

Special Days on the Jewish Calendar

The word Yom means “day” in Hebrew. There are four special days approaching on the Jewish calendar and all of their names include the word Yom.

Yom Hashoah – Holocaust Remembrance Day

Yom Hazikaron - Memorial Day in Israel

Yom Ha’atzmaut – Israeli Independence Day

Yom Yerushalayim – Jerusalem Day

- **Yom Hashoah** is a day when the Jewish community pays homage to those who perished and those who survived the Holocaust during World War II. Part of the purpose of the day is make sure that the younger generation of Jews, as well as the general community, remember that 6 million Jews and almost 6 million other innocent civilians were murdered by the Nazis in Germany and to help prevent it happening again in other places and other times. It is marked by commemorations at various synagogues other locations throughout the area. Some CJE locations mark the day as well with special programs or films.

For more information check out this great on-line resource:

http://www.myjewishlearning.com/holidays/Jewish_Holidays/Modern_Holidays/Yom_Hashoah.shtml

- **Yom Hazikaron** is the day when Israelis remember all of the soldiers that have fallen in the many wars Israel has fought over the years. It is a very solemn day marked by a siren which, when sounded at a specific time, signals all Israelis to stop what they are doing and stand at attention for a moment of silence followed by the playing of the national anthem, “Hatikvah”, on the radio. For those who have experienced it, it is a very moving experience.

For more information check out this great on-line resource:

http://www.myjewishlearning.com/holidays/Jewish_Holidays/Modern_Holidays/Yom_Hazikaron.shtml

- **Yom Ha’atzmaut** immediately follows Yom Hazikaron. At sundown the day turns from sorrow over the loss of Israel’s soldiers, to the joy of the establishment of the State of Israel which occurred in May 1948. The day is marked by dancing in the streets, music and celebration.

For more information check out this great on-line resource:

http://www.myjewishlearning.com/holidays/Jewish_Holidays/Modern_Holidays/Yom_Haatzmat.html

- **Yom Yerushalayim** commemorates the reuniting of the City of Jerusalem during the 6 Day War in 1967.

For more information check out this great on-line resource:

http://www.myjewishlearning.com/holidays/Jewish_Holidays/Modern_Holidays/Yom_Yerushalayim.html