

## Perth to Join Worldwide Release of "The Land and The Spirit"

Tuesday, 25 September 2007

Perth's Jewish community is invited to explore the spiritual connection of the Jewish People to the Holy Land in a series of courses starting Sunday, 28 October.

Many have explored the politics and geography of Israel, but few have explored the soul of the land. This October and November, the Rohr Jewish Learning Institute is set to unveil an intriguing new course at over 250 affiliates across the globe. Unlike other courses that are concerned primarily with the modern State of Israel or its ancient history, *The Land and The Spirit* focuses on the mystery of the deep bond so many people feel for the land of Israel.

"Many people love their homes and their countries, but once they relocate, that love begins to fade," explains Rabbi White. "Yet no matter where they have lived, Jews have continued to dream about the land of Israel," continues Rabbi White. "*The Land and The Spirit* looks to answer why that dream has persisted across borders and generations."

*The Land and The Spirit* provides students with an explanation for the central role the Holy Land plays in the Jews' mission throughout history. The course explains what it means for a land to be holy, and the implications this has for the people living within that land. *The Land and The Spirit* also explores the relationship that Jews in the Diaspora maintain with Israel despite their place of residence.

"Whatever their political bent, people all across the globe have an opinion about Israel, whether positive or negative," says local JLI co-ordinator Nikki Leib. "Whether people feel hope or despair, pride or concern, people care about Israel. By probing the spiritual connection Jews have with the Holy Land, we hope our students will come away with appreciation for why Israel matters so much to them."

This exciting new course will be offered at Jewish Community Centre for six Sundays, starting 28<sup>th</sup> of October. The course costs \$100, which includes a beautiful student textbook.

"We are so sure that people will enjoy it," says Rabbi White, "that we invite anyone interested to attend the first lesson free, with no obligation." MORE

What can students gain by attending *The Land and The Spirit*? A chance to explore the spirit of a land that has pulsed with energy and mystery since the dawn of time. A chance to understand a land that has captured our imagination throughout history, a land that breathes with the glory of our past and the dreams of our future. And a chance to examine what Israel was meant to be, and what Israel means to us today.

Please visit [www.myJLI.com](http://www.myJLI.com) for up-to-the-minute information about *The Land and The Spirit*.

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## MEDIA NOTES

Members of the media are cordially invited to attend a local class and/or interview local course facilitators in advance. Interviews with national facilitators and course creators can be arranged upon request as well.

To arrange an interview, book a visit to an upcoming class, or for further information, please contact *Nikki Leib*, [nikki@chabadwa.org](mailto:nikki@chabadwa.org).

The Jewish Learning Institute (JLI) is the adult education arm of Chabad-Lubavitch. JLI's classes and programs, now offered in over 300 locations in over 250 cities nationwide, as well as international locations (including Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Denmark, Finland, Holland, South Africa, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and Venezuela), have been attended by nearly 75,000 people since JLI's creation in 1998. Many others participate virtually through online message boards and other internet-based channels.

Every course offered by the JLI is synchronized so that lessons are offered concurrently in all locations. This unique feature sets JLI apart from other similar programs and has helped create a true global learning community.

JLI courses are presented in *Perth* under the auspices of *Chabad Lubavitch of WA*.

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