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## Jewish Women in Pre-State Israel

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# Glossary

**Ahdut ha-Avodah**, Zionist Socialist Labor Party in Eretz Israel, founded in 1919

**aliyah** (pl. *aliyot*) [“ascent”], immigration to Eretz Israel

**Aliyah**, waves of immigration to Palestine/Eretz Israel:

**First Aliyah**, 1882–1903, consisted of individuals and small groups, mostly from Eastern Europe, but also from Yemen and other Middle Eastern and North African countries; the period of the establishment of the early *moshavot* and semi-modern urban neighborhoods.

**Second Aliyah**, 1904–1914, consisted mainly of immigrants from Eastern Europe, which numbered about 40,000 people. Some were pioneers (*halutzim*) who worked as hired laborers in the *moshavot* and in the cities; most of them were middle-class people who settled in the towns, including the new Jaffa neighborhood (later city) of Tel-Aviv.

**Third Aliyah**, 1919–1923, included many *halutzim* from Zionist movements. Veteran immigrants of the Second Aliyah and the *halutzim* of the Third founded the Histadrut. More *kevuvtot* and *kibbutzim* were established as were the first *moshavim*; more than 35,000 persons arrived during this period.

**Fourth Aliyah**, 1924–1928, contained many middle-class immigrants, over half coming from Poland. Some 80 percent of this Aliyah’s 67,000 *olim* settled in cities. The rest were pioneers. Thus it was presented as a bourgeois Aliyah with negative connotation.

**Fifth Aliyah**, 1929–1939, numbered over 250,000, with a prominent role played by refugees from Nazi Germany.

**Ashkenazi** (pl. Ashkenazim), Jews from Central or Eastern Europe, especially Germany (versus Sephardi, Jew of Spanish stock)

**Bilu**, acronym—Beit Ya’akov lekhu ve-nelkha [House of Jacob, go you and

- let us go]; established in Russia in 1882, first modern movement for pioneering and agricultural settlement in the Land of Israel
- Davar**, newspaper of the Israel Labor Movement, founded 1925
- Devar ha-Po'elet**, founded 1934, women's magazine of the Histadrut, central journal of the women's movement
- Eretz Israel**, Hebrew for Land of Israel; the official Hebrew term for the area governed by British Mandate (1922–1948)
- gar'in** (pl. *gar'inim*), ["nucleus"], a group of people who train to settle together in Eretz Israel, either forming a new settlement or reinforcing an existing one
- Gidonim**, est. 1913, short-lived semi-clandestine group for sons of farmers; one of its aims was to defend the settlement Zikhron Ya'akov
- Golah**, voluntary dispersion of Jews outside of Israel
- Haganah**, underground Jewish organization in Eretz Israel for armed self-defense under the British Mandate that eventually became the basis for the Israel Defense Forces
- hakhsharah** (pl. *hakhsharot*) ["preparation"], training farms in the Diaspora to prepare pioneers for agricultural settlement in Eretz Israel
- halakhah**, the body of rabbinic law
- halutz** (m.), *halutza* (f.) (pl. *halutzim* [m.]; *halutzot* [f.]), pioneers in Eretz Israel, especially in agriculture
- halutziiyyut**, pioneering
- Ha-Po'el ha-Tza'ir** ["The Young Worker"], Eretz Israel Labor Party, founded 1905
- Ha-Po'el ha-Tza'ir** ["The Young Worker"], the Ha-Po'el ha-Tza'ir movement's first newspaper; first two issues appeared in 1907, a weekly from 1912 (ceased publication in 1970)
- Hashomer** ["The Watchman"], association of Jewish watchmen in Eretz Israel, active between 1909 and 1920
- Haskalah** ["Enlightenment"], movement for the dissemination of modern European culture and education among Jews active from about 1750 to 1880
- Hebrew** [adj.], used to describe Zionist-Jewish endeavors, representing the attempt to establish a new Eretz Israel culture
- hevrat no'ar**, an educational unit of Youth Aliyah whose members formed a self-contained social group with a considerable measure of in-group autonomy. The units resided on a kibbutz or in a youth village or other educational institution operated by Youth Aliyah. Within this framework, in addition to group activities, the members usually spent four hours working in agriculture or in a workshop and four hours in study. *See also* "Youth Aliyah."
- Histadrut** (full Heb. name, Ha-Histradrut ha-Kelalit shel ha-Ovedim ha-Ivriyyim be-Eretz Israel), Eretz Israel Jewish Labor Federation, founded in 1920

- Hovevei Zion**, an early Zionist movement in Russia pre-dating Herzl that established settlements in Ottoman Palestine
- Jewish Colonization Association**, founded 1891, philanthropic association to aid needy or persecuted Jews to emigrate and settle where they would be employed productively, among locations for settlement were Argentina and Eretz Israel
- kevutzah** (pl. *kevutzot*), smaller-size voluntary collective community constituting an agricultural settlement in Eretz Israel; with growth it evolved into the kibbutz
- kibbutz** (pl. *kibbutzim*), larger-size voluntary collective community constituting a settlement in Eretz Israel, originally based mainly on agricultural; today also engaged in various industries. *See also* “*kevutzah*”
- kibbush ha-avodah** [“the conquest of labor”], preparation of Jews, spiritually and educationally, to work in all the occupations required in a national economy. The concept was linked to the ideal of *halutziiyyut*.
- Lehi**, acronym from Heb. Lohamei Herut Israel (“Fighters for the Freedom of Israel”), a radical anti-British armed underground organization founded in 1940 in Eretz Israel by breakaways from Etzel (Irgun Zeva’i Le’ummi, “National Military Organization,” commonly called the Irgun)
- ma’barah**, temporary settlement for housing newcomers in Israel during the period of mass immigration following 1948
- Mapai** (acronym—Mifleget Po’alei Eretz Israel), the Israel (previously Palestine) Labor Party, a Zionist-Socialist party founded 1930 through a union of Ahdut ha-Avodah and Ha-Po’el ha-Tza’ir; Mapai was the leading party from pre-State years until the 1970s.
- Mizrachi**, religious Zionist movement founded in 1902
- Mizrahi**, Jews from most Islamic and Arab countries
- Mo’etzet ha-Po’alim**, a local labor council
- Mo’etzet ha-Po’alot**, Women Workers Council, founded in 1922 as part of the Histadrut
- moshav**, smallholders’ cooperative agricultural settlement.
- moshav ovdim** (“workers’ *moshav*”), smallholders’ cooperative agricultural settlement in Palestine and in Israel established on national land. It is based on family farms and individual working of the land, together with mutual liability and aid.
- moshavah** (pl. *moshavot*), Jewish independent, smallholders’ agricultural settlement in Palestine. The earliest type of Jewish agricultural village in modern Eretz Israel; farming was carried out on individual farms, generally on privately owned land.
- oleh** (m.), *olim* (pl. m), *olah* (f.), *olot* (pl. f.), immigrant(s) to Eretz Israel
- Palmah**, mobilized striking force of the Haganah, established 1941. When ordered to dismantle by the British in 1943, it became an underground. Mil-

itary training was combined with agricultural work in the kibbutzim and Zionist education. Considered to encompass a way of life, the Palmah made a prominent contribution to Israeli culture and ethos.

*po'alot*, women workers

**Sephardim**, Jews from Spain and Portugal and their descendants wherever they reside; today broadly applied to Jews of most Islamic and Arab countries as well

*shiv'ah*, the period of seven days of mourning following burial of a relative  
**Tisha b'Av** (the Ninth of Av), a traditional day of mourning and fast over the destruction of the First and Second Temples in Jerusalem

**sabra** (Heb. *tzabar* [m.], *tzabarit* [f.], "prickly pear"), person born in modern Eretz Israel, referring metaphorically to prickly exterior and tender heart

*tzumud* (Arabic), a close, relentless attachment to land and home

**Va'ad Leummi**, the national council of the *Yishuv* during the British Mandate period

**WIZO** (Women's International Zionist Organization), women's Zionist organization founded in London in July 1920

**Yishuv**, the Jewish Community ("settlement") in Palestine:

**Old yishuv**, the traditional, religious Jewish community in Palestine

**New yishuv**, the modernizing, Zionist Jewish community in Palestine (from 1882 to 1948)

**Youth Aliyah**, a branch of the Zionist movement whose goal, when founded, was to rescue Jewish children and young people from difficult situations abroad and bring them to Eretz Israel to care for them and provide their education. In time, it also focused on children in Israel