



*Prof. Emeritus Zev Naveh: from cowboy and shepherd to world-renowned landscape ecologist.*

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**A PERSONAL INTRODUCTION**

I was born in 1919 in Amsterdam, but grew up in Germany and in 1935 I immigrated to Israel (then Palestine) thanks to the "Youth Aliyah" organization, who rescued thousands of youngsters like me. Together with other members of the Zionist Pathfinder Movement we stayed for two years in the Kibbutz (collective settlement) Ginagar in the Jezreel Valley, working half a day and learning half a day. In 1938 we founded our own Kibbutz "Mazuba" in the foothills of the Western Galilee. Here, among other jobs, I

helped to reclaim the rocky slopes for cultivation by uprooting the dense shrub cover, removing the rock outcrops and using these for the construction of terraces, similar to those built already more than 2000 years ago in the same sites. Then, my main occupation was to work as shepherd of goats and sheep and finally as cattle herder and breeder for milk and meat production. This marked the beginning of my attachment to the rocky Mediterranean hill and mountain landscape, and its rich natural and cultural assets, resulting from a very long human history of coevolution with these landscapes and their utilization for good and worse.

To these Mediterranean landscapes I have devoted also most of my professional and scientific career, first as a pasture research scientist and then as an academic teacher and researcher. The closely interwoven natural and cultural patterns and processes of these landscapes were among the major topics of my study. However, learning more about other landscapes all over the world, I realized that this is true also for all human-used and modified landscapes and therefore their study and management, conservation and restoration require a holistic approach and integrative methods. These are transcending the frontiers of the natural sciences into the social sciences, the humanities and arts.

Since my retirement I regard my main scientific mission, to help in the education of a new generation of concerned landscape and restoration ecologists who are aware of the need for a problem-solving oriented transdisciplinary landscape science, contributing to the transformation from the industrial to the post-industrial information-rich society. To my great satisfaction these efforts are not in vain.

The following is a brief summary of my Curriculum Vitae from 1945 until 2004:

1945-1950 Student at Hebrew University, Jerusalem;

1947-1948 Participation in Independence War as member of "Haganah" and Israel Defense Army, Gush Etzion and Jerusalem.

M.Sc.1950 (Agronomy) and PhD 1960 (Ecology) Hebrew University, Jerusalem.

1950-1965 Range and Pasture Research Scientist at Neve Yaar Experimental Station, Israel Ministry of Agriculture

1958-1960 Visiting Research Scientist at School of Forestry, University of California Berkeley.

1962-65 Seconded by Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Department of International Cooperation to Northern Tanzania Research Center; as research scientist, dealing with range and pasture research and development in Massailand and on the slopes of Mt. Meru and Kilimansharo; serving advisor for the planning of International Ecosystem Research Center at Serengeti Tanzania National Park; and as advisor for range and pasture development in Turkana (Kenya) and Karamoja Uganda); and member of East African Committee on Pasture and Range Development.

Since 1965 at Technion, Faculty of Agricultural Engineering and from 1970 until retirement 1989 with secondary appointment at the Faculty of Architecture and Town Planning, teaching general agronomy, systems ecology and landscape ecology, restoration ecology and vegetation engineering for biological protection and erosion control.

1982-1989 Founder and director of Ecological Garden of Technion.

### **Major Research Themes:**

Improvement of Mediterranean pastures; Human impacts on Mediterranean vegetation by fire, grazing, air pollution and recreation pressures; evolution, biodiversity and dynamic conservation management of Mediterranean landscapes; use of drought resistant plants for multi-beneficial landscape restoration and reclamation, flood and erosion control; theoretical aspects of holistic and transdisciplinary landscape ecology; sustainable development towards the information society.

### **Scholarships and Awards:**

1946 Henrietta Szold Scholarship for Outstanding Graduates of Youth Aliyah (Youth immigration Organization) from Hebrew University Jerusalem.

1958 British Council Bursary for International Grassland Course at Hurley, Berkshire

and tour of pasture research institutes and hill pastures in U.K.

1958-1960 Visiting Research Scientist Fellowship of USA Academy of Sciences, National Research Council, Washington DC.

1985 Award for outstanding ecological research at Technion from Henri Gutwirth Fund for Promotion of research.

1987 Distinguished member of International Society for the Study of Mediterranean Ecosystems (ISOMED)

1996 Distinguished member of Israel Society of Ecology and Environmental Quality Sciences.

1998 Gold Medal from the Charles University of Charles, Prague, for important contributions to landscape ecology.

1999 Distinguished Scholarship Award, International Association of Landscape Ecology (IALE)

2000 Distinguished guest- member of Italian branch of International Association of Landscape Ecology

### **Major Professional and Public Activities In Israel:**

1966-70 Member of advisory committee on vegetation engineering, Israel Ministry of Agriculture.

1972 Initiator and co-founder of Israel Society of Ecology and Environmental Quality Sciences (one of the first ecological societies including both biologists and environmental engineers).

1972-74 Scientific Advisor for First Committee for Environmental Affairs of Israel Knesset (Parliament).

1973-77 Scientific Advisor for high school teaching program on "Man and Environment".

1975-1978 Co-founder and scientific director of teacher training program for first environmental high school in Israel at Ben Gurion University Campus, Sede Boker (Negev Desert).

1979-82 Member of Advisory Board on Environmental Quality, Haifa Municipality.

Since 1990 Scientific Advisor of Israel NGOs on environmental quality issues.

Since 1998 Member of Committee on Quality Planning of Haifa City.

### **Some Major International Activities:**

1969 Range consultant for FAO in Northern Mexico.

1977-1980 Representative of Israel in SCOPE project on fire ecology.

1977 FAO-UNESCO consultant on multi-beneficial forestry and fire control in southern France.

1979 Advisor on multi-beneficial forestry for the Regional Governments of Sardinia and Sicily.

1989-1993 Chairman of Working Group on Conservation of Threatened landscapes, IUCN World Conservation Movement Commission for Environmental Strategies and Planning, initiating studies on the preparation of Red Books for Threatened Landscapes.

1999-2001 Member of Advisory Committee of "ENSURE" – European Network on Sustainable Urban and Rural Development

2004 - Creative Member of Club of Budapest

### **Other International Scientific Activities:**

Visiting professor at the University of California, at Berkeley, the California State University of San Diego and Rutgers University, New Jersey, USA; organizer and co-organizer of several international symposia; Invited lecturer and keynote speaker at many conferences, symposia and workshops on ecology, landscape ecology and on sustainable development; guest lecturer in several universities and research institutes at the USA, Germany, U.K., The Netherlands, Austria, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Japan, Taiwan, Australia and China.

Former member of editorial boards of "Israel Journal of Botany", "Agriculture and Environment", "Agriculture, Ecosystems and Environment", and "Forestry, Ecology and Management"; presently: "Landscape Ecology", "Restoration Ecology", "Journal of Mediterranean Ecology", "International Journal of Ecology & Environmental Sciences", and "Ecological Complexity".

Over 200 scientific and professional publications; author and co-author of several Hebrew and English books, including the first English monograph on landscape ecology, theory and applications, co-authored with AS Lieberman, published by Springer Verlag, New York in 1984 with special student edition 1989; and second

edition 1994. In 2002 translated into Spanish and Chinese.

Published in Beijing, China and Buenos Aires, Argentina

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