THE LIBRARY OF
Secular Humanistic Judaism

Publications Catalog

International Institute
for Secular Humanistic Judaism

NOW WITH SEVERAL E-BOOK EDITIONS!
Secular Humanistic Judaism celebrates cultural Jewish identity through a human-centered philosophy.

The International Institute for Secular Humanistic Judaism offers professional training for Rabbis, Leaders, Educators and Spokespersons. It also provides adult learning opportunities through seminars, colloquia and publications.

The Institute is the academic and intellectual center for a world-wide movement that appeals to cultural, Secular and Humanistic Jews.

The publications in this catalog are some of the best resources for cultural Jews to explore their Jewish identities.
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Judaism Beyond God presents an innovative secular and humanistic alternative for Jewish identity. It provides new answers to old questions about the essence of Jewish identity, the real meaning of Jewish history, the significance of the Jewish personality, and the nature of Jewish ethics. It also describes a radical and creative way to be Jewish—new ways to celebrate Jewish holidays and life cycle events, a welcoming approach to intermarriage and joining the Jewish people, and meaningful paths to strengthen Jewish identity in a secular age.

“As a secular Jew, Wine's words are a potent balm: comforting and inspiring, in equal measure. In this thoughtful, sound, clearly-articulated book, key aspects of contemporary Jewish identity are explored and explained with sensitivity, insight, and--above all—reasonableness. For those of us who advocate humanistic values and rationality, and simultaneously embrace our Jewish identity, this book is home.”

Phil Zuckerman, Ph.D. Author of Living the Secular Life
Judaism in a Secular Age
An Anthology of
Secular Humanistic Jewish Thought
Edited by Renee Kogel and Zev Katz

$19.95

This collection is a unique source book for Secular and Humanistic Jews. The selections are divided into three groups: those who first moved Judaism and Jewishness in cultural and secular directions; those who identified as secular and Humanistic Jews; and those who have laid the philosophical groundwork for the world-wide movement of Secular Humanistic Judaism in this century. Political theorists and novelists, Hebraists, Yiddishists, Zionists, socialists and more are included.

Contributors include:

Baruch Spinoza
Theodor Herzl
Martin Buber
Mordecai Kaplan
Albert Einstein
I.L. Peretz
Sholem Aleichem
Haim Nahman Bialik
Simon Dubnow
Ahad Ha’am
Rahel (Blustein)
Saul Tchernikowsky

Sigmund Freud
Emma Goldman
Hannah Arendt
Sherwin Wine
Morris Schappes
Isaiah Berlin
Yehuda Bauer
Yaakov Malkin
Shulamit Aloni
Amos Oz
Yehuda Amichai
A.B. Yehoshua
Humanist Readings in Jewish Folklore
by Bennett Muraskin

$19.95

This volume includes more than 120 Jewish folktales, chosen with an eye to Jews who seek their personal ethics and morals in Jewish culture and literature. The tales reflect the side of Jewish tradition and culture that values egalitarianism, social justice, freedom of thought, and respect for the "other." Citations to original sources are also included. Author Bennett Muraskin speaks widely on Jewish topics and is a frequent contributor to Jewish periodicals, including Humanistic Judaism, Jewish Currents, and Outlook.

Chapters include:

Talking Back to God
Confronting Injustice
Mentshlekhhayt (Human Decency)
The Rich and the Poor
The Dangers of Fanaticism
Jewish Humor
Women
Jewish-Gentile Relations

The Value of Education
Parents and Children
Friendship
The Sanctity of Human Life
The Evil of Slander
Some Humanistic Principles to Live By from Pirke Avot
Why Remain Jewish?
Beyond Tradition
The Struggle for a New Jewish Identity
Edited by Bonnie Cousens

$14.95

Over the last 150 years, many radical movements have created new Jewish identities to further the survival and integrity of the Jewish people. Many of these movements are now caught in a bind between innovation and tradition. From Reform, Reconstructionist, Renewal, and Feminist Judaisms to secular alternatives like Cosmopolitanism, Yiddishism, and Zionism, each non-traditional alternative has influenced Secular Humanistic Judaism. DVDs of the Colloquium that produced this volume are available as well. (spiral bound)

Letting it Be
Ze’ev Chafets, journalist and author

The Radical Vision of Reform Judaism
Dan Cohn-Sherbok, University of Wales (Emeritus)

The Transformation of Reform Judaism
Daniel Friedman, Rabbi Emeritus, Kol Hadash

The Essential Legacy of Mordecai Kaplan
Emanuel S. Goldsmith

The Bund: Vision and Reality
Jack Jacobs, City University of New York

One Hundred Years of Zionism, Fifty Years of Statehood
Shulamit Aloni, Israeli politician and rights activist

The Cosmopolitan Jew
Joseph Chuman, Columbia University

The Movement for Jewish Renewal
Tirzah Firestone, Jewish Renewal rabbi and author

Creating a Secular Judaism
Yaakov Malkin, Provost, Tmura-IISHJ

Beyond Tradition: The Humanistic Alternative
Sherwin Wine, Founding Co-Chair, IISHJ
A Provocative People
A Secular History of the Jews

by Sherwin T. Wine
Edited by Adam Chalom

$19.95

The Jews are a fascinating people, both to themselves and to everyone else. The Jews are a paradigm of what will happen to most nations and ethnic groups with a long-run exposure to urban global culture. They are an irresistibly global people, a vanguard for the global world.

A Provocative People: A Secular History of the Jews is the culmination of a lifetime of study and insight by Rabbi Sherwin T. Wine, one of the most provocative rabbis in Jewish history. What distinguishes this accessible “history of the Jews” from other popular accounts is its unflinching approach to academic truth, be the period biblical, medieval or modern. It is also unique in its celebration of the contemporary secularized reality of most Jews as the culmination of, rather than a break with, the Jewish historical experience.

Upon Wine’s death in 2007, Rabbi Adam Chalom assumed Wine’s role as Dean for North America of the International Institute for Secular Humanistic Judaism (IISHJ) and the task of bringing this manuscript to print in a narrative in Wine’s voice that is both rigorous and readable. Historical maps by Wine and Sir Martin Gilbert provide visual context; a complete bibliography and index are also included. And Chalom’s Introduction and Afterword offer appreciations of Wine’s life and work.
Jews and the Muslim World: Solving the Puzzle
Edited by Adam Chalom

$9.95

What is the past and present of Jewish-Muslim relations? From penetrating insights into the Muslim world’s socio-political tensions (three years before the “Arab Spring”) to in-depth explorations of the history of Islamic religion and civilization as experienced by Jews, to modern issues of Muslim anti-Semitism, Zionism, even progressive Islam, Jews and the Muslim World opens new understandings of an old relationship. DVDs of the Colloquium that produced this volume are available; see page 18.

The Apikoros Rabbi’s Beliefs

Yaakov Malkin, Provost, Tmura-IISHJ

Jews and Muslims
Sherwin Wine, Founding Co-Chair, IISHJ

A Broken Middle East
Fawaz Gerges, London School of Economics

Jews and Muslims in Arab Lands: Reflections on the Legacy of the Past and the Meaning and Practice of Tolerance
Jacob Lassner, Northwestern University

The Jews in the Muslim World
Jane Gerber, Institute for Sephardic Studies, CUNY

Zionism and the Muslim World
Derek Penslar, University of Oxford

Moslem-Jewish Relations
Yehuda Bauer, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

What Can Be Done? A Muslim Response
Amir Hussain, Loyola Marymount University

Solving the Puzzle: Jews and the Muslim World
Adam Chalom, Dean—North America, IISHJ
The Colloquium '97 brought together scholars and experts in Jewish history from every period of the Jewish experience to explore a crucial question—what is the real story of the Jewish people? Can we connect with our ancestors as they really were, rather than as we imagined them to be? Through stimulating surveys of their field and serious, even heated, discussions of the implications of their ideas, the panel and participants discovered much about the truth and legends of Jewish history, and how these new understandings affect Jewish life today. DVDs of the Colloquium that produced this volume are available as well. (spiral bound)

Why Read Jewish History?
   Steven Zipperstein, Stanford University
Origins of Ancient Israel
   Carol Meyers, Duke University
Origins of the Bible
   William Propp, University of California, San Diego
From the Maccabees to the Dead Sea Scrolls
   Eric Meyers, Duke University
Origins of Halakha
   Ari Elon, formerly at Reconstructionist Rabbinical College
The Medieval Jew
   Norman Cantor, New York University
The Enlightenment and the Jews
   Lois Dubin, Smith College
Antisemitism and the Holocaust
   Yehuda Bauer, Hebrew University of Jerusalem
The Reality of Zionism
   Derek Penslar, Oxford University
Staying Sane in a Crazy World
A Guide to Rational Living
by Sherwin T. Wine

$14.95

Staying Sane is a fresh approach to the search for meaning in life. In an age when it is fashionable to give people answers that they want to hear but cannot use, Wine provides less fashionable—but more effective—answers to the fundamental issues of the human condition. Staying Sane in a Crazy World is also available in Spanish for the same price as Como Mantener La Cordura en un Mundo Loco.

“Sherwin Wine’s wisdom is both timeless and modern, his writing accessible and comforting. I have treasured his perspective for years and am grateful to have this book to carry with me during these confusing times.”

Lawrence Kasdan, Writer/Film Director

A Crazy World
The Human Condition
The Comforts of Tradition
The Secular Alternative
New Search for Meaning
Realism

TEN STEPS TO SANITY

1. Dismissing Illusions
2. Rejecting Despair
3. Pursuit of Happiness
4. Appropriate Expectations
5. Taming Fear
6. Useful Anger
7. Constructive Love
8. Rational Guilt
9. Making Myself Strong
10. Search for Beauty
# Morning Meditations

**Daily Meditations for Spiritual Humanists**

by Barbara Kopitz

$15.95

This is an inspirational book for Secular Humanistic Jews. Daily meditations affirm the power and responsibility of individuals to shape their own lives. From a non-theistic approach, all people can live a life of moral and ethical ideals, grounded in rational spirituality. (spiral bound)

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“Barbara Kopitz has given us a great gift. She has created a work of inspiration from which we can carve our signature style of application. It is a rare work that can be universal and unique at the same time. This book of meditations accomplishes both.”

Dr. Sonya Friedman, Psychologist and Author
Secular Spirituality
Passionate Journey to a Rational Judaism

Edited by Bonnie Cousens

$14.95

Can you be spiritual without being religious? Can you be rational and spiritual at the same time? Is there an ethical dimension to spirituality? Are science and spirituality in conflict? Or is "spiritual" not the best word we can find for the "experience?" Complete DVDs of the Colloquium that produced this volume are available as well.

Lavender
Andre Aciman, Graduate Center, City University of New York

Rethinking Traditional Spirituality
Dan Cohn-Sherbok, University of Wales (Emeritus)

The Spirituality of Ethics
Joe Chuman, Columbia University

Jewish Mysticism—Freem on the Tablets: a Secular Perspective
Rachel Elior, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Rethinking Jewish Secularism
Mitchell Silver, University of Massachusetts—Boston

Art and Nature: Beauty and Spirituality
Daniel Friedman, Rabbi Emeritus, Kol Hadash

Science and Spirituality
Norbert Samuelson, Arizona State University

The Embrace of Ambiguity and the Courage to Doubt
Harry Cook, former Episcopal Priest

What Makes the Secular Need Spirituality?
Yaakov Malkin, Provost, Tmura-IISHJ

Secular Spirituality
Sherwin T. Wine, Founding Co-Chair, IISHJ
Two million Jews emigrated to the United States from Eastern Europe between 1890-1920. The large majority passed through Ellis Island and settled in the Lower East Side of New York City. They struggled to create a new life for themselves—among the tenements, inside the sweatshops, behind the pushcarts—as they dreamed and worked for a more just and compassionate world.

*Pushcarts and Dreamers* is a collection of Yiddish stories written in the United States by authors who were themselves part of this immigrant scene. Life here was hard for those newcomers, but they made it more bearable by their determined striving to improve it. The grimness and the privation were characteristically leavened by large doses of hope, irony, and humor.

Max Rosenfeld was a Jewish educator and translator of Yiddish prose and poetry.

**Featured authors**

- Sholem Asch
- Leon Kobrin
- Moishe Nadir
- Chaver Paver
- Abraham Reisen
- Baruch Glasman
- Zalman Libin
- Joseph Opatoshu
- Isaac Raboi
- Jonah Rosenfeld
Jews in the American Labor Movement is a concise but complete summary of how Jews have influenced, and been influenced by, the Labor Movement in America. From the early beginnings on the Lower East Side, to Hollywood, to present day labor and race issues, Jews have been at the center of the power struggles that working people face. This short retelling looks at aspects of Secular Jewish culture and traditional Jewish beliefs, and how those have inspired workers in America to organize and demand justice.

Bennett Muraskin is a staff representative for the Council of New Jersey State College Locals, AFT, AFL-CIO. He is a writer for Jewish Currents magazine, a frequent contributor to Humanistic Judaism, and his articles have appeared in New Politics, Outlook, Israel Horizons, American Jewish History and the New Jersey Jewish News. He is the author of three books: Humanist Readings in Jewish Folklore (2004), Let Justice Well Up Like Water (2004) and the Association of Jewish Libraries Guide to Jewish Short Stories (2011), and a co-author of Celebrating Jewish Holidays: An Introduction For Secular Jewish Families and Their Communities (2002).
A Life of Courage
Sherwin Wine and Humanistic Judaism

Edited by Dan Cohn-Sherbok, Harry Cook and Marilyn Rowens

$19.95

A Life of Courage is a biography of, and tribute to, the remarkable life of Rabbi Sherwin T. Wine. With contributions from those close to Wine and the Humanistic Judaism movement he founded at The Birmingham Temple in 1964 in suburban Detroit, this book provides unique perspectives on Wine's life and work. Some essays celebrate him, while others continue his life's work by exploring implications and further developments of his approach. The final chapter, written by Wine himself, reflects on his life and what the movement has meant to him. It is also a brilliant and mature summation of the core message of Humanistic Judaism.

Contributors include:

Shulamit Aloni, Israeli rights activist: "Embracing Humanism"
Yehuda Bauer, world-renowned Holocaust scholar: "On Religion and Secularism"
Rabbi Adam Chalom, Dean-North America, IISHJ: "To Destroy and to Build: The Balance of Creativity and Continuity"
Rabbi Miriam Jerris, Society for Humanistic Judaism: "A Man for All People, Ahead of his Time"
Yaakov Malkin, Israeli professor and author: "The Secular Synagogue as the Continuation of the Revolution in Judaism and World Culture."
Felix Posen, Founder of The Posen Foundation: "A Veritable Pioneer in Spirit and Deed"
Rabbi Peter Schweitzer, City Congregation for Humanistic Judaism: "The Courage of One's Convictions"
God-Optional Judaism is a wonderful, chock-full resource for families and individuals who want to find their place in the Jewish world without necessarily believing in God. Funny, accessible, and open-minded, the book touches on key elements of Jewish history and philosophy, all the major holidays (food recipes included!), and contemporary issues of intermarriage, education, conversion, feelings towards Israel, and spirituality.

It offers alternative, nontheistic ways to celebrate every Jewish holiday and all the rites of passage in life, details the historical significance and development of the Jewish religion and culture, and furnishes anecdotes, quotes, and resource information.

Read inside this book at Amazon.com.
Their preview includes more detailed contents and the opening pages of the book.

Contents
- Introduction
- Chapter One - What Kind of Jew Am I?
- Chapter Two - Jewish History
- Chapter Three – Alternatives to the Big Three
- Chapter Four – Reclaiming Our Jewish Holidays
- Chapter Five – Lifecycle Observances
- Chapter Six – Now What?
Judaism Without God?
Judaism as Culture and Bible as Literature
by Yaakov Malkin

$24.95

Written by Yaakov Malkin, the founder of the College for Judaism as Culture in Jerusalem, this work describes Judaism as the culture of the Jewish people, exploring key concepts in the discourse of Judaism as culture. It also includes a history of Jewish pluralism and models for Humanistic Jewish education.

The humanistic, non-religious approach of this book presents Judaism as culture and God as a literary figure created by the authors of the Bible, a figure that continues to exist as such today. Like all fictional work, the literature of the Bible represents the cultural and spiritual life of the eras in which it was created. The poetic and conceptual experience of reading the Biblical works exposes the human condition of its literary heroes. The literature of the Bible influenced the annals of humanity's spiritual life—in its presentation of God as an abstract concept of becoming; in the socialist laws of the Sabbath; and in the choice of justice and virtue over God's mitzvot [commandments].

Professor Yaakov Malkin (Tel Aviv University, International Co-Provost of the IISHJ) is the author of: What do Secular Jews Believe; Secular Judaism - Faith, Values, Spirituality; and Judaism without God? Judaism as Culture, the Bible as Literature. Other works deal with Aesthetics, Rhetoric, Community, and Cinematic Arts.
Epicurus and Apikorsim
The Influence of the Greek Epicurus and Jewish Apikorsim on Judaism

by Yaakov Malkin

$19.95

Written by Yaakov Malkin, the founder of the College for Judaism as Culture in Jerusalem, this work explores the philosophy of the Greek Epicurus and its connection with Jewish apikorsim, or heretics, through the centuries. It also contains a special tribute to Rabbi Sherwin Wine, founding co-chair of the IISHJ.

Epicurus and Apikorsim describes the influence of Epicurus on Judaism. Judaism is the only national culture which has adopted the name of this Greek philosopher, using it as a term designating Jews who believe in freedom to choose their way of life, without obligation to obey religious mitzvot [commandments]. Today, most Jews live as apikorsim. Epicurus’ non-religious philosophy spread during the Hellenistic period to all Mediterranean cultures, including Judaism. Its effect can be found in the Bible in the books of Kohelet/Ecclesiastes and the Book of Job.

Professor Yaakov Malkin (Tel Aviv University, International Co-Provost of the IISHJ) is the author of: What do Secular Jews Believe; Secular Judaism - Faith, Values, Spirituality; and Judaism without God? Judaism as Culture, the Bible as Literature. Other works deal with Aesthetics, Rhetoric, Community, and Cinematic Arts.
Free Judaism & Religion in Israel
Edited by Yaakov Malkin
$14.95

Edited by the founder of the College for Judaism as Culture in Jerusalem, this work reproduces essays from the journal Free Judaism, the voice of Secular Humanistic Judaism in Israel. Its insights into the dynamics of “synagogue and state” are still fascinating and relevant.

REligion & Democratic
Yaakov Malkin: In The Shadow Of Rabin's Murder
Shulamit Hareven: Herzl's Vision Revisited “We Shall Keep the Clerics on a Very Tight Rein”
Eliezer Shweid: Jewish Religion And Israeli Democracy
Haim Cohen: Dangerous Hanukkah
Naftali Rotenberg: Is a Jewish Theocracy Possible?
Irad Malkin: The Jewishness of Israel Is Changing
Abraham Wolfensohn: Religious And Secular Messianism
Uri Ben Zvi: The History of the Power of Israel's Religious Political Parties
Yosef Goell: Rabin's Murder and Israeli Democracy

New Perspectives on Judaism
A.B. Yehoshua: Israeli Identity in an Era of Peace
Yair Tzaban: The New Hebrew Culture: Basis for a Secular Jewish Identity
Haim Cohen: God As Legal Fiction
Rachel Elior: Changes In the Concept of God In Jewish Thought
Ya'akov Cohen: A Rational Approach to the idea of God
Yaakov Malkin: Atheist Faith in Humankind, Creator of God as Literary Hero
Shneor Einam: Three Circles of Israeli Identity: Humanist, Jewish, Zionist
Felix Posen: The Need for a Secular Yeshiva
Yeshayahu Leibowitz: I am Not a Humanist
Uri Rapp: Yeshayahu Leibowitz: A Humanist In Spite of Himself
Yehuda Bauer: The Secular-Jewish Option: American Jewry's Vital Need
The Unaffiliated Jew
Edited by Renee Kogel and Bonnie Cousens

$14.95

How can we address the needs of this crucial demographic for Jewish survival? Essays focus on “who is the unaffiliated Jew,” “why be Jewish,” and “perspectives on the twenty-first century.” Contributors published include Yehuda Bauer (Holocaust scholar), Egon Mayer (director, Jewish Outreach Institute), Jenna Joselit (professor and author), Yaakov Malkin (Meitar), and Sherwin T. Wine (IISHJ). DVDs of the Colloquium that produced this volume are available. (spiral bound)

More information on each title, including text and video selections, is on our website at iishj.org/publications/
The IISHJ Colloquium brings together scholars and experts from across the world to discuss pressing issues in modern Jewish life.

“Half Jewish?” The Heirs of Intermarriage

Over half of marriages involving Jews are intercultural. Their children are now young adults, defining their own identities. Who are they? What does “being Jewish” mean to them? Is "half Jewish" like "half pregnant," or can the Jewish world accept plural identity in an open tent?

5 DVD set (12 hours)
$29.95

Challenging Convention: Secular and Humanist and Jew

Colloquium ‘09 examined the many ways Secular Humanistic Judaism breaks boundaries, from supporting a secular society to challenging secular universalism with an ethnic identity. Contributors included Jacques Berlinerblau (Georgetown), Ron Aronson (Wayne State), Greg Epstein (Harvard), and Caryn Aviv (University of Denver).

2 DVD set (10 hours)
$29.95

More Colloquium Programs Available at
IISHJ.ORG/COLLOQUIUM/
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

Resources for teachers and the general public to provide the building blocks for contemporary Jewish creativity and continuity.

Basic Ideas of Secular Humanistic Judaism

by Rabbi Eva Goldfinger

$19.95

This is the first of a series designed to provide a better understanding of the basic ideas and practices of Secular Humanistic Judaism. It includes a philosophical explanation of Secular Humanistic Judaism, educational guidelines and sample curricula for Secular Humanistic Jewish teachers and schools, recommended reading lists for adults and children, and selected official statements of the movement. (spiral bound)

Topics include:

What is Secular Humanistic Judaism?
Philosophical Foundations
Nature of Reality: Naturalism and Evolution
Life Purpose: Self-Actualization
Spirituality: Aesthetics
The Nature of Truth: Reason
Ethics: Consequences
Moral Authority: Individual and Society

Social Ethics: Tikkun Olam
The Jewish People: An Ethno-Historic People
Judaism: Evolving Civilization of the Jews
Jewish Continuity: Pluralism
A Secular View of Jewish History
Creating Secular Humanistic Jewish Identity
Public Movement Statements
Learning Bible Today
From Creation to the Conquest of Canaan
by Michael Prival

$19.95

This book presents major Biblical stories in a readable and accurate manner, discusses the stories from a scientific point of view, and gives parents and teachers the information they need to explain and discuss them with children. Aimed at grades six and up, this work is informational for adults as well and includes both stories and detailed discussion topics. (spiral bound)

Contents Include:

What is Religion? What is the Bible?
How did Religion Get Started?
Where did the Bible Come From?
What is the Hebrew Bible?
What is the difference between the Hebrew Bible and the Christian Bible?
Why Do We Study the Bible?
Time Line and Overview of the Bible and Jewish History

Origins: Earth and People—Creation through the Tower of Babel
The First Israelites—Abraham, Isaac and Jacob
Joseph in Egypt—From Canaan to the Land of Goshen
Freedom—Moses and the Exodus from Egypt
Wandering in the Wilderness—Sinai Events and Legislation
Return to Canaan—Conquest and Settlement
Introduction to Secular Humanistic Judaism
An Adult Education Curriculum
by Rabbi Adam Chalom

$50 per course
$125 for all three

This 50 session curriculum includes reading assignments and bibliographies, introductory essays and discussion questions in course packets for students, as well as suggested discussion answers in the facilitator’s guide. Also available as three separate courses: “Introduction to Jewish History,” “Introduction to Jewish Culture,” and “Philosophy of Secular Humanistic Judaism.” (spiral bound)

Introduction to Jewish History

Ancient History: Origins; Monarchy; Yahvism; Exile/Torah Creation;
Medieval History: Rabbis; Islam; Spain; Ashkenaz.
Modern History: Kabbalah, Shabbetai Zevi, Hasidism; Enlightenment/
          Emancipation; Antisemitism/Rise of the Jews; Nationalism;
          Holocaust; America; Israel.

Introduction to Jewish Culture

Holidays: High Holidays/Major Festivals; Minor/Modern Jewish Holidays.
Life Cycle: Birth and Bar/Bat Mitsva; Marriage and Death.
Literature: Torah; Tanakh [Hebrew Bible]; Mishnah, Talmud, and Midrash;
          Liturgy; Modern Jewish Literature
Creative Jewish Culture: Jewish Music and Jewish Art; Lifestyle and Diet;
          Languages; Varieties of Jewish Culture.

Philosophy of Secular Humanistic Judaism

Basic Ideas: Reality and God; The Nature of People; Truth; Ethics; Politics
          and Social Ethics; Jewish Identity; Jewish History; Past and Present
Roots: Yiddishists; Zionists; Haskala, Reform and Reconstructionism; Great
          Thinkers: Jews and Non-Jews; Contemporary.
The Early Modern East European Roots of Secular Humanistic Judaism

by David Abramovitz, Zev Katz, Susan Lerner, Karen Levy, Roz Usiskin, and Sherwin Wine

$19.95

This publication is excellent background information for studying the early modern European roots of Secular Humanistic Judaism. It includes an historical survey, selected essays and texts from Yiddish literature in translation, a collection of Humanistic quotations, and an annotated bibliography. (spiral bound)

Contents include

Historical Survey of Early Modern European Roots of Secular Humanistic Judaism

Jewish Humanism and Anti-Humanism
The Jewish Condition in the Middle Ages
Bridge to Modernity: Historical Processes which Influenced Judaism
Judaism on the Threshold of the Modern World

Challenges to Orthodoxy
Framers of Secular Humanistic Judaism
Towards a New Jewish Identity: Socialist and Yiddishist
Towards a New Jewish Identity: Zionism, the Success of Pluralism

Early Modern Yiddish Literature and its Place in Jewish History
Yiddish and the Haskalah
Early Yiddish Literature (Mendele, Peretz, S. Aleichem)
Early Modern Yiddish Literature in America (Winchevsky, Rosenfeld, Edelstat, Bovshover, Socialism)

Yiddish Stories and Folk Tales

Humanistic Quotations
Developed over years as a Sunday school teacher, this collection of plays and stories for young children are an important resource for teaching Bible stories and Jewish history to children in a Secular and Humanistic Jewish school. (spiral bound)

Contents include:

Dr. Yudelman’s Computer
The Tree of Knowledge in the Garden of Eden is now a wondrous computer belonging to the mysterious Doctor Yudelman.

Ruth and Naomi
Ruth's story is a tale of virtue rewarded.

Saul is Chosen
Here is a midrash on the prophet Samuel's nomination of Saul, a shepherd from the small tribe of Benjamin to be king over all the Hebrew tribes at a time of great conflict with the Philistines.

No More Mr. Good Haman
This play is in the tradition of retelling the Esther story with comic embellishments.

Haman’s in Town
This is in the tradition of Purim plays that are ridiculous and satirize the rabbi and other authority figures.

Judah and Salome
This Hanukka drama is based on the dangerous gulf that opened up between traditional Jews and those who had become Hellenized in the tumultuous era preceding the Maccabean revolt.

Shimon the Stonecutter Speaks to the Queen
Set in the final days of Judea's existence as a free nation under Queen Salome Alexandra, the last of the Hasmonean dynasty and a friend of the common people

Hanukka Gelt
Hanukka is the background for the trials and anguish of a Jewish family in Russia during the late 1800's.
OTHER MOVEMENT PUBLICATIONS

The two community organizations of Secular Humanistic Judaism, the Congress of Secular Jewish Organizations (CSJO) and the Society for Humanistic Judaism (SHJ), each publish materials of interest to cultural, Secular and Humanistic Jews.

For more information, please visit their web-based catalogs at:

CSJO – www.csjo.org
SHJ – www.shj.org

ONLINE RESOURCES

The International Institute for Secular Humanistic Judaism has assembled a thorough and growing listing of online resources available on the Internet from affiliated communities and like-minded organizations, as well as some provided by the IISHJ itself. These include Shabbat and holiday celebrations, materials for youth and adult education, online video and audio materials (including podcasts and YouTube videos), and more.

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