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Photo: Dr. Avishi Teicher, from the Pikiwiki website



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**The State of Israel
was established
in Iyar of 1948.**

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**The first session of the
Knesset was held on
Tu B'Shvat in 1949.**

The members planted trees on their way to the meeting, as is customary on Tu B'Shvat.

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**Since then, the Knesset
has celebrated its
birthday on Tu B'Shvat.**

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**In 1999, the Knesset
celebrated 50 years.**

In honor of the fiftieth celebration, the Knesset received a gift from the National Fund of Israel.

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**The gift was a
sculpture by the artist
Eliezer Weishoff.**

**The sculpture is built in
the shape of a
Menorah- the symbol
of the Jewish people.**

The Menorah consists of the trunk of an olive tree, and the branches are the Seven Species that are usually eaten on Tu B'Shvat.