

JEWISH LIFE ONLINE

Presentation by Gabor Por (sorelig.com) on November 21, 2010



Family - Passed generations

- Yizkor.org
- Yairzeit reminder service / memorial site
- JewishGen.org
 - Free, easy to use genealogy site
- YadVashem.org
 - The central database of Shoah victim's names

Family - children

- Akhlah.com
 - "The Jewish learning network"
- IsraelEmb.org/kids/
- Israel's history, geography and symbols
 - ShalomSesame.org
 - New series, Hebrew, holidays, games, stories

Family - wider circle

- Yerushta.com
 - "A website for older childless Jews"
- Twozer.com
 - The Jewish Twitter
- Shmooze.com
 - "An inclusive society for exclusive people"
- Facebook.com
 - Thousands of Jewish groups, pages

Entertainment

- [Art - Jewish-Art.org](http://Art-Jewish-Art.org)
- [Film - Brandeis.edu/jewishfilm](http://Film-Brandeis.edu/jewishfilm), JewishFilm.com
- [Food - JewishRecipes.org](http://Food-JewishRecipes.org)
- [Humor - OldJewSTellingJokes.com](http://Humor-OldJewSTellingJokes.com), G-dcast.com
- [Literature - JewishReviewofBooks.com](http://Literature-JewishReviewofBooks.com)
- [Music - Shemspeed.com](http://Music-Shemspeed.com)

Local

- BethAmiSR.org
- SonomaJewishConnection.Ning.com
 - Connecting young Jews - all individuals, couples, gender identities, sexual orientations, interfaith, not-o-1aith
- JCCSoCo.org
 - Jewish Community Center, Sonoma County
- JFCS.org
- Jewish Family and Children Services
 - comprehensive social services support

Learning

- Acquiring new knowledge, skills, values

Information

- Satisfying information need efficiently

Family

- Connecting with members of your family and others

Entertainment

- Finding fun online

Learning

What:

- Learning is a key value of Judaism
- People are praised for their knowledge

Who:

- The internet is democratizing the learning process
- Not just for the elite any more
- Anyone can contribute

How:

- The internet enabled new forms of learning

Channels

- Email distribution list
- Email/online groups
- Static websites
- Interactive websites
- Social networking
- Online courses
- Online degrees

Content

- Religion
 - Holidays
 - Life cycle events
 - Beliefs/Practices
 - Text
 - Bible
 - Rabbinic literature
 - Liturgy
 - History
 - Languages
- ## **Religion/Text**
- MyJewishLearning.com - articles
 - Transdenominational website
 - Torah.org – email classes and their archives
 - Shamash.org – dozens of email lists
 - The oldest and best known Jewishly oriented service to provide tools to maintain discussion forums for the benefit of the Jewish community.
- ## **History**
- JewishHistory.org
 - Courses, audio, video, text
 - Rabbi Berel Wein/The Destiny Foundation
 - Dinur.org
 - A project of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. 5000+ links in 25 categories
 - JWA.org - Jewish Women Archive
 - to uncover, chronicle, and transmit to a broad public the rich history of American Jewish women.

Languages

- YiddishCulture.org
- eTeacherHebrew.com
- LiveMoocha.com (Hebrew & Yiddish)
 - "largest online language learning community, offering free and paid online language courses"
- 35 languages
- Mangolanguages.com (Hebrew)
- online language-learning system that teaches actual conversation skill
- 37 languages

Online Degrees

- Gratz.edu
 - Gratz College - the first transdenominational Jewish college in the United States
- HebrewCollege.edu
 - Founded in 1921, dedicated to the principle that rigorous, pluralistic Jewish education
- JTSa.edu
 - Jewish Theological Seminary of America
- alula.edu
 - American Jewish University

Reposting Text

- TaggedTanakh.org
 - is a collaborative platform spearheaded by JPS, that joins vetted content and user-generated commentary around the Jewish Bible.
- OpenSiddur.org
 - craft your own siddur and share your work
- OpenSourceHaggadah.com
 - where you can create your own Passover Haggadah online

Information (seeking behavior)

- Use multiple sources
- Be aware of the sources' biases
- Question recency/ rules over relevancy
- Do not always follow the principle of least effort

Information providing websites

- Hebbcal.com
 - Free Jewish calendar and holiday web site
- AskMoses.com
 - Live counseling and knowledge base of information on Judaism from Chabad
- Directories
 - Mavensearch.com – oldest Jewish directory
 - Jewishnei – links and postcards
 - Google.co.il – Israeli business directory
 - JewishInfo – by the Jewish Agency