

Dr. Alexander Even-Chen

Born 1960, Mar del Plata, Argentina.

1980-1983 B.A in Jewish Thought and Philosophy – The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

1983-1985 M.A in Jewish Thought – The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

1985-1987 Soldier in the Israeli Army

1988-1992 Ph.D. in Jewish Thought - The Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

1992 I was ordained as Conservative Rabbi in: Schechter Rabbinical Seminary, Jerusalem.

1993-1994 assistant Dean of the Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies.

1995-2005 Academic Dean of the Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies.

1993-1999 Lecturer in Jewish Thought at the Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies.

1999-2014 Senior Lecturer in Jewish Thought at the Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies.

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*Research Interests:*

The Philosophy of Maimonides

The Philosophy of Abraham Joshua Heschel

The Philosophy of Spinoza

Philosophical and Mystical interpretations of the Bible

## List of Publications

### Books:

1. Alexander Even-Chen, Ph.D: *Enlightenment, Pragmatism and Faith – The Philosophical Works of Naphtaly Herz Ulman* (Hebrew), The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, 1992. (Academic Advisor: Prof. Shalom Rosenberg).
2. Alexander Even-chen, *A Voice from the Darkness, Abraham Joshua Heschel, Phenomenology and Mysticism* (Hebrew), Tel-Aviv 1999.
3. Alexander Even-Chen, a translation to Hebrew of: Abraham Joshua Heschel, *The Sabbath*, Tel-Aviv 2003; second edition 2012.
4. Alexander Even-Chen, *The Binding of Isaac - Mystical and Philosophical Interpretations of the Bible* (Hebrew), Tel-Aviv 2006.
  - review of the book was published by: David R. Blumenthal, Jay and Leslie Cohen Professor of Judaic Studies, Emory University. Published in: *Reviews in Religion & Theology*. Volume 15 Issue 2, Pages 269 - 272. A copy is attached below.
  - Also, a discussion, about the book, was held at the Van Leer Jerusalem Institute (06.01.2008). Participants: Prof. Rachel Elijor (Hebrew University) (Chair), Professor Zeev Harvey (Hebrew University), Prof. Moshe Idel (Hebrew University) and Prof. Ruth Carton-Bloom (Ben - Gurion).
5. Alexander Even Chen and Ephraim Meir, *Between Heschel and Buber. A Comparative Study*, Boston 2012. Prof. Ephraim Meir, of the Department of Jewish Philosophy at Bar – Ilan, is an expert in Martin Buber's philosophy. I am an expert in the Philosophy of Abraham Joshua Heschel.
  - In honor of the book a discussion was held at the seminar of the Department of Jewish Philosophy at Bar - Ilan (05/20/2013). With: Dr. Hanoch Ben Pazzi (Bar - Ilan University), Professor Ron Margolin (Tel - Aviv University), Dr. Einat Ramon (Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies).
  - review of the Book was published by: Prof. Edward K. Kaplan (Brandeis University), Prof. Steven Kepnes (Colgate University), Dr.

Michael Marmor (Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion, Jerusalem), Prof. Yehoyada Amir (Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion, Jerusalem). These reviews are attached below.

### **Academic Articles:**

1. Alexander Even-Chen and Shalom Rosenberg, 'New Philosophical Terminology at the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> Century' (Hebrew), *Iyun* 37, 1988, pp. 263-270.
2. 'Tikkun Olam (making a better World) in the Philosophy of Abraham Joshua Heschel' (Hebrew), *Proceedings of The Rabbinical Assembly*, 1988, pp. 168-174.
3. Alexander Even-Chen and Shalom Rosenberg, 'A Philosophical Dialogue at the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> Century' (Hebrew), *Iyun* 43, 1994, pp. 209-220.
4. 'P'shat (the literal meaning) of the Bible as a source of Certainty' (Hebrew), *P'eamim* 60, 1994, pp. 20-31.
5. Alexander Even-Chen and Shalom Rosenberg, 'Coplas Filosoficas de Abraham Gomez Silveyra', *Revue des Etudes Juives*, CLIII (3-4), juillet-decembre 1994. pp. 327-351.
6. 'The Theology of the Leibnizian-Jewish Philosopher Naphtaly Herz Ulman' (Hebrew), *Proceedings of the 11<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Jewish Studies*, p. 3, vol.2, Jerusalem, 1994, pp. 93-100.
7. 'Two Eschatological (Messianic) Texts in the of Enlightenment' (Hebrew), *Daat* 35, 1995, pp. 87-97.
8. 'The Torah, Revelation, and Scientific Critique in the Teachings of Abraham Joshua Heschel', *Conservative Judaism*, vol. L, no. 2-3, winter/spring 1998. pp. 67-76.
9. 'Mysticism and Prophecy in Abraham Joshua Hechel's Philosophy' (Hebrew), *Kabalah* 5, 2000, pp. 359-370.
10. 'The 'Soul' and Education in Abraham Joshua Hechel's Philosophy' (Hebrew), *Hagut – Jewish Educational Thought* 2, 2002, pp. 223-233.

11. 'On the Holiness of the People of Israel in the Thought of Abraham Joshua Heschel', *A Holy People -Jewish and Christian Perspectives on Religious communal Identity*, Leiden and Boston 2006, pp. 361-377.
12. 'Seeing the Divine – a Holy Controversy in Jewish Thought', *Iconoclasm and Iconoclasm – Struggle for Religious Identity*, Leiden and Boston 2007, pp. 95-105.
13. 'God's Omnipotence and Presence in Heschel's Philosophy', *Shofar* 26, no. 1, 2007, pp. 41-71.
14. 'Symbols' and 'Prayer' in Abraham Joshua Heschel's Thought' (Hebrew), *Iggud - Selected essays in Jewish Studies*, , Vol.1, pp. 337-351.
15. 'Maimonides' Theory of Positive Attributes' (Hebrew), *Daat* 63, pp. 49-75.
16. 'Faith and the Courage to Be – Heschel and Tillich', *Identity on The Making*, Theology Department of the Catholic Theological University of Utrecht, Bar Ilan University and Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies, 2006, pp. 337-355.
17. 'I-You-The Other-God in the Thought of Buber, Heschel and Levinas' (Hebrew), *Agut – Studies in Jewish Education* 9, 2010, pp. 217-244.
18. Forthcoming: Alexander Even-Chen, 'On Purifying Sacrifice in the Philosophy of Don Isaac Abravanel' *The Actuality of Sacrifice - Models of Interaction between Judaism and Christianity in Past and Present*, BRILL Publishers, Leiden / Boston.
19. 'On the Divine Knowledge and the Rational-Emotional Experience of the Known Single, the Under-Providence, and the Beloved in the Guide of the Perplexed', *Daat* 74-75, 2013, pp. 105-134.
20. forthcoming: Alexander Even-Chen, 'The Lonely Man of Faith? Heschel?' (Hebrew) – will be published by Beit Morasha Jerusalem.
21. 'On Moses' Prophecy in Maimonides' Writings' (Hebrew), *Jerusalem Studies in Jewish Thought* 22 – *New Old Things* 1, 2011, pp. 181-214.
22. 'On the Ineffable Name of God and the Prophet Abraham: An Examination of the Existential-Hasidic Poetry of Abraham Joshua Heschel', *Modern Judaism* 31:1 (February 2011); doi: 10.1093/mj/kjq030.
23. 'Abraham Joshua Heschel's Pre and Post Holocaust approach to Hasidism', will be published soon in: *Modern Judaism*.

**non-Academic Articles:**

1. 'Search for God' (Hebrew), *Et Laasot* 4, 1996, pp. 63-71.
  2. 'The Search for God', *Avar Ve-atid: A Journal of Jewish Education, Culture and Discourse* 4,1, 1997, pp. 12-19.
  3. 'The Image of God – Faith in Humanity' (Hebrew), *Common Values – Different Sources*, 1999, pp. 111-117.
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1. Alexander Even-Chen, 'Ascetism and Yetzer Ha-Rah [=Destructive Desires]' (Hebrew), *Jewish Dialogues With Desire*, Tel-Aviv 2007, pp. 63-78.

### **Dictionary Entries:**

1. Alexander Even-Chen, 'Ulman, Herz (1731-1787)', *The Dictionary of Seventeenth and Eighteenth Century Dutch Philosophers*, vol.2, Bristol-England 2003.
2. Alexander Even-Chen, 'Aqedah' [=The Binding of Isaac]. *Encyclopedia of the Bible and its Reception*, Berlin and London.
3. Alexander Even-Chen, Heschel, Abraham Joshua (1907-1972), Will be published in the *Encyclopedia of the Bible and its Reception*.

### **Edition:**

1. Alexander Even-Chen and Ehud Bandel, *Iyunei Shabbat: Reflections on Parahat HaShavua* [weekly ], 1988-1989.
2. *Et Laasot* [Journal of the Beit Midrash Lelimudei Hayahadut (former name of The Schechter Rabbinical Seminary)], 1996.
3. Alexander Even-Chen , Chief Editor, *Iyunei Shabbat: Reflections on Parahat HaShavua* [weekly Bible reading], 2006-2008.

### **List of Courses**

1. Faith and Enlightenment
2. Religious Movements in Judaism
3. Concepts of God in Philosophy
4. The Land of Israel in Jewish Thought
5. Maimonides' Guide of the Perplexed
6. Criticism and Interpretation of Maimonides' Philosophy

7. 'Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near' (*Isaiah* 56), The Search for God in Jewish Philosophy and Mysticism
8. Prophecy and Faith
9. 'Education' in Jewish Philosophy
10. 'Be holy because I, the Lord your God, am holy' (*Leviticus* 19, 2) – Holiness, Morality and Perfection in Jewish Thought.
11. **The Binding of Isaac - Mystical and Philosophical Interpretations of the Bible**
12. **'Torah and Revelation' - Mystical and Philosophical Interpretations of the Bible**
13. **'The Fall of Man' - Mystical and Philosophical Interpretations of the Bible**
14. **God's Revelation - Mystical and Philosophical Interpretations of the Bible**
15. 'Good' and 'Evil' in Jewish Thought
16. Introduction to Jewish Thought in the Middle Ages
17. Introduction to Jewish Thought in the Modern Age
18. Heresy and Holiness – Maimonides and Spinoza
19. Philosophy of Education in Modern Jewish Thought
20. Theology before and after the Jewish expulsion from Spain