

## DANIEL SPERBER

**Daniel Sperber** (Hebrew: דניאל ספרבר) is a professor of Talmud at Bar-Ilan University in Israel, and an expert in classical philology, history of Jewish customs, Jewish art history, Jewish education and Talmudic studies.

Daniel Sperber was born on November 4, 1940 in Gwrych Castle, Wales. He studied for rabbinical ordination at Yeshivat Kol Torah in Israel, earned a doctorate from University College, London in the departments of Ancient History and Hebrew Studies. He is married to Phyllis (Hannah) Magnus, a couples therapist, originally of Highland Park, Illinois. One of their daughters, Abigail, is the founder of Bat Kol, a Jewish religious lesbian group.

Sperber is the author of *Minhagei Yisrael: Origins and History* on the character and evolution of Jewish customs. He has written extensively on many issues regarding how Jewish law can and has evolved. This includes a work in which he calls for a greater inclusion of women in certain ritual services. He is currently a professor of Talmud at Bar-Ilan University in Israel and serves as rabbi of Menachem Zion Synagogue in the Old City of Jerusalem. In 2009, Sperber accepted an appointment as Chancellor of the Canadian Yeshiva & Rabbinical School in Toronto.

In 1992, Sperber won the Israel Prize, for Jewish studies.

### Publications

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