



# A FACE. THE DAY. A MEMORY.



REMEMBERING TOGETHER

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Creation and development of this publication was initiated by Beit Avi Chai to serve as a supplementary educational resource for the A Day.

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## INTRODUCTION

*In Memory of Israel's Fallen Heroes*

*A Face. The Day. A Memory.* is an award-winning online commemorative project that highlights the lives of fallen Israeli soldiers and victims of terror through the creation of short animated films (from 3 to 5-minutes each).

Working with family and close friends, each film relates the story of a different fallen Israeli soldier or victim of terror by casting light on a special aspect or occurrence in their lives: a past celebration, a future dream, a special relationship, memories that bring the lives of those tragically lost close to all of us.

Each film releases a frozen moment in time, breathing life through powerful memories in a manner that evokes reflection, meaning, and pride in the resilience of the people of Israel.

Created by Jerusalem's Beit Avi Chai nine years ago, script writers work closely with Israeli and international animation artists, using different artistic styles, angles, and approaches to depict the scenes that will tell the stories in a manner that can resonate with different audiences and be suitable in many different platforms, including classrooms, larger commemorative events for schools, communities, JCCs, online media, television, study modules and personal viewing.

Since its launching, the project has grown exponentially with regard to the number of original films, their educational potential, and exposure in Israel and around the world. Thus far, 40 different films have been created and plans are in the works to create a large database of virtual Israeli memories.

All movies and programs, appropriate for a variety of age groups, can be found on a dedicated webpage on [Beit Avi Chai's website](http://BeitAviChai.org).

In these challenging times, when face-to-face meetings between friends, extended families and community members are not possible, ***A Face. The Day. A Memory*** seeks to strengthen the bond between Israel and Jewish communities in North America by bringing the unique stories of those whom we have lost as the link that can help bring us closer together.

In preparation to ***Yom Hazikaron*** [Memorial Day for the Fallen Soldiers of Israel and Victims of Terrorism], Beit Avi Chai is working to create a diverse set of guides for teachers and community leaders that are appropriate for interactive programs for youth. Each guide includes introductory and follow-up questions, points for discussion and additional ideas to generate substantive and engaging conversations among the participants.

**We hope you will join us in this important mission,  
The Beit Avi Chai Project Team**





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*In Memory of Israel's Fallen Heroes*

# DREAM AND REALITY

## INTRODUCTION

The State of Israel, for whose existence, survival, security, and future much has been invested, tells a story of the relationship between dream and reality. It seems that even prior to the establishment of the Jewish State dream and reality were an integral part of its history.

On the one hand, an ancient dream from time immemorial and great ideas that predict the development of an ideal society in the Land of Israel. On the other, continuous threats from Israel's enemies has made life in Israel more difficult than initially imagined, while, at the same time, providing a safe haven for Jews around the world.

The Dream-Reality relationship affects the personal stories of many Israeli's. *Yom Hazikaron* [Memorial Day for the Fallen Soldiers of Israel and Victims of Terrorism] is a time when we reflect on the dreams and realities that face Israel daily and consider the ever-present drive of the people of Israel to ensure that the dream is kept in focus while dealing with the difficulties that Israeli life often presents.





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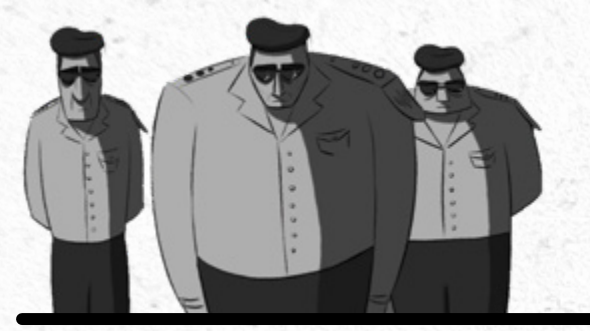
## PRE-DISCUSSION

- \* **As individuals and as part of the community, society and the nation, the relationship between dream and reality is present on many levels of our lives.**
  - Which dreams, great ideas or visions navigate your lives or are present in them as an anchor?
  - Which significant choices and decisions at this stage of your lives are a result of a dream or vision?
- \* **The shared dream that underlies the existence of a nation and a society many times requires sacrifices by its members and partners.**
  - What would you agree to give up on or sacrifice for your nation's or society's shared goal?
  - What did your parents' generation sacrifice for you and for the great goals they believed in? What price did they pay for this?
- \* **Is the way in which your generation relates to great ideas and dreams different from that of your parents? Is the way in which you relate to the price of your great ideas and dreams different from the way that your parents' generation related to these ideals?**

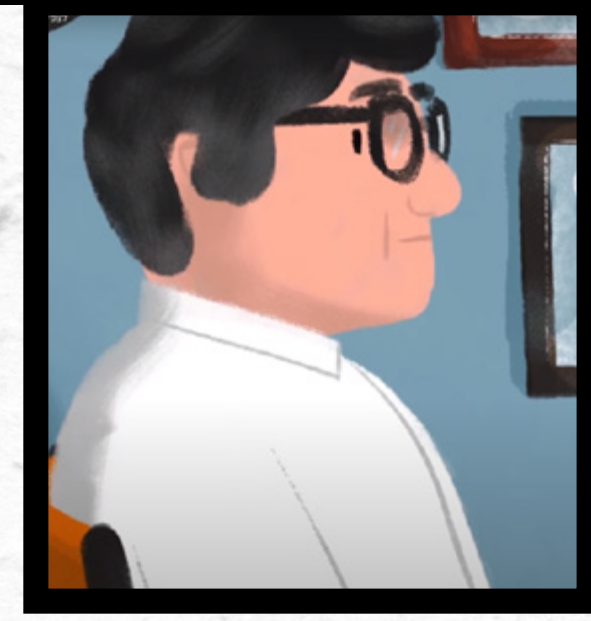




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**RICHARD  
LAKIN**

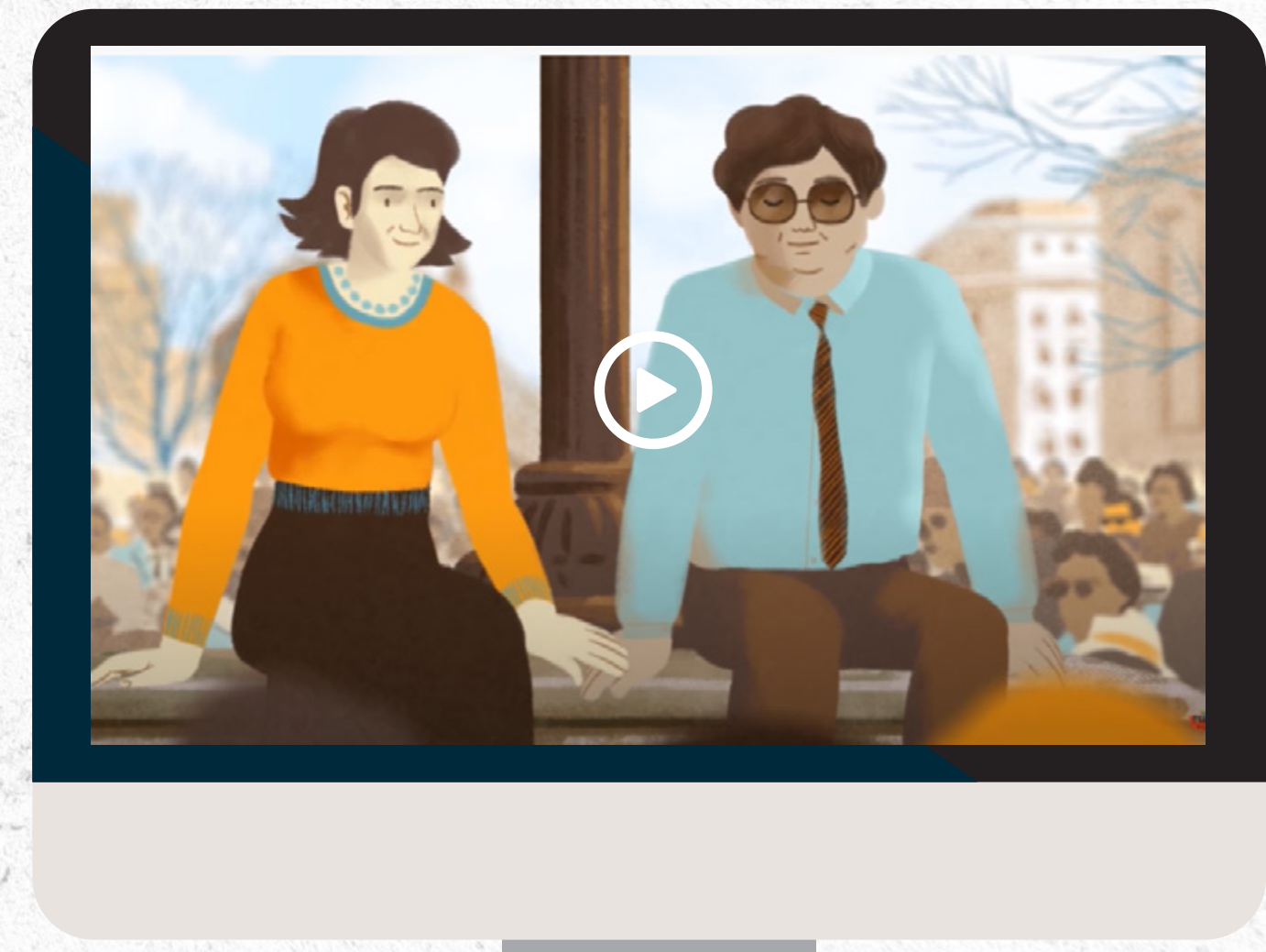
**Richard Lakin, son of Ethel and Aaron and brother of Irwin, was born on June 29, 1929, in the United States. He grew up in Newton, Massachusetts, where he graduated from high school, and later moved to Connecticut. There he served as a teacher and primary school principal for sixteen years. He married Karen and they had two children, Micah and Manya.**

**Richard immigrated to Israel with his family in 1984 as this is where he wanted to raise his family. The Lakin's settled in Jerusalem, where Richard continued to teach. Prior to moving to Israel, Richard was an activist for human and civil rights. Among other involvements, Richard participated in Martin Luther King's civil rights campaigns and in Israel continued to advocate human rights activities and Jewish-Arab co-existence.**

**In 2015, Richard died in a terrorist attack on a bus in Armon Hanatziv, Jerusalem.**



**FRAGMENTS OF A DREAM,  
A FILM IN MEMORY OF RICHARD LAKIN**







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## QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION FOLLOWING THE SCREENING OF THE FILM:

- \* Dream and reality were constantly present throughout Richard's story.
  - What dreams sustained Richard's life?
  - As an educator who dedicated many years of his life to working with children and youth, do you believe that Richard is a man of dreams or a man of reality?
- \* The film presents memories of significant moments in Richard's life.
  - Which moments in his life represent the realization of his dream? Which realities prevented them?
- \* One of the memories presented in the film is Richard's farewell from his mother.
  - How does the immigration to Israel and separation from his mother keep in line with his dreams? How is separation perceived by the one who stays behind?
- \* What in the circumstances of Richard's death tell of the tension between the dream and reality and the connection between the two?
- \* In light of the heavy price, what do you believe is the importance of an uncompromising adherence to a dream and what is the importance of adherence to reality, whatever it may bring? Is there a correct balance between the two? Do you believe that there are dreams that are more worthy of our sacrifice than others?





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## SUMMARY

Dreams and great ideas connect us to our community and nation and help us from our identity and shared goals. They give us meaning and faith and motivate change in the world. The power of reality requires that we continuously re-evaluate these dreams and ideas and determine the decisions we need to make us. The Jewish People and the Land of Israel continue to tell two stories: the story of a dream and the story of reality. The two combine to invite us to believe in great ideas and to take action to realize them, while simultaneously being realistic and alert to their complexities and the changes, improvements, and new investments that we need to make to ensure that the Dream has every chance to succeed.

To view additional films and to receive more information about Beit Avi Chai's *A Face. The Day. A Memory.* project, please go to:

[www.bac.org.il/specials/project/pnym-yvm-zykrvn?language=en](http://www.bac.org.il/specials/project/pnym-yvm-zykrvn?language=en)