

October 2023

Alice Shalvi (1926 – 2023)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alice_Shalvi

<https://www.jewishnews.co.uk/the-aliyah-100-list/>

<https://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-5052838,00.html>

It's the result of a new generation of educated women, the scholars' students, which is why at Pelech I found it so important to stress that there is not a single area in life that you should be banned from just because you are of female gender. Torah studies, science—don't let them tell you it's 'not for women,' if that's what you aspire to do, and if you're capable. The fact that there is a generation of women who are completely equal to men in terms of their knowledge and biblical education—while men are still considered an authority—changes and has changed everything.

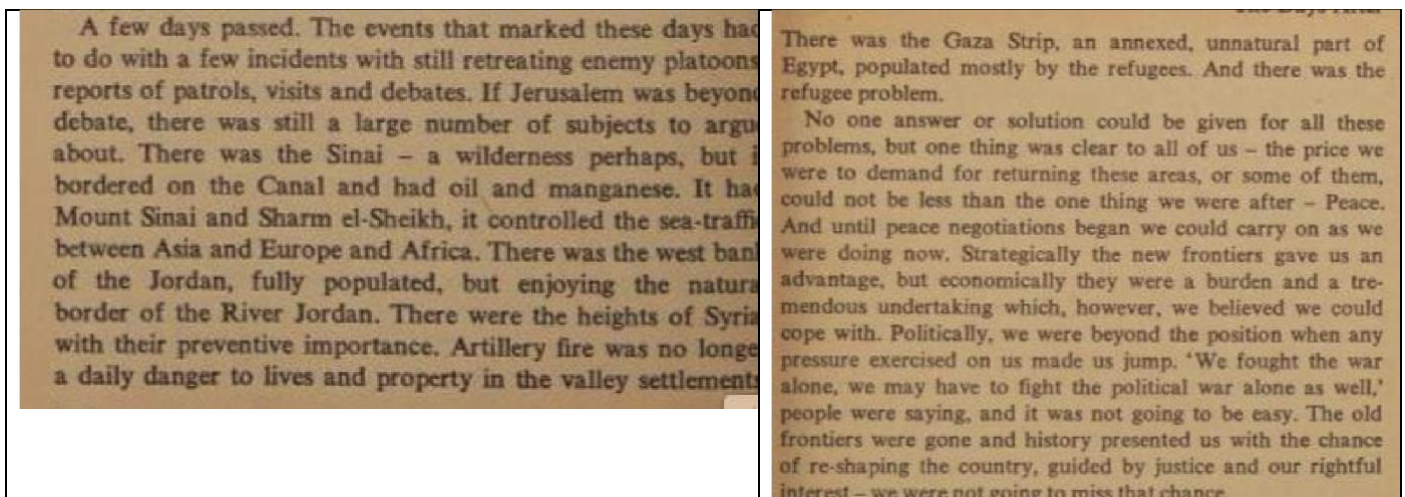
According to my views, there shouldn't be a religious establishment. It contradicts the deep-rooted Jewish principle of 'Ashe Lecha Rav' (find a rabbi who is right for you). Choose your authority on your own, if at all. Marriage and divorce are not necessarily a religious matter. Civil marriage would have solved quite a lot. The problem in Israel is that there is no separation between the religious establishment and politics. In Israel, for example, the Haredi parties are always the deciding factor. Not everyone wants to see the Rabbinate decide on their way of life. Israel belongs to everyone, and everyone should be represented."

18th May 2024

Yael Dayan (1939-2024)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yael_Dayan

A Soldier's Diary Sinai 1967



18 May 2024

- Staff Sgt. Nachman Meir Haim Vaknin, 20, of Eilat - Reconnaissance Unit, 84th (Givati) Infantry Brigade. Fell in combat in the southern Gaza Strip.
- Staff Sgt. Noam Bittan, 20, of Moshav Yad Rambam – Reconnaissance Unit, 84th (Givati) Infantry Brigade. Fell in combat in the southern Gaza Strip.

12th July 2024

Ruth Westheimer (1928 – 2024)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ruth_Westheimer

<https://hbr.org/2016/04/ruth-westheimer>

I was 50 when I had my first show, so I was never on television with a short skirt or décolleté; I never tried to look or be younger. Maybe that's one secret. The accent, too. When I came to this country, people told me that if I wanted to teach and work here, I would have to take speech lessons to lose my accent. But it helped me greatly, because when people turned on the radio, they knew it was me. I was also very well trained—I was fortunate to work for seven years at Cornell with Helen Singer Kaplan, who wrote the most important textbook on sex therapy—and I was explicit in my answers.

There were 1,500,000 Jewish children killed during World War II. I was spared because, by chance, I was in Switzerland, not in Holland, Belgium, or France. People like me have an obligation to make a dent in society. Many of us became social workers, nurses, or counselors. I wanted to study medicine—impossible at first, because I didn't have a high school diploma, parents, or money. So I became a kindergarten teacher, which my grandmother had once said I should do because I was so short I could fit on those little chairs. I did that in Israel and Paris, and then I started to study psychology. I did not know that my eventual contribution to the world would be to talk about orgasms and erections, but I did know I had to do something for others to justify being alive.

11 July 2024

- Master Sgt. (res.) Valeri Chefonov, 33, of Netanya – 9308th Battalion, 228th (Alon) Brigade. Fell in combat in northern Israel.

18th October 2024

Yehuda Bauer – (1926-2024)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yehuda_Bauer

https://www.yadvashem.org/odot_pdf/microsoft%20word%20-%203856.pdf

One has to recognize the great contribution of the so-called functionalist school of thought as to why the Holocaust took place: and the development of social and bureaucratic structures, and of conditions that, according to some of these historians, more or less forced German society into a mood that made it possible for the Holocaust to take place. Functionalist historians such as Hans Mommsen or Goetz Aly, or in a way Raul Hilberg, have contributed a great deal to our knowledge, and there's no doubt that these social structures are of great importance. The question remains as to whether, without an ideological motivation, the Holocaust would have happened. I think not.

<https://www.haaretz.com/jewish/2024-10-30/ty-article/.premium/its-better-to-be-born-jewish-its-afascinating-annoying-disgusting-exciting-people/00000192-d8f5-d775-a59b-d8ff35a40000>

Was I an Israeli patriot? A Zionist? Though I was not born here, this is my country and I wouldn't leave it even if I was promised fortunes – in fact, they did promise, and I turned them down. I hope that my offspring here don't leave it, because that battered cliché is true: we have no other country, and don't have another people, screwed up though this one is. As Chaim Weizmann once said: This is the best

Jewish people we have got. We have to do what we can with it. I belong to this people despite the fact that, in principle, I find it hard to belong to any human group that will accept me as a member. But I did not choose to be Jewish, I was born into this business through no fault of my own. The truth is, I have not only made my peace with this, I am even happy about it. If you have to be born into some ethnic group, it's better to be born Jewish. It is a fascinating, annoying, disgusting, exciting, horrific, wonderful people.

18 October 2024

- Sgt. Maj. (res.) Yishai (Netanel) Greenbaum, 38, of Lod - 5030th Battalion, 228th (Alon) Brigade. Succumbed today to severe wounds sustained in battle in southern Lebanon on 9 October 2024.

24th October 2024

Paul Mendes-Flohr (1941 – 2024)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paul_R._Mendes-Flohr

<https://thelehrhaus.org/>

Peoples of the past, it has been ironically observed, did not live as self-consciously as we do—they did not even know whether they were living in the fifth or fourth century B.C.E. In contrast, we are distinctly conscious of our place in history, and undoubtedly this consciousness derives from a profound sense of being witness to a radically new era in human history. Heralded first in Western Europe, this new or modern period is marked by far-reaching transformations in almost every aspect of human culture. For the modern Jew this consciousness of history is perhaps even more pronounced than it is for others—if for no other reason than that the Jew's entry into the modern world was marked by a radical, sudden break with the past. Western Jews "did not enter modern European [and American] society in a long process of 'endogenous' gestation and growth, but they plunged into it as the ghetto walls were breached, with a bang, though not without prolonged whimpers."¹

These whimpers express the modern Jew's bewilderment. Beyond the walls of the ghetto and the precincts of the Pale, the Jews found horizons that led them far from the world of their grandfathers. The modern, secular world has granted the Jews equality and has opened before them undreamt of opportunities for intellectual and personal development—opportunities that have immeasurably enriched the Jews. Moreover, the modern world has encouraged the development of new and rewarding forms of Jewish self-expression and collective organization. Yet this same new era has been for many Jews a veritable purgatory: in the Jews' passage through modernity their religion, culture and identity have suffered severely, and, tragically, they have borne the brunt of the most demonic enemies of modernity, the anti-Semites, who, eventually, leading an apocalyptic war to dismantle the modern

world—or at least what in their eyes were its most egregious features, democracy and Jewish emancipation—unleashed a Holocaust that devoured a third of the Jewish people. This trauma, in consonance with the contradictory rhythms of modern Jewish history, was quickly followed by the rebirth of the State of Israel and a renewal of Jewish pride and sense of community.

- Master Sgt. (res.) Tom Segal, 28, of Moshav Ein HaBesor - 89th Battalion, 8th Armored Brigade. Fell in combat in southern Lebanon.
- Maj. (res.) Dan Maori, 42, of Beit Yitzhak-Sha'ar Hefer – Deputy Commander, 89th Battalion, 8th Armored Brigade. Fell in combat in southern Lebanon.
- Cpt. (res.) Alon Safrai, 28, of Jerusalem - 89th Battalion, 8th Armored Brigade. Fell in combat in southern Lebanon.
- Warrant Officer (res.) Omri Lotan, 47, of Bat Hefer - 89th Battalion, 8th Armored Brigade. Fell in combat in southern Lebanon.
- Warrant Officer (res.) Guy Idan, 51, of Kibbutz Shomrat – 89th Battalion, 8th Armored Brigade. Fell in combat in southern Lebanon.
- Sgt. 1st Class Gai Ben-Haroosh, 23, of Pardes Hanna-Karkur – 7142 (Oketz) Unit, Marom Brigade. Fell in combat in southern Lebanon.

12th December 2024

Corinne Allal (1955-2024) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corinne_Allal
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XzqBmSeQvvg>

9 December 2024

- 1st Sgt. Ido Zano, 20, of Yehud-Monosson - 424th (Shaked/Almond) Battalion, 84th (Givati) Infantry Brigade. Fell in combat in the northern Gaza Strip.
- Sgt. Omri Cohen, 19, of Ashdod - 424th (Shaked/Almond) Battalion, 84th (Givati) Infantry Brigade. Fell in combat in the northern Gaza Strip.
- Staff Sgt. Barak Daniel Halpern, 19, of Kiriat Ono - Squad Commander, 424th (Shaked/Almond) Battalion, 84th (Givati) Infantry Brigade. Fell in combat in the northern Gaza Strip.

ארץ קטנה עם שפם A Small Country with a Moustache

ארץ קטנה עם שפם	A small country with a moustache
חצי סיכה על מפת העולם	Half a pin on the map of the world
שחקן קולנוע דופק על שולחן	An actor bangs on a table
אנחנו תיכף נרגיש את זה כאן	Soon we'll feel it here

ארץ קטנה עם חלוק	A small country with a robe
אנחנו פקק בפתחו של בקבוק	We're the cork at the bottle's opening
צריך לבלוע כפית בדיוק	You need to swallow exactly one spoonful
לפני בחירות ובין שיהוק ונאנח	Before the elections and between a hiccup and a yawn

כל המקומות קדושים	All the places are holy
סיכויים קלושים לבנות חלום	The chances of succeeding are slim
אפילו הימים קשים	Even the days are hard
יותר קשים מיום ליום	Getting harder each day

ארץ קטנה עם תבלין	A small country with some spice
ורוב העם מתעסק בריגול	And most of its people are spies
הכל מוכן כאן למכירת החיסול	Everything's ready for sale
הכל גלוי דרך חור המנעול	Everything is visible through the keyhole

ארץ קטנה עם שעון	A small country with a clock
שמתקדם בצעדי חילזון	Moving at a snail's pace
סוחר הנשק בונה לו ארמון	The arms dealer builds himself a palace
המדינה זה הוא בגוף ראשון	This country is a 'he' in first person

כל המקומות קדושים	All the places are holy
סיכויים קלושים לבנות חלום	The chances of succeeding are slim
אפילו הימים קשים	Even the days are hard
יותר קשים מיום ליום	Getting harder each day

ארץ קטנה עם שפם	A small country with a moustache
חצי סיכה בין סעודיה לים	Half a pin between Saudi Arabia and the sea
קליפת בננה על מפת העולם	A banana peel on the map of the world

כל השחקנים זרים	All the players are foreigners
השופטים שולפים כרטיס אדום	Judges whipping out a red card
אפילו הימים אומרים	Even the days themselves say
יותר קשה מיום ליום	That it gets harder every day

