

Jewish Genealogy Yearbook 2006

Societies: Israel: IGS

Israel Genealogical Society

Founded: 1983

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Library: The Jerusalem Library consists of general genealogical reference works, family histories, histories of Jewish towns, memorial books, maps, clippings, information files, audiocassettes, CD-ROM's and a collection of worldwide Jewish genealogical societies' publications. The main library in Jerusalem, and the branch libraries, are open to members and colleagues for research prior to lectures. The libraries are only open during the monthly meeting of the branch. A list of meetings is on the IGS website.

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Dr. Rose Lerer Cohen, president, Jerusalem Branch

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Dr. Martha Lev-Zion, president, Negev Branch

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Hanna Steinblatt, Secretary, Haifa Branch

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Membership: 194

Mission: The IGS disseminates Jewish genealogical information throughout Israel and the world, aids Jewish genealogical researchers and Jewish family historians by providing a forum for exchanges and maintains an extensive genealogy library. The IGS presently has branches in five locations: Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Negev [located in Omer], Netanya, and Haifa. English speakers sections are available in Jerusalem and Netanya.

Update: Each branch held monthly lectures or visits to archives and libraries throughout the year. The Society supports various SIGs, including Anglo- Jewish (Joe Isaacs), Eretz-Yisrael (open), Germany and Austria (Esther Ramon), Hungary (Menashe Davidovicz), Latvia (Dr. Martha Lev-Zion), Lithuania (Rose Lerer Cohen), Sephardim of the Mediterranean Basin (Mathilde Tagger), and Poland (open). The highlight of IGS's activities in 2005 was the success of The First Annual Seminar on Jewish Genealogical Sources in Eretz Yisrael and the World, which took place on November 28, 2005 at Beit Hatefutzot under the generous sponsorship of Mr. Harvey Kreuger. The program included seventeen lectures, with thirteen in Hebrew. As Yad Vashem went live with their Pages of Testimony database, the IGS recognized the need to help those searching for the page submitters by adding to our website a section that enables people to connect to submitters or descendants of those listed on the pages of testimony.