



## **How Well Do You Know Israel?!**

**By Mrs. Esther Tokayer**

1. The first Israeli Knesset was housed in:  
a. Jerusalem   b. Tel Aviv   c. Haifa   d. Sde Boker
2. How many seats are in the Israeli Knesset?  
a. 72   b. 120   c. 435   d. 101
3. The Israeli government operates on a:  
a. parliamentary system   b. presidential system   d. direct system
4. What is the name of the political party currently in the ruling coalition that represents a majority Arab constituency?  
a. Balad   b. Hadash   c. Ra'am   d. One Israel Party
5. Which organization administers the Temple Mount?  
a. The Chief Rabbinate   b. The Jordanian Waqf   c. UNHRC   d. Jerusalem Police
6. The Israeli Supreme Court has denied Jews the right to pray on the Temple Mount.  
a. True   b. False
7. Who said, "Pessimism is a luxury that Jews cannot afford."?  
a. Golda Meir   b. David Ben-Gurion   c. Shimon Peres   d. Menachem Begin

**Food for thought @ your Shabbat Table:** Should Jews demand religious freedom on the Temple Mount?

**Answers:**

1. (b) For the first couple of months, during the 1948 war, the Knesset met in Tel Aviv, but the official offices of the Knesset were in Jerusalem. First in Beit Froumine and then in Givat Ram, where it meets today.
2. (b) As its name refers to the Anshe Knesset HaGedolah, the number of ministers in Knesset is equal to the number of that ancient governing body.
3. (a) The Israeli Knesset functions as a parliamentary system. The Prime Minister is the leader of the majority party in the Knesset and forms his cabinet from those elected to the Knesset. In effect, there is limited separation between the executive and legislative branches.
4. (c) Ra'am is part of the current governing coalition. Its platform includes Israel's withdrawal to pre-1967 borders, the establishment of a Palestinian state with East Jerusalem as its capital, the right of return for Palestinian refugees and their descendants, among other issues. For serving in the current coalition, Ra'am has received commitments for \$16.3 billion dollars to improve housing in impoverished Arab areas, fight organized crime in Arab towns, and build infrastructure in Arab areas.
5. (b) As part of the armistice agreement after the Six Day War, the administration of the Temple Mount was left in the hands of the Jordanian Waqf. The Israeli government at the time felt that a change in the "status quo" would result in a prolonged conflict with their Arab neighbors and the Moslem world. Today when people discuss "status quo" they are often referring to this arrangement.
6. (b) The Israeli Supreme Court has consistently ruled that all should be allowed religious freedom on the Temple Mount but have given the police discretion in implementing the policy. To date, Jews have been allowed to pray, only when it has been inconspicuous (silent and individual).
7. (a) Golda Meir was Prime Minister of the State of Israel from 1969-1974. She was Prime Minister during the Yom Kippur War. She was Israel's only female Prime Minister.