

Eli Kavon

February 19, 2009 at 10:30 AM

"Zionist Myth, Zionist Reality"

--"Zionist Myth, Israeli Reality"--an exploration of some of the myths of the early Zionist movement--how the Zionists looked at ancient history versus the realities of Israel today.

ELI KAVON—BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Born in 1964, Eli Kavon grew up in Riverdale, New York. He attended S.A.R. Academy yeshiva day school (Class of 1978) and Ramaz yeshiva high school (Class of 1982) in Manhattan. He studied at the Har Etzion yeshiva in Israel's Judean Hills before going on to matriculate at Columbia University. Eli graduated with Phi Beta Kappa honors from Columbia in 1987, having studied Comparative Religion and History. After graduation, Eli completed the summer ulpan at The Hebrew University in Jerusalem. For eight years he worked in New York as an editor and writer for various publications, including *The Long Island Jewish World*. Since relocating to South Florida in 1997, Eli has served as an adjunct lecturer on topics in Jewish history at Broward Community College. He is in his third year teaching Jewish history in the adult education program at Nova Southeastern University and is an instructor in the Florence Melton Adult Mini-School. Eli also lectures on Jewish history and current events on a regular basis at the Levis Jewish Community Center in Boca Raton, Congregation B'nai Aviv in Weston, Congregation Beth Am in Margate, the Wynmoor community in Coconut Creek, the Aventura Turnberry Jewish Center, and at the Tamarac Community Center. This past summer was his eighth lecturing at the "Hostel at Home" program at the La Quinta Inn in Coral Springs. He is also a speaker for the national Elderhostel program. Recently he was a scholar-in-residence at Congregation Beth Shalom in Coconut Creek, Temple Beth Zion in Royal Palm Beach, and a visiting scholar at Temple Israel in Springfield, Missouri.

Eli is a published essayist and poet. His writings have appeared in *The Jerusalem Post*, *The Jerusalem Report*, *Midstream*, *P.S.: The Intelligent Guide to Jewish Affairs*, *The South Florida Jewish Journal*, *The World Jewish Digest*, and *Columbia Perspectives* among others. He has been profiled in the pages of the *South Florida Sun-Sentinel* and was the focus of an article on his adult education activities in *The Miami Herald*. For fifteen months Eli served as a columnist for the "Shalom Today" section of the *Sun-Sentinel*. He is quoted in *The Bedford Guide For College Writers* (1987), cited by Alan Dershowitz in *Chutzpah* (1991), and contributed material to Sir Martin Gilbert's *The Day the War Ended* (1996). Eli is currently working on two projects: he is pursuing advanced degrees in Jewish Studies through the Spertus Institute in Chicago and he is writing a book responding to the challenges posed by fundamentalist Islam and religious extremism.