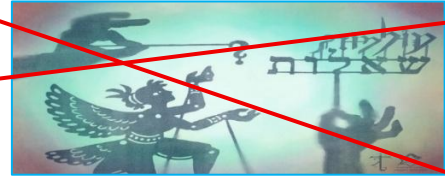


**OLAMOT – The yearly
Tel Aviv Sci-Fi/Fantasy Con
was cancelled due to the war 🙄 ...**



חדשות האגודה – אפריל 2026 The Israeli Society for Science Fiction and Fantasy

תל אביב: מועדון הקריאה יעסוק בספר "שומרי הערים" מאת רותם ברוכין, ויתקיים ביום ה' 23-04-2026 בדרה בת"א או וירטואלית, בהתאם למצב. לקבלת המיקום יש להירשם במייל של דפנה קירש (dafna1485@walla.co.il), ובדף האירוע בפייסבוק. <https://www.facebook.com/events/1041913523811981>.

ירושלים: לפרטים על המפגשים של מועדון הקריאה, ניתן להצטרף לקבוצת הפייסבוק או ליצור קשר במייל עם המרכזת, גלי אחיטוב, sal.maple@gmail.com, ולהצטרף לוואטסאפ המועדון.

לקבלת עדכונים שוטפים על מפגשי מועדון הקריאה ברחבי הארץ ניתן להצטרף לרשימת התפוצה או בדף האגודה בפייסבוק. כל האירועים של האגודה מופיעים בלוח האירועים (שפע אירועים מעניינים, הרצאות, סדנאות, מפגשים ועוד)

Society information is available (in Hebrew) at the Society's site: <http://www.sf-f.org.il>

This month's roundup:

- Special Wartime Issue (#31) – Holocaust vs. "Nakba" + Who are the "Colonialists"?
- Sheer Science: 'Fiddler on the Moon' documentary: How Judaism might adapt as humanity reaches out into space
- Our usual tidbits from the Web

Special Wartime Issue #31

Holocaust vs. "Nakba" + Who are the "Colonialists"?

Last week was **Holocaust Remembrance Day** in memory of the **6,000,000** innocent Jews murdered in WWII. This week we remember and mourn the **25,644** fallen Israeli soldiers and terrorist-murdered civilians since the declaration of the State of Israel in 1948, followed the next day by **Israel Independence Day** celebrations.

Some thoughts:

- 1) During the Holocaust of World War II – and for almost 2000 years before that – while Jews were attacked, murdered, raped, sold into slavery, forcibly converted, etc., **no country in the world** really and consistently stood up for world Jewry (and rarely even for their own Jewish citizenry). Today, with all the rampant antisemitism in the world, there is only one **sustained and permanent** safe haven for Jews: the State of Israel. It is also a beacon of light for others in so many critical areas (music, arts, science, medicine, technology, agriculture, etc.).
- 2) Every time that Israel was attacked (or Israel pre-empted an attack), our enemies lost territory and it took a toll on their economy and citizen's well-being – and yet they mindlessly insist on trying it again and again. In addition, Israel who defends its own citizens, is blamed for the resulting suffering of our enemies' citizens, due to their own warmongering. That is the true Nakba (=tragedy): the senseless suffering on both sides ...
- 3) Israelis/Zionists are often accused of being European colonialists, even though about 50% of Israeli citizens' roots are in the Middle East. Read this clear rebuttal:
<https://www.jns.org/opinion/quick-name-the-middle-east-s-most-successful-and-brutal-colonizers>
- 4) The Middle East is a very unstable area of the world. Only when the people in the area decide to work together, share resources, open commercial and business channels, etc., will there be peace and progress. The leadership **MUST** consider what is good for their own people and stop waging war, else the current and future generations will continue to suffer.
The Abraham (Peace) Accords are a first step in the right direction!

May the good guys stay safe, and may the bad guys fail hard! – Your editor, Leybl Botwinik

Sheer Science*

*In memory of Aharon Sheer (נ"ט) – Founding Editor

'Fiddler on the Moon' documentary explores how Judaism might adapt as humanity reaches out into space

By Josh Dinner (Published on SPACE.COM Dec 2025)

"A new documentary short from directors Seth Kramer, Daniel Miller and Jeremy Newberger asks a simple question: What does Judaism look like in a society traveling into space, or living on other planets?"

"*Fiddler on the Moon: Judaism in Space*" investigates how the religion would adapt to spaceflight and environments where celestial indicators like sunset or the phase of the moon, around which many Jewish traditions are centered, become inaccessible or inapplicable for life off Earth.

The film seeks the expertise of Jewish astronauts and scientists researching the dynamics of living on the moon and [Mars](#). Astrophysicist Neil deGrasse Tyson and a trio of rabbis who, despite the adage, come to a general consensus rather than four separate opinions on the matter.

Their conclusion is one woven through Jewish history since before humanity took to the sky, and a quandary faced by every generation: How do you hold on to tradition in the face of modernity? And, just as Jews have done for thousands of years, their answer is simple: Adapt (cue "[Tradition](#)" from Fiddler on the Roof).



The filmmakers behind "*Fiddler on the Moon*" say the themes of the documentary are as old as religion itself. "Everyone sort of thinks that faith and science don't intersect," Miller told Space.com. "This film helps show that they are working in concert, that they always have been and continue to advance one another."

Much of the documentary focuses on Israeli astronaut Ilan Ramon, and how he addressed this question during his STS-107 mission aboard [space shuttle Columbia](#), which tragically ended in the loss of the spacecraft and crew during their re-entry on Feb. 3, 2003.

Before his flight, Ramon consulted Rabbi Zvi Konikov, from Chabad of the Space and Treasure Coasts, located down the road from NASA's [Kennedy Space Center](#), in Florida. "He asked me for a favor," Konikov says of Ramon in the documentary. "'How do I mark the Sabbath in space?'"

..."

Read on at: <https://www.space.com/space-exploration/fiddler-on-the-moon-documentary-explores-how-judaism-might-adapt-as-humanity-reaches-out-into-space>

See also: <https://ben-tzion.com/mars-jewish-calendar/>

Fun from the Web

Common nutrient turns our guts into diabetes-fighting chemical factories
<https://newatlas.com/diet-nutrition/gut-microbiome-diabetes/?ref=thefuturist>

Ghosts, sharks and Norse mythology: US Space Force unveils new names for satellites and space weapons
<https://www.space.com/space-exploration/launches-spacecraft/ghosts-sharks-and-norse-mythology-us-space-force-unveils-new-names-for-satellites-and-space-weapons>

'We Can Get There': Scientists Make the Case for Mars in 200-Page Report
<https://www.extremetech.com/aerospace/we-can-get-there-scientists-make-the-case-for-mars-in-200-page-report?ref=thefuturist>

MOVIES/TV

'Fallout' Season2: Warning against letting tech billionaires decide humanity's fate
<https://www.space.com/entertainment/space-movies-shows/fallout-season-2-review>

'The Expanse': Space drama that should've been as big as 'Game of Thrones'
<https://www.space.com/entertainment/space-movies-shows/the-expanse-at-10-the-outer-space-drama-that-should-have-been-as-big-as-game-of-thrones>

Why are the 'Avatar' movies so successful? It seems to defy conventional logic
<https://www.space.com/entertainment/space-movies-shows/why-are-the-avatar-movies-so-massive-their-success-seems-to-defy-conventional-logic>

A Brief History of Klingon-Federation Conflict
<https://qizmodo.com/star-trek-every-klingon-federation-war-explained-2000701584>

Who are 'Doctor Who' sea monsters in 'The War Between the Land and the Sea'?
<https://www.space.com/entertainment/space-movies-shows/who-are-the-sea-devils-the-classic-doctor-who-monsters-in-the-war-between-the-land-and-the-sea>

7 massive sci-fi shows coming in 2026 you need to know about
<https://www.makeuseof.com/massive-sci-fi-shows-coming-in-2026-you-need-to-know-about/>

Record launches, reusable rockets and a rescue: China's 2025 big strides in space
<https://www.space.com/space-exploration/launches-spacecraft>

BOOKS

Human evolution hits a crossroad in daring 'Existence Equation' (+ excerpt)
<https://www.space.com/entertainment/space-books/human-evolution-hits-a-crossroad-in-daring-new-sci-fi-novel-existence-equation-and-we-have-an-exclusive-excerpt-for-you>

The Ten Best Science Books of 2025
<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/the-ten-best-science-books-of-2025-180987773/?ref=thefuturist>

GAMES

6 Terminator games that are actually good
<https://www.space.com/entertainment/space-games/5-terminator-games-that-are-actually-good>

ARC Raiders: Earth will get along fine without us after the AI apocalypse
<https://www.space.com/entertainment/space-games/arc-raiders-is-an-oddly-comforting-reminder-that-earth-will-get-along-just-fine-without-us-after-the-ai-apocalypse>

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Also (archived issues from 2014+) at: <http://fanac.org/fanzines/CyberCozen/>

And at: <http://efanzines.com/CyberCozen/index.htm>

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