

TASTE OF LIMMUD

SESSION 1 PRESENTERS

Thembekile Molaudzi

Prior to his wrongful conviction, Thembekile worked as a Soshanguve taxi driver. Ever since the Constitutional Court dismissed his appeal - and subsequently overturned its own decision for the first time ever - Thembekile, his wife, and teenage son have battled the effects of post-traumatic stress related to his prolonged incarceration. With no compensation from the State, his job managing a small Johannesburg fragrance company means the family is still forced to live apart.

Carolyn Raphaely

As a former Wits Justice Project award-winning journalist, Carolyn spent nine years investigating human rights abuses and miscarriages of justice related to SA's criminal justice system. She has a BA in psychology, a Master's degree in city and regional planning and previously held senior editorial positions at the Financial Mail, Finance Week, Cosmopolitan and Conservation Corporation Africa. She is currently writing a book about Thembekile's wrongful conviction and the human cost of judicial error.

Rūta Vanagaite

Ruta is a Lithuanian journalist and author. Her best-selling book, "Our People", co-authored with Nazi-hunter Efraim Zuroff, explores the complicity of Lithuanians in Holocaust crimes. In 2017, all six of her books were removed from book stores in Lithuania after she made critical comments about a Lithuanian national hero.

In June Ruta self-published "How did it happen?" on the Shoah in Lithuania written, together with historian Christoph Dieckmann. After living in Israel for 3 years Ruta has recently returned to Lithuania.

Miri Eisin

Miri is a retired Israeli colonel; an expert in security, intelligence and diplomacy; a teacher at IDC Herzliya and presents worldwide on Middle East geopolitics. She served over 20 years in Israeli military intelligence, and then served as the Prime Minister's media advisor during the Second Lebanon War and the Annapolis Peace Conference. She loves Limmud South Africa, which was a highlight for her and her family when she attended in 2017.

Dani Rotstein

Dani, originally from New Jersey, moved to Mallorca, Spain in 2014. Upon arrival, he discovered the untold Jewish history of the *Conversos* or *Chuetas* of the island. In 2018 he founded Limmud Mallorca. He recently founded Jewish Majorca - an educational tourism company connecting the island's past with its present. He believes that the revival of modern Jewish life in Spain can be a shining light to the rest of the world after centuries of repression.

Menachem Bombach

Menachem is a Rabbi, who holds a bachelor's degree in education from Moreshet Yaakov College and a master's degree in public policy from the Hebrew University. He is the founder and head of the "Netzach" Haredi educational network, which combines religious and secular studies and aims to educate students to become observant *haredim* who are also prepared for practical living.

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SESSION 2 PRESENTERS

Daniel Lee

Daniel Lee is a historian of the Second World War and a specialist in the history of Jews in France and North Africa during the Holocaust. He is a lecturer in modern history at Queen Mary, University London, and the author of *Pétain's Jewish Children* (2014). As a BBC Radio 3 New Generation Thinker, Lee is a regular broadcaster on radio. He lives in North London.

Tali Nates

Tali is the founding director of the Johannesburg Holocaust & Genocide Centre. She lectures internationally and contributes to numerous publications, including 'Remembering the Holocaust in Educational Settings' as well as 'God, Faith & Identity from the Ashes: Reflections of Children and Grandchildren of Holocaust Survivors'. She serves on the Academic Advisory Group of the School of Social and Health Sciences, Monash University, RSA. She has been passionately involved in Limmud South Africa for many years

Jonty Blackman

As a tour-guide and educator, Jonty has led tours in Israel for trips such as Momentum, Birthright, March of the Living, Melton Centre Israel Seminars and companies such as Go Inspire and Israel Maven. He also guides families and individuals through Israel, connecting the modern to the ancient. Jonty studied at Yeshivat Har Etzion and received his Masters in Jewish Education from Hebrew University. Since COVID-19, Jonty runs sought-after virtual tours of Israel.

Sonja Viličić

Based in Belgrade, Serbia, Sonja worked for the Joint Distribution Committee in Budapest in various positions. She is also a graduate of the Melton Senior Educators Program at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Sonja is one of the founders and an Executive Director of NGO Haver Srbija, educator for the European Union of Jewish Students, and is a facilitator at the MASA Leadership Center in Israel. She also volunteers at Limmud ExYu.

Irwin Manoim

Irwin Manoim researches neglected aspects of South African Jewish history through the Kaplan Centre for Jewish Studies at UCT and the SA Jewish Museum. He is a former newspaper editor, and a regular speaker at Limmud and other Jewish events, in this country and abroad.

Artur Livshyts

Artur was born in Minsk and spent two years living with a relative in Tennessee. It was there, as a child of the Soviet Union, that he discovered Judaism. He eventually returned to Minsk where he completed his education. Having had a taste of Jewish life, he has made it his life's work to strive for a revival of the Jewish community in Belarus. He works as the Belarus country director of The Together Plan.