



בית הדין המסורתי של אירופה
The European Masorti Bet Din
Director: Rabbi Chaim Weiner



בס"ד

Curriculum for Conversion

1 Basic Concepts

- Monotheism
- Incorporeality
- Idol Worship (forbidden)
- "Torah from Heaven" - "It is not in Heaven".
- Prophecy
- Reward and punishment
- Repentance
- Chosen People

2. Jewish History

- The fathers.
- Egypt and the Exodus
- First Temple / Babylonian Exile
- The period of the *Mishna* and *Talmud*
- The *Geonim*
- The Golden Age of Spain
- The Crusades
- The Expulsion from Spain
- The *Kabbala*
- The beginning of the modern age:
 - Hasidut*
 - Mitnagdim*
 - Haskalah* (Enlightenment)
- Zionism
- The Holocaust
- The State of Israel

3. The Jewish Library

- The Bible
- The *Mishna*
- The *Talmud*
- Traditional commentary: *Rashi*, *Ramban*, *Ibn Ezra*
- *Rambam: Mishne Torah* and *Moreh Nevochim*
- The *Zohar*
- *Sa'adia Gaon "Emunot Vedaot"*
- Judah HaLevy "*Sefer Hakuzah*"
- Modern Jewish Philosophy:
 - Rosenzweig
 - Buber
 - Heschel



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Kaplan
Hertzl
Ahad Ha'am
Rabbi I. Kook

4 Sabbath

- *Oneg Shabbat*
- The 39 categories of forbidden work.
- *Avotand Toladot*
- Remembering Creation / Egypt
- *Kiddush /Zemirot*
- Candles
- *Shalosh Seudot / Seudah Shiishit*
- *Havdalah*

5. Kashrut

- Basic Concepts
- Which Animals are Kosher?
- Ritual slaughtering
- Blood (forbidden)
- Salting, soaking etc.
- Milk and Meat
- Maintaining a Kosher kitchen (separate utensils, koshering utensils etc.)

6. The Synagogue

- *Aron Kodesh*
- *Torah*
- *Ner Tamid*
- *Bimah*
- *Hazzan*
- *Minyan*
- *Aliyah*
- *Siddur*
- *Machzor*

7. Prayers and Blessings

- When do we pray. Festival prayers
- *Birkot Hashahar, Pesukai Dezimra*
- *Shema* and her Blessings
- The *Amidah* (Weekday and Shabbat)
- *Mincha* and *Ma'ariv*
- The Blessings (*HaNehenin, HaMitzvot*)
- *Birkat Hamazon*
- *Talit, Tefillin,*
- Torah Reading



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8 The Family / Life Cycle

- *Birth*: Milah, Pidyon HaBen
- Bar/Bat Mitzvah (Aliyah, Haftorah)
- *Marriage* (Kiddushin, Huppah, Sheva Berachot, *Breaking the Glass*, *Kettubah Yichud*, *Toharat HaMishpacha*, Arayot)
- *Divorce* (Get, Halitza)
- *Death* (Hevra Kadisha, Shiva, Shioshim, Yartzeit, Ner Neshamah, Kaddish).
- Mezuzah
- Talmud Torah

9 The Jewish Calender

- *A month by month study of the Calender*
- *Time of prayers*
- *Time of Shabbat*
- *"The day follows the night"*
- *Sunset, three stars.*

10. Festivals

- Rosh Hashanah (Shofar, *Day of Judgement*, *Birthday of the World*)
- Yom Kippur (Kol Nidrei, *Fasting and Repentance*, Yizkor, *Jonah*, Ne'eilah)
- Succot (Succah, *4 species*, *harvest festival*, Kohellet)
- Simhat Torah (Hakafot, Hatan Torah, Hatan Bereishit, *The prayer for rain*).
- Hannukah (*Maccabis*, *customs*)
- Tu Beshvat (*New year of trees*, *The commandments that are carried out in the Lane of Israel*)
- Purim (Megillah, Mishloach Manot, *Gifts for the poor*, *Festival meal*).
- Pesach (Hagadah, Hametz, *The Seder*)
- *The Omer*
- Yom Ha 'atzmaut (*Israel Independence Day*)
- *Jerusalem Day*
- Shavuot (Matan Torah, Bikunm, Tikkun, *Ruth*)
- *9th of Av* (*Temple*, *Fasting*, Kinnot, Eicha)

11. Jewish Ethics

- *Ten Commandments*
- *Business Ethics*
- Lashon Hara
- Leket, Shihicha, Peah
- Shimitah
- Tzadakah

12- Conversion

- *The halachic requirments.*
- *Loving the Convert*



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13. Development of Halacha

The written Law and the Oral Law

The authority .of the Rabbis

Posek

- *Prozbul, Harem Rabeinu Gershom*

14. Modern Jewish Life

- Antisemitism
- Mixed marriages
Israel and the Diaspora
- *Aliyah*
- Jewish communities around the world

15. Streams in Judaism

- Orthodox
- Reform
- Conservative

Differences concerning:

Halacha

The secular world

Messianism

Sacrifices

Women's Roles

Priests

16- Hebrew

Reading.

Basic vocabulary.