

NEW ZIONIST FILM SERIES

April 2020

Dear Hadassah Member,

We are proud to offer you, our valued Hadassah member, a series of 6 short Zionist films, to spark online Zionist conversations in your home, or online with your Hadassah unit.

What's in the Program

In partnership with the World Zionist Organization (WZO), of which Hadassah is a member organization, we are able to provide this Hadassah Zionist Program in a Box. All 6 short films are available here: <http://www.hadassah.org/belong/member-engagement.html#zionism>. Scroll down the page to Israel/Zionism to see the links for each video.

You do not have to watch these videos in any special order. We have also included in this document some Hadassah related questions that you can explore with your friends online.

The WZO called this series “Beit Haam” – which means House of the Nations – and it is a program meant to encourage conversations about Zionism, Israel, and the Jewish people. These films, between 14 and 32 minutes in length, were carefully selected and curated. Hadassah is particularly excited to share them with you our members.

Short Summary of Each Film Along With Hadassah Related Questions

The films picked for this series are the following:

- 1) **Pinchas** – This short video is about a 9-year-old Russian immigrant. The Russian-Jewish Aliyah is a very powerful and complex part of the history of modern Israel. Please include in your discussions if any members of your Hadassah chapter have learned interesting Russian Jewish customs or traditions during their Hadassah trips to Israel. This is a wonderful opportunity to talk with your Hadassah friends about their stories of going to Hadassah's two youth villages. For additional information here is the link about our Youth Aliyah Villages from our [website](#).
- 2) **Blessed** – This video is about a Mizrachi's family blessings as a daughter gets married, and the relationship she has with her older sister as the wedding approaches. This film gives viewers a glimpse into the culture and traditions of Eastern (Mizrachi) Jews, as well as a glimpse into the family dynamic during a Jewish wedding. This is a great way to speak about customs and traditions both in the U.S and Israel, and among our Sephardic, Ashkenazi, and Mizrachi members.

- 3) **Barriers** – In this video there is an ambulance taking a Palestinian girl to our beloved Hadassah Hospital for treatment. HMO has always treated everyone, regardless of age, gender, religion, or circumstance. This model of co-existence is highlighted in our podcast [The Branch](#). After watching this video, we encourage you to chat with your Hadassah friends and recollect their past visits to HMO. This is an excellent opportunity to also share and discuss the amazing work happening right now at HMO re: COVID-19. <https://www.hadassah.org/coronavirus-update.html>
- 4) **Tateh (Father)** – This video explores the relationship of a new-devout Jew and his non-religious father and the lengths people go to for their families. It tells the story of one man, a Breslov follower, and his varying array of emotions about the situations he encounters. Please use this film to speak with your friends about different ways Judaism is expressed in the U.S. and in Israel.
- 5) **Sabbath Entertainment** – This video centers around Rachel, a girl who sneaks out of her religious parents' house during Shabbat to have fun with her friends, and her internal struggle to face the consequences of her decisions when things go wrong. Both Sabbath Entertainment and Tateh explore different aspects of religion and what it means to them. Share with your friends the different aspects of Judaism and Zionism they see expressed both here and in Israel
- 6) **Etzlelu Cleaning Time** – is a short film about new immigrants from Ethiopia – a mother and daughter – and the relationship each one has with Israel, native Israelis, and each other. Youth Aliyah is an integral part of the lives of many immigrants from all around the world. After viewing both Etzlanu and Pinchas, share with your friends information about our Youth Aliyah program and how Hadassah is helping youth acclimate to life in Israel.

Be in Touch

If you have any questions about these movies, or want to get more information about online Zionist activities, please email us at ZionistEd@hadassah.org.

For Units Who Want to Have A More Comprehensive Discussion

If you would like a more formal discussion of these films with your Hadassah unit, there is an additional structured discussion guide provided by WZO that is available to Hadassah leaders on myHadassah. The questions provided are a companion document by WZO for each brief film. The link to these in-depth questions will appear in the next Leaders Digest.

HADASSAH



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