From an Idea to Practice: Nation Building and Immigration

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Household issues

- Papers
- Reading
- Attendance
- Last week (Munich)
- Where are we now? (implementation)

What Needs Building?

- What is a Nation? In and out of the state.

- What is a State? Civil society?

The state

Basics:

How strong?

- Monopoly over violence
- Tax collection
- Policing
- External defense
- Rule making and adjudication

What Identity? Neutral or particular

The Israeli state: pre 1948

- A Zionist product or a colonial product?
- Institutions
- Their legacy (law, bureaucracy)
- Assumptions:
1. Immigration
2. Non-opposition
- The state in the making: institutions, legacy, political power, who is in and who is out
- The Jewish history of pluralism

Post 1948

- Ethnic identity/Norms: Particularist-Universalist

- Process: Majority vs. consensus

- Where is Israel? Why?
- Coalition
- Separation of powers

Change over time?

- Realities and their effect: the security challenge
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- 1967 expansion (territories in or out?)

- Demise (consensus) and rise (?) of civil war (majoritarian)

- Global economy

Immigration as a central feature

- Ideological meaning
- Material meaning
- Meaning vs. (emigration)
- Social effects (first come, first builds)
- Institutional effects: absorption, resource allocation
- Potential tensions (indigenous, various waves. First formative)

Immigration as a central feature

- http://www.moia.gov.il/Moia_he/Statistics/ImmigrationToIsraelPrevYears/ImmigrationData2009.htm

Parody on Immigration

- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VjDx2ZwLUso

Cultural effects?

- Tension between the pre-state communal view and post state civic vision
- Tension between civic and particularistic state
- Tension between majoritarian and consensus routes
- Tension re ideology: yearning vs. cynicism
- An ideology that worked: Pride and over emphasis on self- reliance and non-rational reasons

17.565 Israel: History, Politics, Culture, and Identity

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