Plants and Animals – a report on the research project of **Ronit Justo-Hanani** in the context of a large article on invasive birds, appeared in the magazine section of *Haaretz*.

The Institute's Site

www.jiis.org.il

- The new site is being prepared for launching. Some new features, such as blogs and statistical updates, are already available.
- Number of visitors: 18,950