



ROSH HODESH: IT'S A GIRL THING!

Key Events in Jewish History

Dates in biblical, Second Temple and rabbinic periods are approximate.

BIBLICAL PERIOD

Cycles of exile and return; growth and destruction

2000-1700 BCE	Era of the Matriarchs and Patriarchs.
1700-1300	Israelites are slaves in Egypt.
1250	Exodus from Egypt.
1290	Israelites conquer Canaan.
1290-1030	Joshua and the Judges rule.
1050-450	Prophetic period.
1030-930	Saul, David, and Solomon reign.
960	Solomon builds the First Temple.
930	Nation divides into two kingdoms: Ten northern tribes comprise Israel; two southern tribes unite as Judah.
726	Israel is conquered by Assyrians; tribes are dispersed.
586	Judah is conquered by Babylonians; Temple is destroyed and the Babylonian exile begins.

SECOND TEMPLE PERIOD

Cycles of external domination and rebellion

538	Most of community returns from Babylonian exile.
515	Second Temple is completed under Persian rule.
311	Alexander the Great conquers Israel.
167	Maccabees lead revolt against Syrian-Greek rule.
63	Roman rule begins.
37-4 BCE	Herod the Great rules.
0	Hillel and Shammai are teaching.
66 CE	Great Revolt against Rome begins.
69	Joḥanan ben Zakkai establishes rabbinic academy at Yavneh.
70	Second Temple is destroyed by Romans; second exile begins.
73	Masada falls to the Romans, ending the revolt.

RABBINIC PERIOD

Consolidation of the Mishnah and Gemara

135	Bar Koḥba leads revolt against Rome, supported by Rabbi Akiba.
200	Mishnah (first layer of Talmud) is codified by Judah HaNasi.

For a detailed account of events in Jewish history, visit www.us-israel.org/jsource/History/timeline.html.

For information about Jewish women in American history, visit www.jwa.org.

425 Palestinian Talmud (Gemara) is completed.
550 Babylonian Talmud (Gemara) is completed.

MEDIEVAL PERIOD

The rise of codification and mysticism

632 - 680 Islamic rulers conquer Northern Africa, Spain, and Middle East.
950-1150 Golden Age in Spain under Islamic Umayyad dynasty.
1040 Rashi is born.
1100-1300 Crusades are mounted, with massacres in Europe en route to the Holy Land.
1195 Maimonides (Rambam) completes *Guide to the Perplexed*.
1275 Zohar is written.
1391 Inquisition begins.
1492 Jews are expelled from Spain.
1569 Mystic Yitzhak Luria writes the *Kabbalist*.
1565 Yosef Karo publishes the *Shulḥan Aruḥ*.
1654 First Jews arrive in America.
1665 Messianic figure Shabbatai Tzvi betrays thousands.
1698 Baal Shem Tov, founder of Ḥassidism, born.

THE MODERN PERIOD

Mass movements, devastation, rebirth, and struggle

1791 Jews are granted French citizenship.
1881-1924 Eastern European Jews migrate to North America.
1882-1903 First Aliyah to Palestine, mainly from Russia
1897 First Zionist Congress convened by Theodor Herzl.
1904-1939 Four mass Aliyahs, from Russia, Poland, and Germany.
1917 England's Balfour Declaration favors a Jewish state.
1933-1945 Holocaust.
1948 State of Israel founded; War of Independence begins.
1967 Six Day War; Israel occupies Golan, West Bank, Gaza and Sinai.
1973 Yom Kippur War.
1979 Camp David Accords signed with Egypt; Sinai is returned to Egypt.
1982 War in Lebanon.
1987 First Palestinian *intifada* (uprising).
2000 Second Palestinian *intifada*.