

Shmuel Noah Eisenstadt

Born in Warsaw, he was 12 years old when he came to Israel in 1923. He began his studies at the Hebrew University in 1940, and earned his M.A. (1946) and then Ph.D. (1947) in sociology from that institution. He began teaching there in 1944 and went on to serve as long-time Chairman of the Department of Sociology (1950-1969). He also served as Dean of the Faculty of Humanities (1966-1969). He was a Research Fellow at that University's Truman Institute, and has



been a Senior Research Fellow at the Van Leer Jerusalem Institute since 1974.

Professor Eisenstadt is the father of the science of sociology in Israel. His analyses are based on comparative and historical research of institutions, processes, and conceptions of various societies around the world. A central part of his work is devoted to

Jewish civilization and to Israeli society. Following in the footsteps of his teacher, Martin Buber, Professor Eisenstadt's studies and writings range among various disciplines in the Humanities and Social Sciences; his publications deal with universal problems of democracy, modernity, and fundamentalism.

S. N. Eisenstadt has been a visiting professor and research fellow at scores of universities around the world (among them Harvard, Michigan, Chicago, MIT, Stanford, Heidelberg, Erfurt, Zurich, Vienna, and Hong Kong) and a member of advanced studies institutes at Stanford, Wassenaar (Holland), Uppsala, and Berlin. He has served as president of the Israel Sociological Society (1969-1971) and chairman of Yad Ben-Zvi's Academic Advisory Council (1995-1999).

He is a member or honorary external member of prestigious academic societies: Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Institute of Sociology of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, The British Academy, London School of Economics and Political Science, Open University of Israel, and the Israeli Sociological Society.

Over the course of more than fifty years, he has published tens of books and hundreds of articles and edited important books in the fields that have occupied his attention. Professor Eisenstadt's research has gained him an international reputation and earned him many prizes, among them: McIver Prize of the American Sociological Association (1964), Rothschild Prize in Social Sciences (1970), Israel Prize in Social Sciences (1973), International Balzan Prize (1988), Max Planck Award for Social Sciences (1994), Amalfi Prize for Sociology and Social Sciences (2001), Humboldt Research Award (2002), EMET Prize in Sociology (2005), and the Holberg International Memorial Award (2006). Universities that have conferred the honorary doctorate upon him include Harvard, Helsinki, Tel-Aviv, Central European, Warsaw, and Hebrew Union College.

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