

1. Images for Media - see zip file download

2. Biography

Benyamim (Benny) Tsedaka, is the charismatic Head of the Israelite Samaritan Information Institute. He is a humanitarian historian, with more than 100 books and 2000 articles published. His recent works include *The Israelite Samaritan Version of the Torah: First English Translation, Compared with the Masoretic Version* (see below).

Benny is director of the internationally-renowned Israelite Samaritan Choir.

Each year, Benny dedicates two months to lectures abroad on aspects of Israelite Samaritan life, culture and religion. To book please contact Hannah: info (at) israelite-samaritans (dot) com

3. Israelite Samaritans

The Israelite Samaritans trace their presence in the Holy Land for 127 consecutive generations. Through the ages they have preserved their unique Ancient Hebrew language, culture, costume, cookery, music and religion. Today they are living history, respecting and observing their tradition. Elements of their heritage have been absorbed by other cultures. Israelite Samaritans are a bridge for peace. They are the root of the four Abrahamic religions: Samaritanism, Judaism, Christianity and Islam. See elsewhere on this site for more information.

Timeline

1944 Benyamim Tsedaka was born in Nablus, Israel.

In June 1963, he graduated from the Kibbutz Teachers' College, Tel Aviv.

January 1966 saw Benny discharged from the Israel Air Force after full military service.

Since 1966 to the present day he has hosted general-interest tourists and academic groups visiting Israelite Samaritan sites in Holon, and Mount Gerizim.

From 1967-1971 Benny completed studies in the History of the People of Israel, and Bible Studies at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Since December 1969 to the present day he has been Chief Editor of the bi-weekly newspaper A.B The Samaritan News.

From 1971-1994 Benny worked for the Jewish Agency as an advertising buyer. In addition, he worked on Public Relations in Israel and abroad.

Then, in 1975 Benny became a senior member of the Jewish Agency's Committee of Employees.

Choir Director

Since 1980 to the present day he has conducted and organised the Israelite Samaritan Music Ensemble (The Choir).

From 1981 to the present-day Benny has headed The A.B Institute of Samaritan Studies.

Since 1982 to the present day he has lectured worldwide on the Israelite Samaritans.

From 1983 to the present-day Benny has been Honorary Chairman of the Samaritan Basketball Team in Holon, Israel.

In 1985 he founded SES (Société d'Études Samaritaines), The Society of Samaritan Studies.

Since 1985 to the present day he has contributed to international conferences of Biblical and Samaritan Studies (SBL, EABS, SES), in Paris.

From 2007 to the present-day Benny has Chaired the Samaritan Medal Committee for Peace and Humanitarian Achievements.

Each year Benny delivers lectures and workshops on Samaritan-related topics to universities, Christians, Jews and secular groups in Europe, North America and South America. He lectures in Hebrew, Arabic or English.

Benyamim Tsedaka, Historian and Author

Benyamim Tsedaka is not only an elder of his people, but also a historian. He has published more than 100 books and over 2000 articles on Israelite Samaritan life, in Hebrew and English. The Internal University Computer in Israel has collated his writings under *Samaritans*. Recent works:

Understanding The Israelite Samaritans - From Ancient to Modern, An Introductory Atlas

(English, published 2017, Carta, Jerusalem)

Commentaries on the Five Books of Moses

(5 volumes, Modern Hebrew, published 2017, A.B Institute of Samaritan Studies)

The History of the Israelite Keepers Based on Their Own Sources

(Modern Hebrew, published 2015, A.B Institute of Samaritan Studies and Israel Ministry of Culture)

The Israelite Samaritan Version of the Torah

Edited and translated by Benyamim Tsedaka, Co-edited by Sharon Sullivan

(English, published 2013, William B Eerdmans, Grand Rapids USA, Cambridge UK)

Benny also authored the Samaritan entries in *Encyclopedia Judaica*, *Encyclopedia of Zionism* (in English). In addition, he wrote the entries for *The Hebrew Encyclopedia* (Jerusalem), and *Encyclopedia Britannica for Youth* (in Hebrew).