Israel

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Introductory background

Israel population at the end of 2002 was 6,631 million, 20% of them Arabs (`http://www.cbs.gov.il/population/popul_eng.htm`). The GDP in 2002 came to NIS 487 billion, approximately $ 100 billion. As a result of the recession, the GDP retreated 1% in 2002. Per capita GDP reached US $ 15,782, down from US $ 17,505 in 2001 (`http://www.mof.gov.il/beinle/ie/glance_eco2003.htm`).

Human capital has always been the country's engine for economic growth and competitiveness. In 2001, 13% of those employed were academic professionals and 14.6% were professionals and technicians. Approximately 24% of the civilian labor force had 16 years of schooling or more, compared to 1% in 1979. During the 1990s, the Israeli labor market absorbed about 960,000 immigrants from the former Soviet Union. Many of the immigrants were highly skilled workers (ibid). Israel is closely associated both with the US and Europe. They are its main trading partners with 31% and 30%, respectively, of Israel's exports and 22% and 40% of its imports (excluding diamonds). In the year 2000, among the 2,872 thousand tourists who visited Israel, 518 thousand came from the US (19%) and from Europe (UK, France, Germany and Italy) 821 thousand. Israel is associated to significant Jewish Diasporas in North America (6,064 million) and in Europe (EU countries - 1,034 million; other European countries – 524 thousand) (Sergio Della Pergola, *World Jewish Population*, 2002, in: *American Jewish Year Book*, The American Jewish Committee, Vol. 102, N.Y., 2002, p. 601-642).

The communications infrastructure in Israel is well developed. Cable TV home pass extends to 95% of the households while 72% of all households subscribe. In January 2001 there were 4,710 million cellular phone subscribers for a population of 6.315 million, a penetration rate of 66%. TASC Ernst & Young report that the expenses of the Israeli consumer in the cellular market are the highest among all the western countries. The total communications market in 2002 was 25.2 billion NIS (about 5.6 billion dollars) that constitute 4.6% of the GDP (the next country is Sweden with 3.9%; Britain and Spain, 3.6%; Holland, 3.4%). The market distribution is 56% for the cellular; 11% for international calls, Internet and international data services; 10% for multi-channel digital TV (cable and satellite) and cable Internet; 22% for line telephony, data and Internet access. The recent penetration of broadband Internet is quite impressive with an estimate of 280 thousand subscribers in March 2003, 80 thousand of them through a Cable TV connection (`http://www.moc.gov.il/new/documents/lect_acrobat_19.10.03.pdf`). Israel expends more on RTD than all other industrialized countries , 4.2% of the GDP for 2002. The bubble years provided a huge input of risk capital from abroad with 1,014 million dollars in 1999 and 3,106 million dollars in 2,000 (`http://www.mof.gov.il/research_e/trends2003e.pdf`). Israel leads, worldwide, in computing sciences in terms of citation impact (`http://www.cordis.lu/indicators/third_report.htm`).

Digitisation Policies

Substantial achievements have been reached in various areas regarding the digitisation of scientific and cultural heritage resources in Israel. However the country does not have a comprehensive national policy in this area. We will review the different bodies concerned with various aspects of digitisation. In a subsequent section we will highlight some of the projects being carried out.

**Ministries and Public Institutions
involved in the Digitisation Process**

Ministry of Science and Technology
The Minister heads the Ministry's Committee for Science
and Technology. This Committee recommended
and the Government decided in October 2002
to establish a National Committee for the Information
and the Knowledge Society. The Prime Minister
nominated the members in March 2003. This is an
attempt to develop a comprehensive policy in this area.
The Ministry (`http://www.most.gov.il`) lead
the establishment of pilot projects in the framework
of its Scientific Infrastructures program that hosted
the Super Highway of Information program: Digitisation
of the Jerusalem Post newspaper (1930-1948);
the GIS/Social Sciences Archives project at the Hebrew
University; localization of Harvest, a Web harvesting tool;
the Galileo Multimedia project at Tel Aviv University;
and the establishment of the Negev Database.Among
the digitisation related research recently supported
by the Ministry:
1) Advanced search techniques into video libraries
applying computerized vision techniques
(Weizmann Institute); 2) Intelligent systems
for processing categorization of multimedia
information in multi user systems (Hebrew University);
3) Integrated systems for finding information in digital
libraries and the Internet (Bar Ilan University);
4) Inter and Intra Organizational Networks:
from algorithms to information technology (Tel Aviv
University); 5) Interactive multimedia in broadband
networks (Hebrew University).

Prime Minister's Office
`http://www.pmo.gov.il/english/`

The Israel National Archivar
`http://www.pmo.gov.il/english/`
`ts.exe?tsurl=0.67.6929.0.0`
This is an statutory function with responsibilities for the
National Archives and a substantial number of smaller
archives that have been recognised and are supported
under the Archives Law. The incumbent, Dr. Tuvia Friling,
lead 15 years ago the digitisation of the Ben Gurion
Archives employing leading edge technologies. He has
developed a wide program for digitisation that includes:
1) The establishment of the Israel Archives Network;
2) Provision of central hosting and software services
at the Governments Servers Farm for all archives;
3) A multi annual program including prioritisation
and achieving at least 10% of digitisation of holdings;
4) In cooperation with the eGovernment program
of the Ministry of Finance is seeking to develop
a policy for "born digital" document;
5) A comprehensive tender for the digitisation
of the government films and multimedia holdings
is under way.

LAPAM – The Government Publications Office
`http://www.lapam.gov.il/serve/about/`
`about.asp?SubFolder=45`
1) Maintain the Government Portal providing support
and interfaces to all the government institutions Web sites
`http://wwww.israel.gov.il/eng/`
`mainpage.asp`
2) The National Photographs Archive, accessible
through the Web
`http://147.237.72.31/topsrch/defaulte.htm`
3) The Government Tenders Site
`http://michrazim.lapam.gov.il`
4) The Freedom of Information Site
`http://free.info.gov.il`

That is the result of a specific law that guides all local and national government levels to provide open access to their information. Its enforcement has greatly stimulated the development of Web sites.

Ministry of Finance
http://www.mof.gov.il/mainpage_eng.htm

The General Comptrollers Division
Controls the procurement by the Government of Israel. The Deputy Comptroller, Yitzhak Cohen, is in charge of ICT procurement; he chairs the Ministries CIOs forum and the Government Internet Committee. Last March he was nominated Chairman of the National Committee for the Information and Knowledge Society
http://itpolicy.gov.il/englishsite/mainpage.htm

Among the current programs:

eGovernment
Multi-annual program for integration of all Ministries and services for the citizen. Originally planned to be completed in 8 years the span was shortened to 5 years; expected investment of several hundreds of millions of dollars. Include Government Intranet; GISP, digital signature and smart card Ids, e-payment service; Government Web sites; e-payment portal; eGovernment call center.

Tehila
1) Secure access to Internet services for Government users;
2) Hosting of Government Websites that provide information and services to the public;
3) Maintenance of the Server Farm

http://www.tehila.gov.il/Tehila1/english_site

Shoham
The forms and e-payment government portal
http://www.first.gov.il/first

Lehava
Educational program developed by the Ministry of Finance to outreach needed populations for training, support and use of ICT. Targets both youngsters and adults in periphery areas (http://www.lehava.gov.il - requires password).

Ministry of Education, Culture and Sports
http://cms.education.gov.il/educationcms/units/owl/english/about/ministry+structure.htm

Directorate for Culture
The Directorate was transferred back to the Ministry at the beginning of 2003. Formerly at the Ministry of Science, Culture and Sports. The Department of Museums has just completed a comprehensive RFI for the provision of a new computerisation package for Museums in Israel; it received more than 50 replies and following this, a tender has been prepared and is under completion for updating the present facilities. The tender provides for much flexibility for the various museums in developing their specific databases, collections description, vocabularies maintenance and more. The Department of Public Libraries completed the tender and is now installing a batch of 700 computers in the public libraries around the country. The Department supports the maintenance of the Center for Public Libraries

in Israel which provides centralized cataloguing services for its subscribers (there is no Joint Catalogue); training; Web site development and several other services.

Directorate for Science and Technology
`http://www.education.gov.il/scitech`
It is in charge of the pedagogical aspects of the third phase of the Computerisation of the Educational System in Israel, a program started back in 1993. It maintains regional centers for ICT teachers' support (now being merged with Pedagogical Centres). The Directorate supports several educational networks and digital repositories of educational resources like CET; Snunit; Amalnet; ORT; Zafonet; ETNI; Negev-Boker; Bazz; Netdays; eSchola. The Directorate maintains jointly with the National Lottery and local authorities 68 clusters of Arts and Sciences. These host advanced laboratories and arts workshops, each serving several junior high schools in the same municipality. These include PC labs serving both the schools system and the community. Two programs for the introduction and development of Learning Objects by teachers are under way. One in cooperation with the Tel Aviv University (`http://www.tau.ac.il`) and another as part of an EC IST Program, CELEBRATE, led by the EUN-European Schoolnet and carried out in Israel by MAKASH (`http://www.learning-objects.org.il`). Divison for Mechanical Services developed and maintains the MAMBAS system for school administration; it already includes in its network 2,046 schools from about 3,000 schools in Israel. `http://www.education.gov.il/moe/english/Automation.htm`

Educational Television
`http://www.ietv.gov.il`

It is part of the Ministry of Education. The new director, Yaffa Vigotsky, has announced her intention to develop an intensive program of digitisation of its holdings. `http://www.education.gov.il/moe/english/television.htm`

Ministry of Communication
The role of the Ministry is that of a regulatory agency in the area of telecommunications without operational duties. In the last ten years it has overseen a impressive process of liberalisation of the telecommunications market in Israel and its privatisation. The Ministry hosts the Council for Satellite and Cable TV Broadcasting. This is the third council in the area of broadcasting along the IBA – Israel Broadcasting authority plenary which oversees the public non-commercial TV and radio broadcast; The Second Television and Radio Authority, which oversees the two commercial TV channels and 13 commercial radio stations. `http://www.moc.gov.il/new/english/index.html` The expansion of cable and satellite digital services has been very rapid. At the end of 2002 there were among a total of 1,046,000 cable TV subscribers, 563 thousand with digital services. This in addition to another 379 thounsand subscribers to digital satellite television. The Council is following closely the development of interactive television services and its policy is to intervene minimally in cases that the consumer is able to reach decisions alone.

The Council for Higher Education,
The Planning and Budgeting Committee,
The Heads of Universities Forum

The higher education system in Israel developed several digitisation related services, among them:

Jewish Marriage Contract
Jewish National and University Library, Jerusalem

IUCC – The InterUniversity Computing Center
http://www.iucc.ac.il
1)Meytal is the Universities consortium
   for the development of distributed learning.
   The tender carried out led to the development
   of many interactive courses serving both
   in-campus and extra mural students.
2)GEANT – the interconnection of the ILAN,
   Israel Academic Network to the European Research
   Network. This is related to the Internet II
   program which provide access to sophisticated
   visualisation RTD programs.
3)Yalad – the High Performance Computing program.

MALMAD – Israel Center for Digital Services
http://www.libnet.ac.il
Includes: 1) The Israel Library Network (Universities
and Academic Colleges) that use the Aleph System
developed by the ExLibris corporation;
2) Israel Union Catalog; 3) Israel Union List of Serials;
4) Central List of Electronic Journals;
5) Databases and Full Text services.

The National Jewish and University Library
It is one of the most important repositories of Judaica
and Hebraica containing several unique collections.
http://www.jnul.huji.ac.il/eng

Among them:

National Sound Archives
Include several thousand of hours of recording
collected by ethnomusicology researchers.
Over 1,700 hours of recordings have been digitised
and are available locally due to IPR questions;
samples are available through the Web site.

Holy Land Maps (Eran Laor Collection)
Digitisation underway beginning with ancient maps
of Jerusalem. Project requiring particularly
high quality of imaging and digitisation zooming
in specific sections of each map MrSid format.
In collaboration with the Departmenf of Geography.
The Jerusalem maps are already available on the Web.

Albert Einstein Archives
Digitisation coordinated with Princeton University Press
and CalTech. The archive is already available through
the Web at http://www.albert-einstein.org.

Communal Registers
The Manuscript Department houses documents from
Jewish communities throughout the world. A number
is being digitised; the first being the Memorbuch from the
community of Frankfurt am Main – 1073 vellum pages.

Early Hebrew Press
Digitisation of six large format newspapers already
completed and soon to become publicly accessible.

Cooperative projects
1) Ketubbot (Marriage Contracts): 1,2000 kettubot
from over fifty countries. Additional collections
from aroung the world are being included
and the kettubot available through the Web.
2) Talmudic Manuscripts including a full Mishna
and several tractates of the Babylonian Talmud.

The National Institutions

The Central Zionist Archives of the WZO run one of the
leading digitisation initiatives in Israel. So far 4 million
documents; 250,000 photographs; 8,000 maps from

the reforestation authority, the Keren Kayemet; and 3,000 posters have been digitized. A tender has been carried out to set up a Web interface to this large database and the new service is expected to be in place in the coming months. The Archive tries to cope with the regular issues that arise in such project like IPR; the possible development of a business model; the extent of resources to be dedicated to educational purposes vs the basic research mission of the institution and more. `http://www.wzo.org.il/cza`

The Jewish Agency for Israel
`http://www.jafi.org.il`
runs several projects:
The eJewish.info initiative for developing Jewish networking infrastructures has three main strands of activities: 1) Identifying and tagging using controlled vocabularies and a standardised metadata set (based on the EUN ETB project, a version of DC) the Jewish resources available in the Web. So far 3,000 collections have been assembled and about 6,000 collections related to Jewish History are expected to be uploaded in the coming weeks (in collaboration with the Dinur Center for Jewish History of the Hebrew University; 2) An initiative for identifying digital repositories of Jewish interest and promoting their accessibility throught the adoption of updated standards and technologies; 3) A comprehensive terminological survey to identify controlled vocabularies of interest in view of promoting the development of ontologies and their Semantic Web based integration.`http://www.ejewish.info/reka`

The Department of Education of the Agency
`http://www.jafi.org.il/education/`
operates one of the largest educational repositories

of resources in Jewish education at its Pedagogical and ICT Center; it manages the Contact Center for Distance Education (`http://www.jacontact.org/`). The P2P program of the Department of Israel (`http://www.jafi.org.il/p2p/`) is developing comprehensive resources portals in the areas of Jewish Museums and Jewish Theatre.

Yad Vashem – The Holocaust Remembrance Authority
`http://www.yad-vashem.org.il`
It has been entrusted with documenting the history of the Jewish people during the Holocaust period preserving the memory and story of the victims and imparting the legacy for generations to come. The archive collection comprises 60 million pages of documents; nearly 263,000 photographs and thousands of films and video taped testimonies. An extensive digitisation program is in progress and the site of the Authority present several online exhibitions There are 2,000,000 pages of testimony in 20 languages; about 100,000 photographs digitized. The terminological effort of the Archive staff is outstanding and substantial controlled vocabularies have been developed.

The Union of Local Authorities in Israel and its Subsidiaries

The National Lottery
`http://www.pais.co.il/new_pais/serve/Templates/english/board.asp`
1) Supports the computerisation program for the educational system since 1993; 2) Supports the establishment of the Arts and Sciences Clusters in local authorities; 3) Carries out an extensive feasibility study for the establishment of a National Digital Library in Israel.

Talmud Manuscript
Jewish National and University Library, Jerusalem

LADPC - Local Authorities Data Processing Center
`http://www.ladpc.co.il/htmls/english/ladpc_index.html`
1) Population management; Real State systems
and Emergency information;
2) Information and Web Sites Development;
3) The operation of the Intelligent Town experiment
in Ariel (`http://www.ariel.muni.il`)
including sophisticated provision of digitised
educational, cultural and municipal services
to all the citizens;
4) Comprehensive digitisation services,
exhibitions and interactive facilities in the Web portal
developed for the Jerusalem Municipality
(see: `http:// www.jerusalem.muni.il`).

Highlights on Some Digitisation initiatives in Israel

A comprehensive list of links to Israel cultural sites
is regularly updated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
and can be reached at: `http://www.mfa.gov.il/mfa/go.asp?MFAHOOkjO`
The Israel NRG launched on the occasion of the
Bi National Italy Israel Seminar on Digital Access
to Science and Cultural Heritage (Jerusalem,
December 10-11, 2003) a Request for Information (RFI)
regarding policies, initiatives and ongoing digitisation
projects in Israel. The ensuing systematic gathering
of data will enable us to provide a comprehensive
map in the next issue of this report. Meanwhile,
the following observations intend to provide some
points of reference, although the coverage
is necessarily incomplete.
The earliest digitisation projects in Israel were
the Responsa and the Ben Gurion Archives:

Judaic Responsa
`http://www.biu.ac.il/ICJI/Responsa/`
A project began in 1963 at the Weizmann Institute
and later migrated to Bar Ilan University and already
running in 1967. Jews have traditionally asked their
local rabbis for advice on almost every subject which
have been included in books. The present version
of the project (11+) contains more than 68,000
Responsa and more than 300,000 hypertext links
between the databases, totalling 127 million words.
It includes the full text of the Bible and its principal
commentaries, the Babylonian Talmud with Rashi's
commentary and Tosafot, the Jerusalem Talmud,
the Mishneh Torah of Maimonides, Shulchan Aruch
with commentaries, Midrashim, 343 books
of responsa, and the Talmudic Encyclopedia,
representing a period of over three thousand years
of Jewish literary creativity.

Jewish Marriage Contract
Jewish National and University Library, Jerusalem

Ben Gurion Archives
http://bgarchives.bgu.ac.il/archives/
sifria/welcome.htm
David Ben Gurion was the head of the Jewish Agency
since the 1930's and first Prime Minister of Israel.
He played the central role in establishing the State
of Israel. His personal archives with 750 thousand
pages were the core for establishing the archives in 1976
following the Ben Gurion Law legislated by the
Parliament in 1976. Following the digitisation there
are 500,000 pages available online including 20,000
of Ben Gurion diaries. They are accessible either as full
text; through descriptive metadata including a facsimile
of the manuscript; or by browsing virtual folders.

Beth Hatefutzot - The Nahum Goldmann
Museum of Jewish Diaspora
http://www.bh.org.il
It conveys the story of the Jewish people from 2,500
years ago to the present. The Museum was a pioneer
in the application of up to date technologies.
The virtual exhibitions available now are:

Jews of Romania
http://www.bh.org.il/VExh/Romania/index.html
Jews in Arab Lands Today
http://www.bh.org.il/V-Exh/index.htm
In the Land of Hagar (Jews of Hungary)
http://www.bh.org.il/VExh/hungary/index.html

Several substantial digitised collections are available locally:
1) Bernard H. and Miriam Oster Visual
Documentation Center
http://www.bh.org.il/Documentation/FAQ.aspx
It includes digitised collections of photographs, pictures
and a film collection.

2) The Feher Jewish Music Center include liturgical,
para-liturgical and everyday songs in many dialects
http://www.bh.org.il/ Music/index.aspx
3) The Douglas E. Goldman Jewish Genealogy Center
http://www.bh.org.il/Genealogy/index.aspx
Its provides substantial digitised resources.

Israel Museum in Jerusalem
http://www.imj.org.il
It has several digitization-related initiatives, one
dedicated to Judaica and Jewish Ethnography
(http://www.imj.org.il/eng/judaica/falk/
whatsnew.html) and another to the Israeli Art Center
(http://www.imj.org.il/eng/resources/
israeli-ac/index.html).
The Image Resources and Copyright Management
department services include a Photo archive
of Museum collections; Reproduction rights licensing;
Film/video projects; Picture research referrals.

The Center for Jewish Art
http://www.hum.huji.ac.il/cja/
At the Hebrew University was established in 1979
to preserve the rich Jewish artistic heritage for posterity,
through documentation, research, publications
and education. It hosts the Jerusalem Index
of Jewish Art with more than 200,000 objects
The data include detailed descriptions
of illuminated manuscripts, ritual objects,
architecture, and modern art dating from antiquity
to the present, all integrated with photographs
and architectural plans. They are related
to the relevant subjects, historical and bibliographical
data, included in the iconographical
and bibliographical databases.

Steven Spielberg Jewish Film Archive
`http://www.spielbergfilmarchive.org.il/`
It began to make its films accessible online in 2002.
Over 200 films are currently available and about 100
will be added annually up to the core of 500 films.
Content, credit and technical information may be found
by searching the Archive's online catalogue.
`http://har2.huji.ac.il:81/ALEPH/ENG/JCJ/`
`jfa/jfa/start`

The Kipp Institute for Advanced Technology
in the Humanities
`http://kipp.tau.ac.il`
At Tel Aviv University it hosts some Online
Searchable Databases
`http://www.tau.ac.il/humanities/dat/e_ind.html`
Bibliography of Zionism; Correspondence
of Ahad Ha'am; Diplomatic Documents 1945-46;
Samples from the Palestine Post 1939-48;
The Palestine Post Searchable Database (Iota Plug-in)
that enables full text search combined with
the online presentation of the facsimilia pictures
of the newspaper. A project developed with
the support of the Ministry of Science
and Technology as a pilot in the Super Highway
of Information initiative.

The Porter Institute for Poetics and Semiotics
`http://www.tau.ac.il/humanities/porter/`
It has a program for New Technologies in the
Humanities and Arts (`http://www.tau.ac.il/`
`humanities/porter/research_projects.htm`)
that is a partner to the Cultos 5FP IST project
(`http://www.cultos.org/`):
Multimedia Knowledge Management Tools
for Culture and the Arts.

Bronfman Center for the Media of the Jewish People
`http://www.tau.ac.il/institutes/bronfman/`
`infocenter.html`
It includes an Information Center with an on-line
database of over 110,000 articles and newspaper
clippings published in the Jewish and Israeli media,
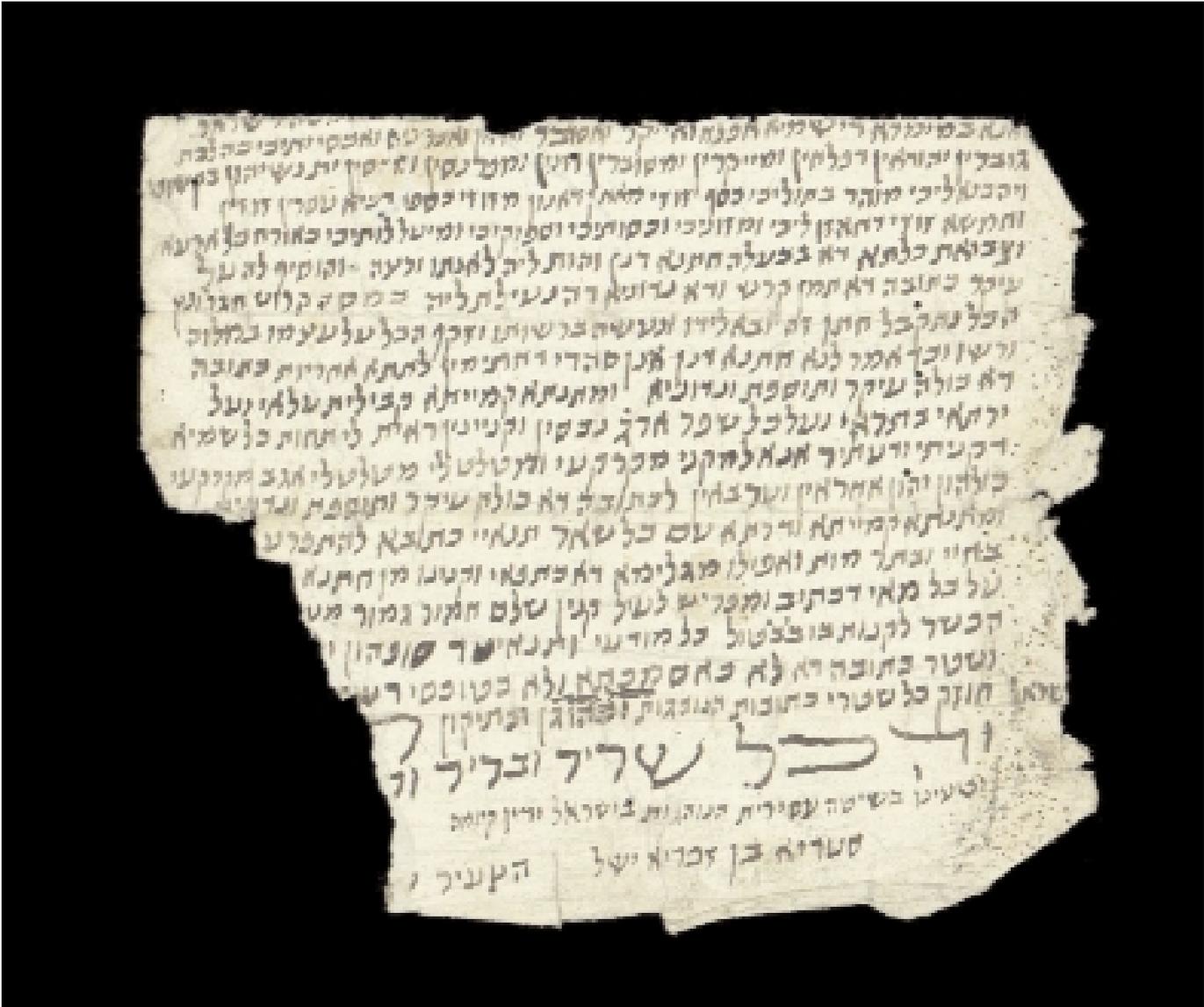updated daily.

Haifa University hosts: Visual Resources
`http://lib.haifa.ac.il/www/art/courses/`
`index.htm`
In Evolutionary Biology; Geography; Art History;
Offprint and Images Database (TOOT).
Media Collections: (`http://lib.haifa.ac.il/`
`www/media/media_new/osafim.htm`) with Video;
Recorded Lessons; Regional Studies and Cartography;
Slides; Visual Resources (Digital Resources); Multimedia
CDs; Audio and Audio Room; CDs supporting books
and kournals; and more. A proposal for a Multi Faceted
Digitised Media Resource Center is being developed
at the Department of Communication.

The Moshe Sharett Israel Labor Party Archives
`http://www.archavoda.org.il/avodaarch/`
`English/index.asp`
It is a good example of a comprehensive digitization
program for archives in Israel. It provides online
access to its catalog, full information on its folders,
access to virtual exhibitions, photographs,
posters and documents facsimila
(after 30 years of their production).

The Jerusalem Archaeological Park, Israel's
It is the most important antiquity site, reaches the Temple
Mount on the north, the slope of the Mount of Olives
and the Kidron Valley on the east. The multimedia

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facilities set up at the Davidson Visitors Center
(`http://www.archpark.org.il/ index.asp`)
may be regarded as a best practice example
of application of cutting edge media technologies.
It includes a Virtual Reconstruction Model
with 360 degree panorama reproducing the Temple;
Historical Notes on the First Temple; Second Temple
and Early Islamic Period; Timeline, Biographies,
Historical Sources and Bigliographies.

Newspapers Archives
All leading newspapers in Israel provide access
to their digitized archives, that include both Hebrew
and English editions. Such archives are excellent
resources for research and culture:
Yedioth Aharonot – `http://www.ynet.co.il`
Maariv – `http://www.maariv.co.il`
Haaretz – `http://www.haaretz.com`
Jerusalem Post – `http://www.jpost.com`
Globes/Arena – `http://www.globes.co.il`

Digitised Radio Broadcasts
The Israel Broadcasting Authority and the Galei Zahal
Radio Broadcast digitise their broadcasts and offer
access to them through the Internet. See:
`http://www.iba.org.il` and
`http://glz.msn.co.il/glz/default.htm`

Digital Television and Web Convergence
The diffusion of digital TV in Israel is rapid; access
is now provided by the Cable TV network and by Digital
Satellite TV. They also provide Internet broadband
access. On the other hand broadband Internet providers
offer access to TV like experiences through streaming
video. A leading broadband Internet provider providing
TV like broadcasts is WOW at http://wow.walla.co.il/.

The digital Satellite TV YES brand had 379 thousand
subscribers at the end of 2002
(see: `http://www.yes.co.il`).
Digital Cable TV are now being marketed under a joint
brand (HOT). The three providers at the end of 2002
were: Arutzei Zahav with 414 thousand subscribers
(226 thousand digital) – see:
`http://www.aztv.co.il/`
Tevel with 357 thousand subscribers (161 thousand
digital) – see: `http://www.tevel.co.il/`
Matav with 275 thousand subscribers (149 thousand
digital) – see: `http://www.matav.co.il/`

Rich Multimedia,TV like broadcasts in the Internet,
are becoming common. One example is IsraTV
offering a wide supply of news, films, sport and video
at `http://www.isratv.com`.
Expressions of Video Art and the video and film
creations of young creators are expanding.
Good examples are the initiative of Netdays Europe
in Israel (see: `http://netdays.org.il`)
and a new magazine for Multimedia and Video Art,
"Conceptsia" at `http://www.exego.net/`