Background

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I am a clinical psychologist who helped organize the Group Analytic Practice of Dallas with like-minded colleagues in 2001. I studied in Israel at Hebrew University in Jerusalem, Givat Ram, on a Rotary Ambassadorial Peace Fellowship in 1975-1976. During that time the prevailing narrative was that the land had been empty, the Jews arrived, and made the desert bloom like a rose. The Palestinian narrative was mentioned, but not fully developed. Nothing was mentioned about the exodus of 700,000 Palestinians in 1948 and the more than 400 villages that were depopulated. Noga Kadman’s book, *Erased from Space and Consciousness: Israel and the Depopulated Palestinian Villages of 1948*, develops this story. Kadman’s work as a tour guide and writer brings this history to life in hopes of facilitating dialogue.

Conversations like these are difficult in America as well. Dialogue with Native Americans, in the shadow of the atrocities they have endured, is barely beginning 500 years after the arrival of Columbus. [http://endgenocide.org/learn/past-genocides/native-americans/](http://endgenocide.org/learn/past-genocides/native-americans/). Few Americans would know that 26 of 50 States have Native American names; illustrating how they have been erased from consciousness, which inhibits meaningful dialogue. Dialogue with African Americans and the coming to terms with their suffering is equally difficult. [https://museumandmemorial.eji.org/](https://museumandmemorial.eji.org/).
Opposing discourses over land sacred to two peoples is not unique to Israel. It is hoped the tour will illuminate some of the processes that make dialogue on these issues so difficult.

Tour Details

Tuesday April 2, 2019
9:30-16:00

Noga Kadman, an Israeli writer and tour guide, will lead us on a tour of some of the pre-1948 Palestinian villages that are near the Yearim Hotel, which is the site of the 2019 Israeli Institute of Group Analysis Workshop, **Roots and Wings**. We will visit a selection of the following villages: Lifta, Dayr Yasin, Ayn Karim (Ein Karem), Sataf, Bayt Thul and have lunch at Abu Gosh. Teresa von Sommaruga Howard and I will convene a dialogue group after lunch and at the end of the tour back at the Yearim Hotel.

A mini-bus will meet us at Yearim Hotel at 9:30 and return us at 16:00. Maximum number of participants is 20 and the cost depending on the number registered will be $30-$60.

Suggested Readings


Goldberg, D. J. (1996). *To the promised land: A history of Zionist thought from its origins to the modern state of Israel*. Faber and Faber: London.


Suggested Film
Available Online

Every happening in Israel has at least two stories that seek to explain it. We have learned a lot from watching Israeli TV. The following can be found online, often for free. In English they are referred to as: Shtesil, Srugim, BeTipul, Fauda. Wiki also covers them.

**Forgotten Refugees**, covers the million Jewish refugees that were driven out of Arab countries around 1948.

**500 Dunam on the Moon**, covers the transformation of the Palestinian village Ayn Hawd to the Jewish artist colony Ein Hod after 1948.

**Forgiveness**, focuses on Shaul Mental Hospital, built on the site of Deir Yassin, an Arab village we plan to visit, where a disputed massacre occurred in 1948. WWII Holocaust survivors were treated there and reputed to have been haunted by the ghosts of the Arabs who were killed there. Phantasmagoria at its best.