

COMMUNITY READ

With the sixtieth anniversary of the birth of Israel approaching, you have a special opportunity to turn your focus to Israel and encourage the members of your community to think about what Israel means to them.

A congregation-wide read offers opportunities to create community, bring members together for learning outside the traditional synagogue environment, and gives leaders a chance to hear participants' concerns in a casual, social atmosphere. *A Dream of Zion* will not only stimulate group dialogue, but it will also encourage members to jump start a lasting, personal relationship with Israel.

Discussion Questions

By Jeffrey Salkin

- How is your ancestral home part of your identity?
- What tangible acts can Jews outside Israel do to show their loyalty and connection to Israel?
- How would you rate your community as a whole in its support of Israel?
- What is your opinion of the traditional Jewish idea that those who live outside of Israel are living in exile? Is this idea still relevant today?
- In what ways, if any, do you take what happens in Israel personally?
- In what ways does Israel inspire us to live with uncertainty and complexities?
- In what ways does the State of Israel give you hope in a world filled with despair?
- In what ways does Israel hold deep promise for transformation and renewal?

A DREAM OF ZION

American Jews Reflect on Why Israel Matters to Them

Edited by Rabbi Jeffrey K. Salkin

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