

SEPHARDI VOICES

The Untold
Expulsion of
Jews from
Arab Lands

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**Sephardi Voices:
The Untold Expulsion of Jews from Arab Lands:
Preserving Jewish Memory**

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What is the Sephardi Voices Project?

- Sephardi Voices (SV) is the first digital archive that documents and preserves the life stories of Jews displaced from their homes and ancestry in North Africa, the Middle East and Iran.
- The digital archive gives voice to one million Jews through video interviews, portraits, and photographs and has produced traveling exhibits, educational curricula, and films (www.sephardivoices.com).
- *Sephardi Voices: The Untold Expulsion of Jews from Arab Lands* is a window into the experiences of these communities and their stories of survival and resilience. The book provides a critical historical background and narrative of their ethnic cleansing.

Who are the *Sephardi*?

- **Sefarad:**
 - Obadiah (1:20) Spain
 - Romans (15:24) ...Spain
- **Sephardi**
 - *Jews or their descendants who trace their roots from the Iberian peninsula and settled in the Mediterranean basin or in the Ottoman Empire following the expulsion from Spain in 1492 and Portugal in 1497.*
- **Mizrahi**
 - *An Israeli term to identify non-western Jews who lived in Islamic countries, including Yemen, Iraq, Iran, and Syria.*
- **Sephardi Voices Definition of Sephardi**
 - *Those who self-identify as Sephardi/Mizrahi/Babylonian/Persian and their hybrids.*

Sephardi Voices Interviews

U.K.

96 interviews

U.S.A

171 interviews

Canada

92 interviews

Israel

132 interviews

France

10 interviews

Italy

8 interviews

Languages:

English, French, Italian, Hebrew

Sephardi Voices – 2026

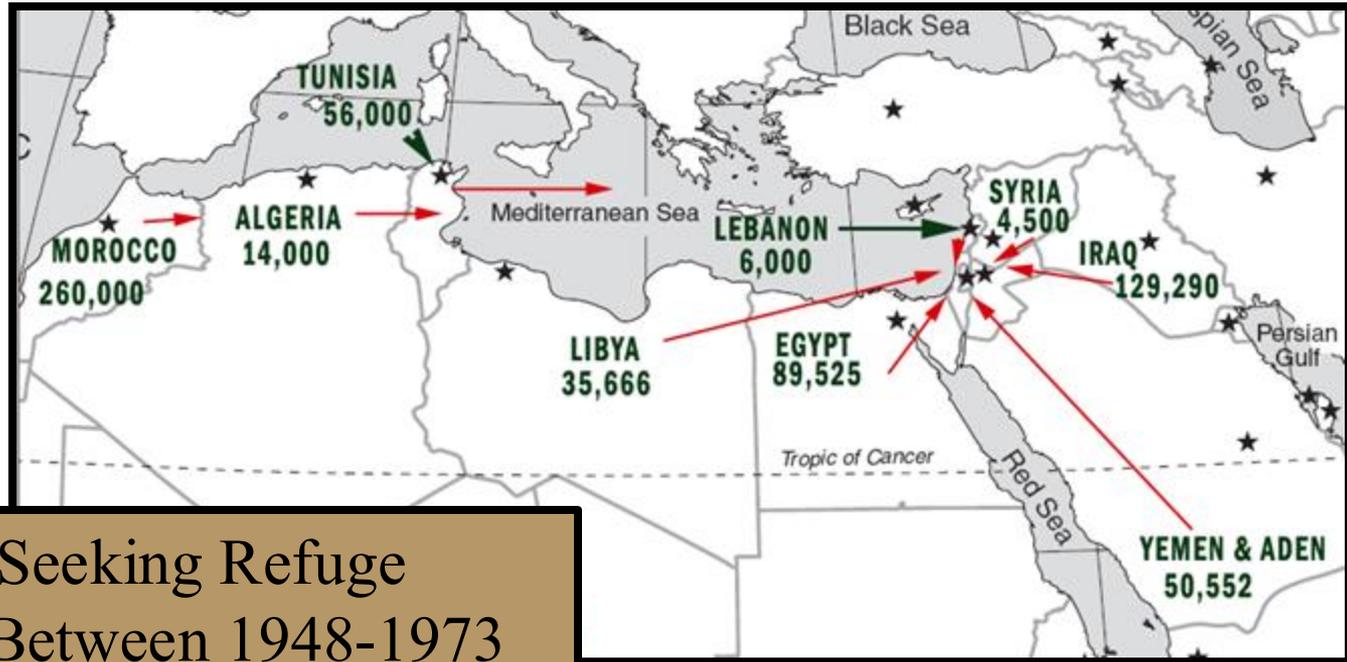
- 5,000 Photographs and Documents
 - Including legal documents, titles, deeds, etc.
- Repositories:

Israel: National Library

U.K.: The British Library

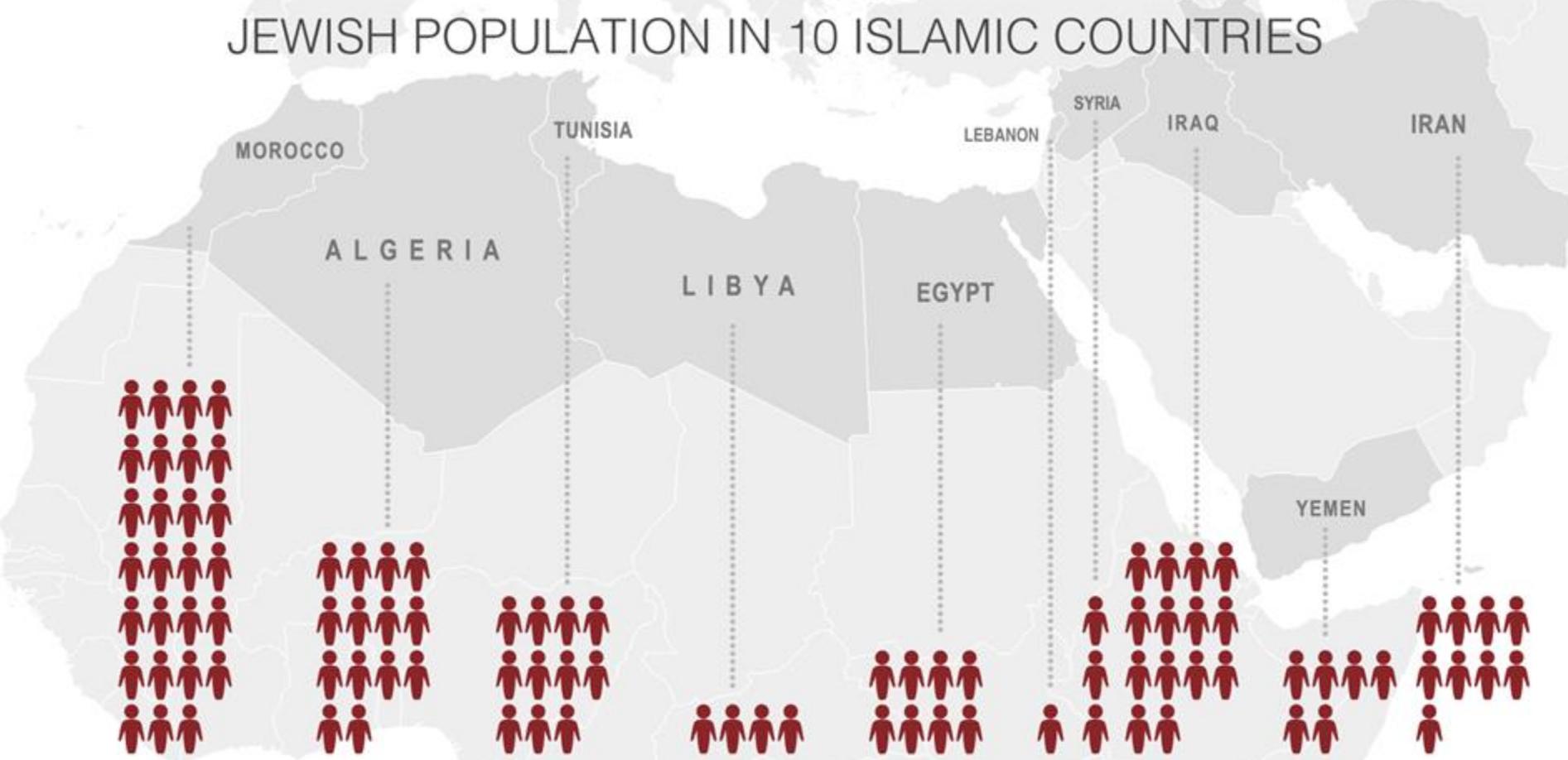
Canada: National Library/Archives

Displacement of Jews from Islamic Countries



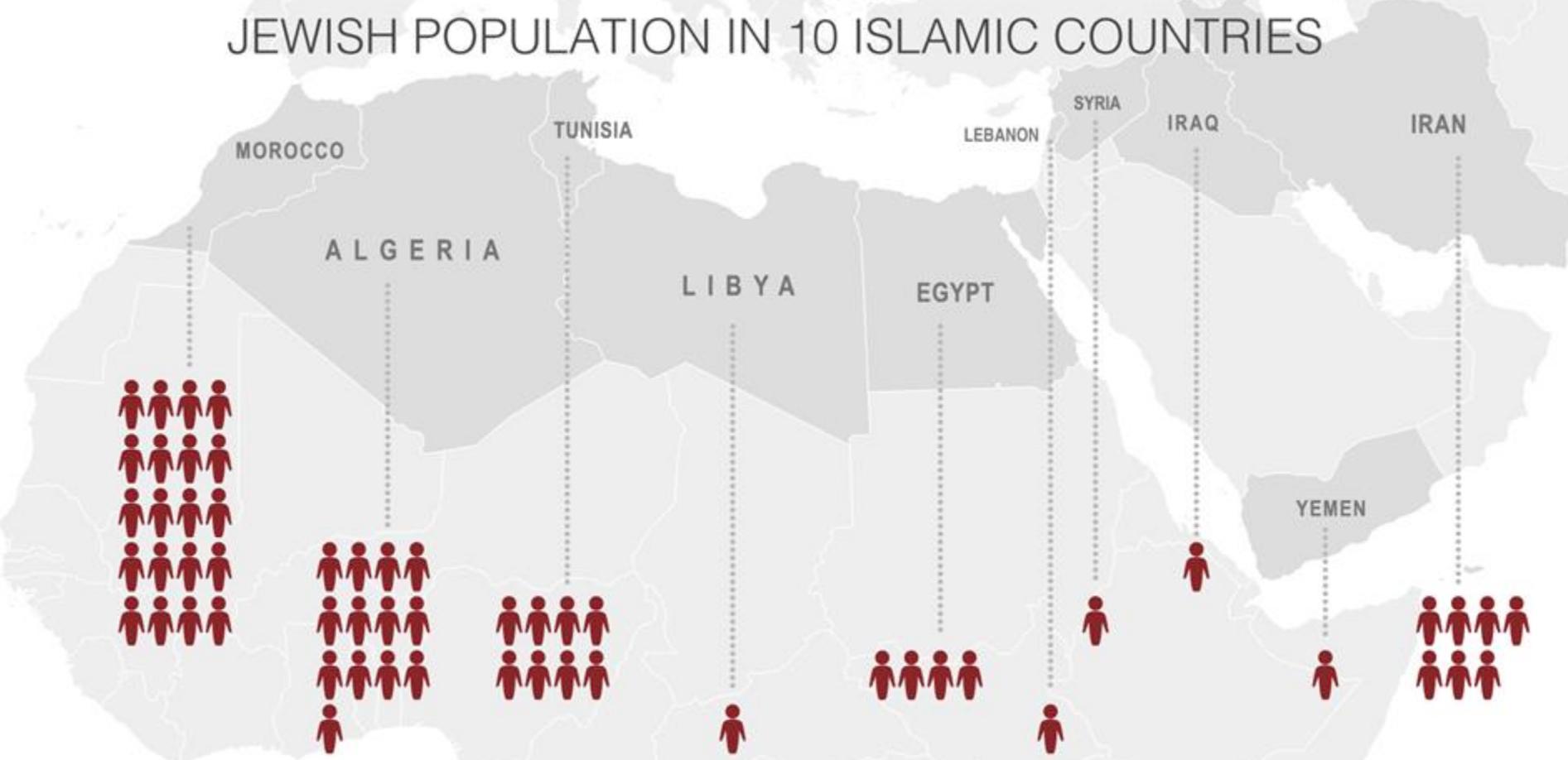
Jews Seeking Refuge
In Israel Between 1948-1973
645,000

JEWISH POPULATION IN 10 ISLAMIC COUNTRIES



1948: 946,000

JEWISH POPULATION IN 10 ISLAMIC COUNTRIES



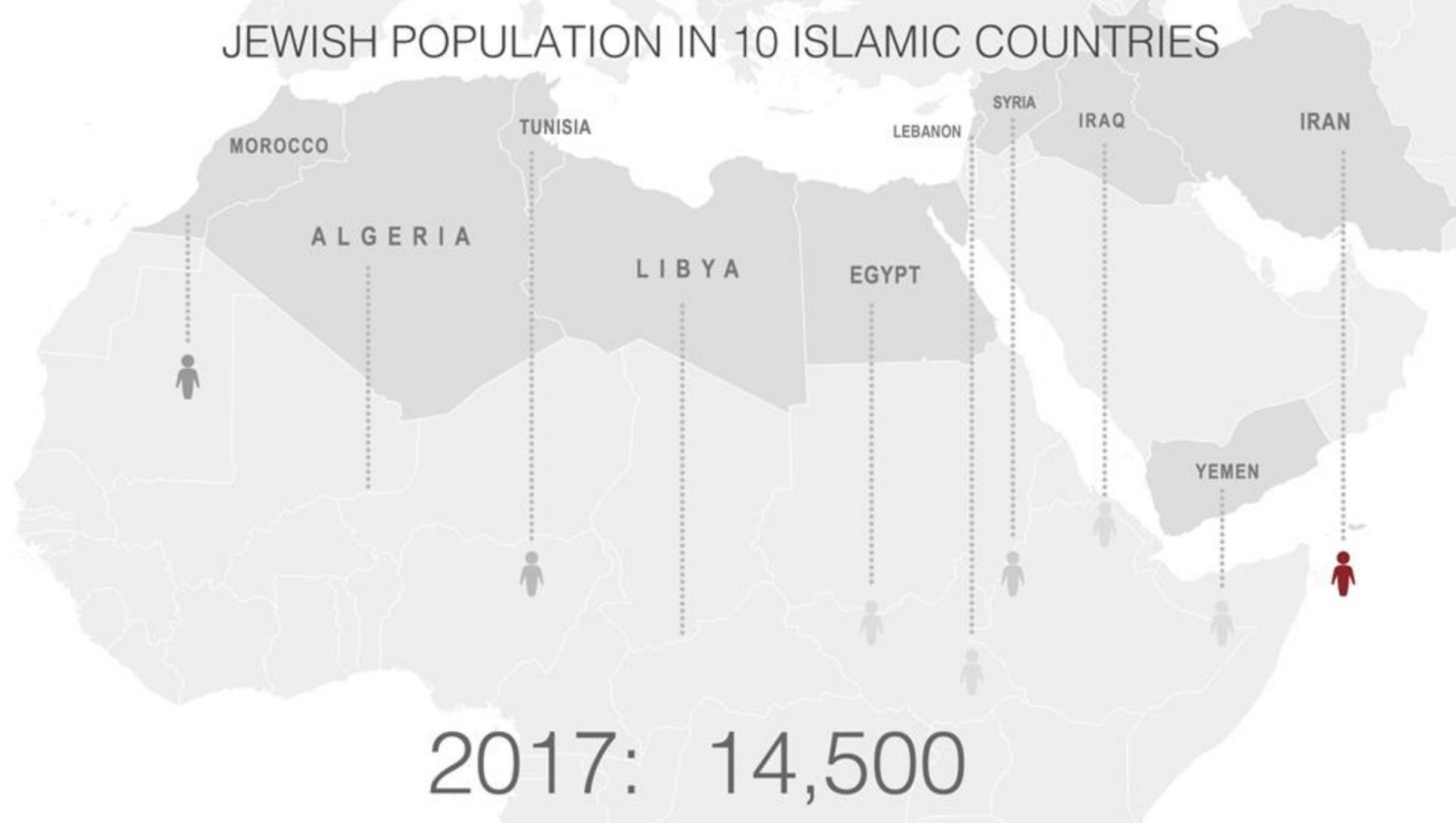
1958: 540,000

JEWISH POPULATION IN 10 ISLAMIC COUNTRIES



1968: 136,000

JEWISH POPULATION IN 10 ISLAMIC COUNTRIES



Discriminatory Decrees Enacted Against Jews Post the Establishment of The State of Israel (1948)

	Stripping Jews of Citizenship	Arrests & Detention	Riots & Pogroms	Islamic Religious Restrictions	Zionism as a Crime	Curtail Freedom of Movement	Employment Discrimination	Freezing of Assets	Confiscation of Property
Algeria	●		●	●				●	●
Egypt	●	●	●	●	●		●	●	●
Iraq	●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●
Lebanon			●		●		●	●	●
Libya	●	●	●		●	●		●	●
Morocco		●	●		●	●			
Syria	●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●
Tunisia		●	●	●				●	●
Yemen / Aden	●	●	●	●		●	●	●	●

Video:
Moshe Labi
Libya

0:12–1:36/2:33-2:53

Traumas from WW2 and Reflection

<https://sephardivoices.com/moshe-labi-libya/>

Video:
Maurice Benzacar
Morocco

0:30 –2:09

Traumas from WW2 and Resettlement

<https://sephardivoices.com/maurice-benzacar-morocco/>

Video:
Juliette Glasser
Egypt

0:00-0:49/2:04-3:20/4:38-6:29

Heritage, Trauma and Identity Crisis

<https://sephardivoices.com/juliette-akouka-glasser-egypt/>

Video:
Nina Hallack
Lebanon

0:38-2:10

Trauma and Resilience

<https://sephardivoices.com/nina-hallack-lebanon/>

Video:
Toufik Kassab
Syria

1:36–2:59/3:58-4:57/6-6:39

Anti-Israel, Trauma, Legacy

<https://sephardivoices.com/toufik-kassab-syria/>

Video:
Cynthia Kaplan
Iraq

0–2:45

Trauma and Generational Identity

<https://sephardivoices.com/cynthia-kaplan-iraq/>

Video:
Edwin Shuker
Iraq

0-1:34/2:34–2:58/3:25-5

The power of memory

<https://vimeo.com/201278028?p=11>