NACOEJ Selected Resource List

A. General Information About Ethiopia


B. Books About Ethiopian-Jews


**Children’s Books**

**Elementary School**

Middle School


Young Adult


Multi-media

- *Again... the Second Time*. (19 min.). Ergo Media Inc. **DVD** can be ordered from Ergo Media, Inc. [www.jewishvideo.com](http://www.jewishvideo.com).


- **Photo Page** available on NACOEJ website.

- **El Al Video**. Available on NACOEJ website.

Films

**THE NAME MY MOTHER GAVE ME**
Written & directed by Eli Tal-El (2008)
Hebrew and Amharic with English sub-titles

This movie features students and the Director of the Yemin Orde Mechina Leadership Program which is located in the northern development town of Hatzor. The Yemin Orde Mechina is the only pre-military mechina in Israel that has been specifically designed for immigrants. Yemin Orde's Mechina works with a unique prospective and years of experience with immigrant and at-risk youth and provides the participants with innumerable skills which will enable them to overcome their backgrounds and take on leadership roles during their service in the IDF - service that will set them in good stead for the future.

**ZRUBAVEL**
Written & directed by Shmuel Beru, 2008
"Zrubavel" is the first feature-length Israeli drama created by Ethiopian-Israeli filmmakers, and centers on a multigenerational family of Ethiopian émigrés. It portrays the younger generation trying to assimilate with Israeli culture and disregarding the customs cherished by their elders. One of its members, a young Ethiopian-Jewish boy, dreams of becoming the future Spike Lee of Israel.
LIVE AND BECOME  
Directed by Radu Mihaileanu, 2005  
Hebrew, French, Amharic  

The story of an Ethiopian boy who is airlifted from a Sudanese refugee camp to Israel in 1984. Shlomo is plagued by two big secrets: He is neither a Jew nor an orphan, just an African boy who survived and wants, somehow, to fulfill his Ethiopian mother’s parting request that he “go, live, and become.” Buoyed by a profound and unflattering motherly love – both in his memory and in the arms of his adoptive Israeli family – he ultimately finds an identity and a happiness all his own.

400 MILES TO FREEDOM  
Directed and produced by Avishai Yeganyahu Mekonen and Shari Rothfarb Mekonen, 2012  
English, Hebrew, and Amharic  

In 1984, the Beta Israel, a secluded 2,500-year-old community of observant Jews in the northern Ethiopian mountains, fled a dictatorship and began a secret and dangerous journey of escape. Co-director Avishai Mekonen, then a 10 year old boy, was among them. 400 Miles to Freedom follows his story as he breaks his 20 year silence around the brutal kidnapping he endured as a child in Sudan during his community's exodus out of Africa, and in so doing explores issues of immigration and racial diversity in Judaism.

THESE ARE MY NAMES  
Directed by Ruth Mason  
2010  
Hebrew with English subtitles.

Ethiopian Jews’ multiple names reflect the richness, wisdom, and beauty of their culture– and every name tells a story. In These Are My Names, young Ethiopian Israelis share their journeys toward their names: stories of love and connection, survival and loss, anger and pride.

WHEN ISRAEL WENT OUT  
Directed by Meni Elias  
2010  
Hebrew and Amharic with English subtitles.

Eight Israelis, Ethiopian and native-born, return in late 2009 to retrace the treacherous trek that many Ethiopian Jews took to reach Israel 25 years earlier. From 1983-1985, thousands of Ethiopian Jews matched nearly 200 kilometers from Gondar, Ethiopia, to the Sudanese border, hoping to reach Israel from Sudan. A camera-crew followed the group of Israelis for eleven arduous days of walking. Three had made the trek as children 25 years ago. The film is dedicated to those who did not survive the journey.