

# IMPACT REPORT 2023

Since 2020, the HUC-JIR Jewish Language Project has been working to accomplish our mission: To promote research on, awareness about, and engagement surrounding the many languages spoken and written by Jews throughout history and around the world.

## JEWISH LANGUAGE PROJECT BY THE NUMBERS

- 8 Crowd-sourced dictionaries
- 12 Groups in our Consortium
- 28 Native speaker interviews
- 42 Online events
- 205 Fun Facts
- 10,000 Social media followers
- 2.8 Million website and lexicon visitors

"I can't thank you enough for ... providing all these amazing opportunities. As someone who loves languages and grew up hearing so many and learning some of them, I am so grateful for and intrigued by what you do. Whenever I have the opportunity to tune in to one of your ZOOMS / WEBINARS I'm there - brings me closer to global Jewish community and connects so many of us in ways I never imagined. Looking forward to whatever comes next!"  
-- Rafi Levin, event attendee

## WEBSITE GROWTH

www.jewishlanguages.org continues to expand its suite of educational and cultural resources

**15**  
Online Exhibits

Recent additions:  
A Millennium of Jewish Women's Voices, Multilingual Omer, Purim, Tu Bshvat

**31**  
Language Descriptions

Recent additions:  
Judeo-Tamazight, Judeo-Catalan, Karaim, Krymchak, Algerian Jewish Sign Language, Jewish Ethiopian Languages

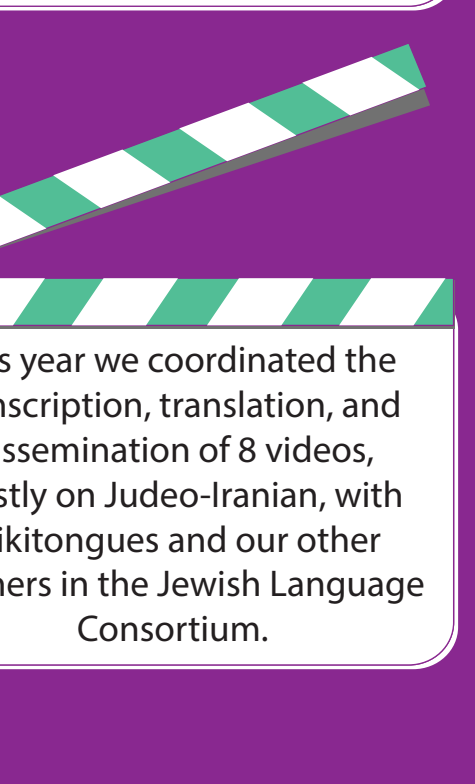
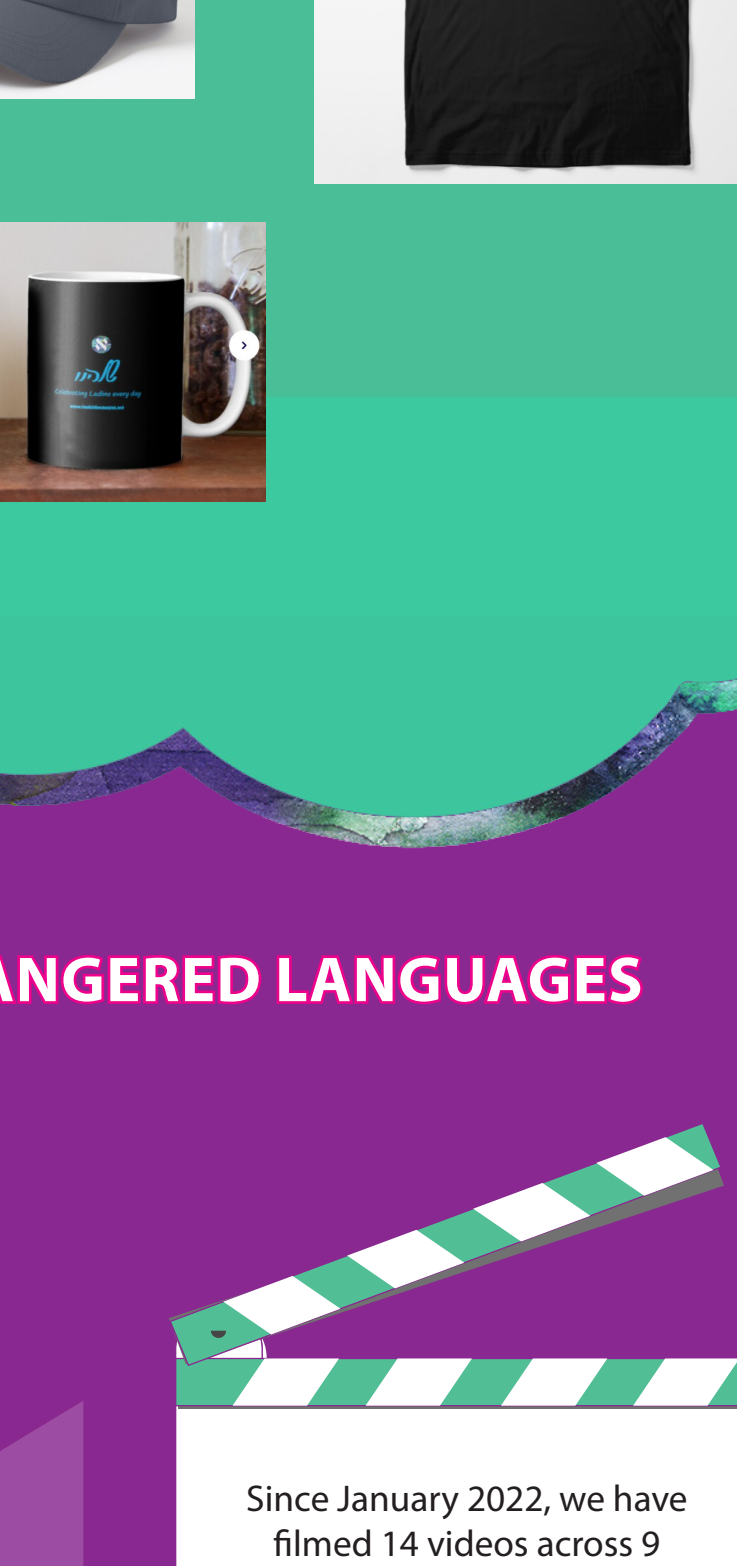
## OUR TOP 3 MOST-VISITED LEXICON SITES ARE:

- Jewish English
- Jewish Latin American Spanish
- Jewish French

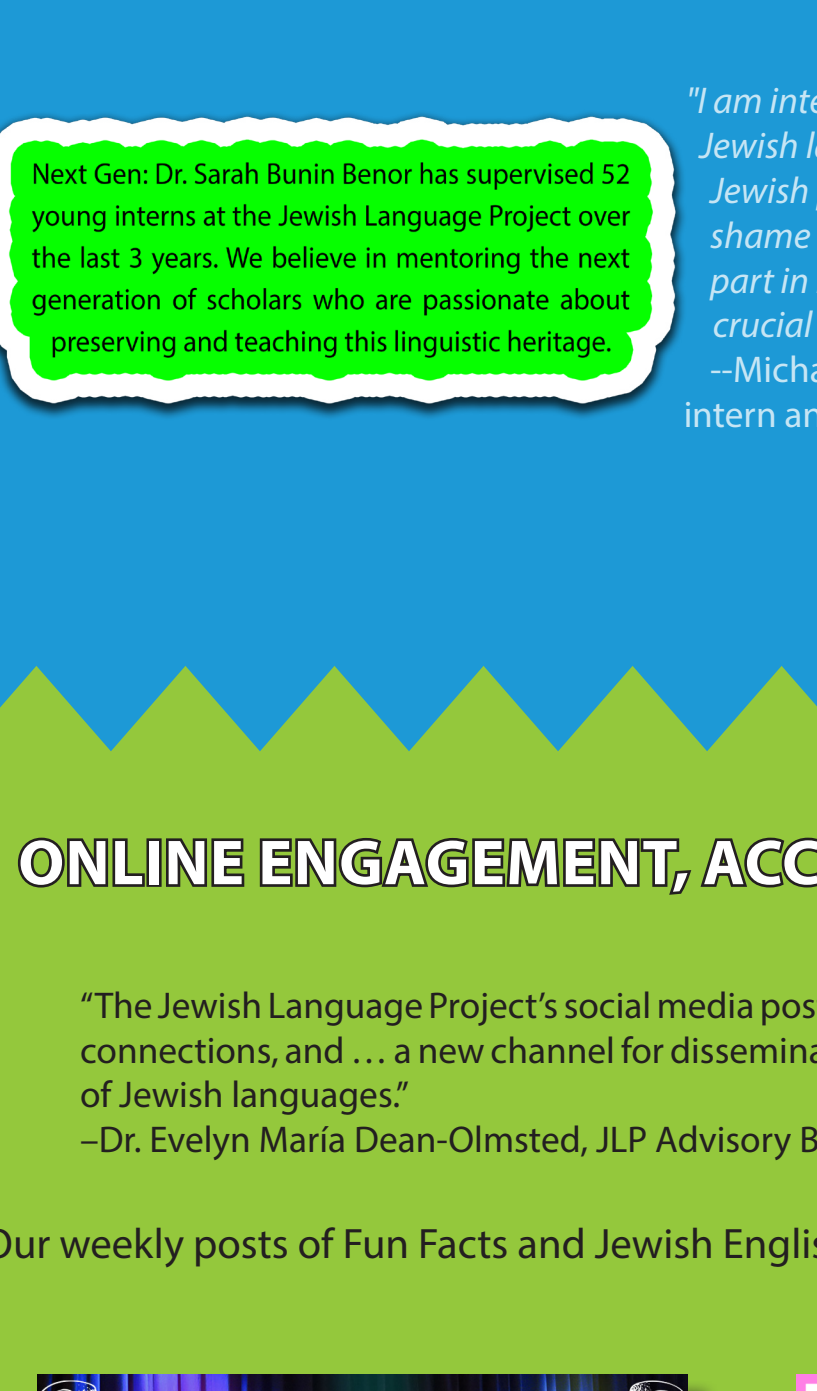
"I just received your email with the subject matter 'We've got Passover resources galore!' I want to thank you for putting together such informative and instructional materials."  
--Email list recipient

## MERCH, MERCH, MERCH

In 2022 we launched a RedBubble shop to showcase Jewish linguistic diversity and raise additional funds to support our mission. Designs are available on items like mugs, stickers, aprons, tote bags, socks, puzzles, and more. To date, the most popular merch item has been our set of greeting cards saying "Happy New Year" in multiple Jewish languages, which we'll be offering again for High Holidays 2023/5784!



## RECORDING ENDANGERED LANGUAGES



Since January 2022, we have filmed 14 videos across 9 endangered Jewish language varieties.

This year we coordinated the transcription, translation, and dissemination of 8 videos, mostly on Judeo-Iranian, with Wikitongues and our other partners in the Jewish Language Consortium.



"A Millennium of Jewish Women's Voices was just so amazing!! Thank you all so much. It was a wonderful, perfect gift of delights. I was so deeply touched... Today was a celebration and it was magical to be with all of you."  
--Audience member, launch event for "Women's Voices" exhibit, Nov. 2022

## PUBLIC PROGRAMMING

Since we began hosting virtual events in 2020, we've partnered with over **60 organizations** to host **42 total events**

Our events are offered free of charge so that all can come and learn

Over **1800 people** registered for our events in 2022-23

## STAFF FACTS

Our team of volunteers has drafted over 1,000 written dictionary entries across 3 dialects of Jewish Neo-Aramaic.

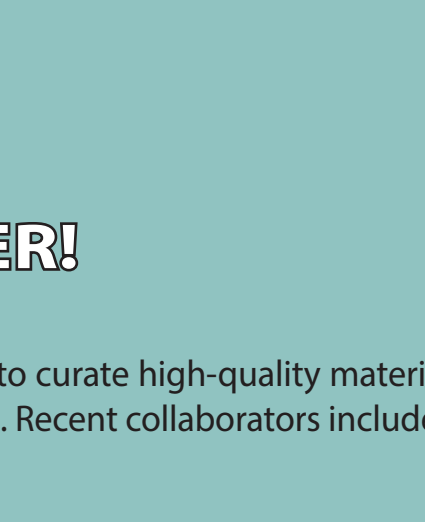
For our multilingual Omer initiative, our TikTok team created new reels for all 49 days of counting the Omer between Passover and Shavuot. This collection of short videos, each explaining the language of the day, amassed over 70,000 total views around the world - raising awareness of Jewish linguistic diversity for a much broader audience.

"I am interested in documenting endangered Iranian Jewish languages because Iran has one of the oldest Jewish populations in the world and it would be to take part in helping preserve my heritage and a piece of crucial Iranian and Jewish history."  
--Michael Zargari, JLP documentation intern and masters student, UC Santa Barbara

## ONLINE ENGAGEMENT, ACCESSIBLE KNOWLEDGE

"The Jewish Language Project's social media posts promote conversation and debate, new connections, and ... a new channel for disseminating understanding and appreciation of Jewish languages."  
--Dr. Evelyn Maria Dean-Olmsted, JLP Advisory Board member

Our weekly posts of Fun Facts and Jewish English Lexicon Word of the Week travel far!



## MAKING NEWS

Our work has been covered in the press 29 times since 2020!



"The multilingual Omer counter is a way to draw attention to Jewish linguistic diversity, revive interest in fading languages and celebrate the far-flung nature of the Jewish Diaspora."  
--Andrew Silow-Carroll, Jewish Telegraphic Agency, April 6, 2023



## HOWDY, PARTNER!

We are working across disciplines, organizations, and countries to curate high-quality materials for inclusion in exhibits, digital catalogs, and other public spaces. Recent collaborators include:

- American Sephardi Federation Institute of Jewish Experience**  
curricular materials
- JArts Kulture**, a digital hub for Jewish arts and culture  
9 curated exhibits
- National Library of Israel**  
archiving the complete multilingual Omer counter for posterity
- JQT Vancouver**  
event on queer Jewish language
- Jewish Music Research Centre**  
historical map exhibits
- Princeton Geniza Lab**  
social media series
- Iranian Jewish Women's Organization**  
series on Iranian Jewish languages