

## TIMELINE: Origins Part 2 –Dream of Return

**70-100 A.D.** Rabbi Gamliel II orders the editing of the Amidah, the central prayer of Jewish service, and makes it a requirement for all Jews to recite it three times daily. The tenth prayer asks God to return the Jewish exiles to their land.

**135 A.D.** Final defeat of the Jews by the Romans in the Bar Kochba revolt. One million Jews are sold as slaves.

**330 A.D.** Jerusalem becomes part of the Byzantine Empire. Jews are persecuted by zealous Christians.

**614 A.D.** Jews rebel against their Christian Byzantine rulers. They join the Persians in their war against Byzantium. Tens of thousands form special battalions. They would be the last organized Jewish armed force for the next 1,300 years.

**638 A.D.** Muslims conquer Jerusalem. Jews are forced to pay a special tax and wear special dress.

**1099 A.D.** Crusaders conquer Jerusalem and massacre tens of thousands of the city's Jews.

**1187 A.D.** Saladin recaptures Jerusalem and allows the Jews to return.

**1240 A.D.** Starting in 1211 A.D. and in subsequent years leading up to 1240 AD (5000 in the Jewish calendar) a messianic aliya takes place after the collapse of the crusader kingdom.

**1440 A.D.** In the years leading to 1440 (5200 in the Hebrew calendar) another messianic Aliya brings thousands of Jews from North Africa, Egypt Spain, France, Italy and German lands.

**1540 A.D.** Thousands of Jewish families come to Israel in the years before 1540, the majority settling in the Galilee and the City of Safed which grows to become a major Kabbalistic center, boasting impressive religious leaders.

**1665 A.D.** Shabtai Tzvi declares himself the messiah. He arouses great hopes in the Diaspora, followed by widespread dejection with his forced conversion to Islam.

**1740 A.D.** Thousands come prior to 1740 (5500), settling mainly in Tiberias and Jerusalem.

**1840 A.D.** A large aliya enters the Holy Land in expectation of the arrival of the Messiah in 1840 (5600).

**1866 A.D.** Jews become a majority in Jerusalem, paving the way for the "First Aliya," the first immigrant wave linked to modern Zionism in the 1880s.