



HEBREW SECTION - תירבע

Ariel Sharon

Israeli Prime Minister
2001-



Israel's current prime minister is Ariel Sharon. Before being elected prime minister, Sharon was very active with the armed forces, participating in the Suez Crisis, Six-Day War, and Yom Kippur War. His leadership skills led to being appointed minister of agriculture in charge of settlements. In this position he actively promoted Jewish settlement in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. He also served as Minister of Defense and oversaw Israel's invasion of Lebanon in the Lebanese Civil war. Sharon encountered trouble when an Israeli court of inquiry held him indirectly responsible for the Sabra and Shatila massacres, which killed several Palestinian civilians by Christian militiamen in two Beirut refugee camps during the invasion of Lebanon. Due to this Ariel Sharon was forced to resign from his position of Minister of Defense in 1983. Despite this, his political aspirations did not cease as he held several cabinet positions throughout the 1980's and 1990's and later in 1999 became head of the Likud party. In 2001 he was elected Prime Minister, he has held this post for four years.

VOCABULARY

Politics – הקיטילופ

Election – הריחב

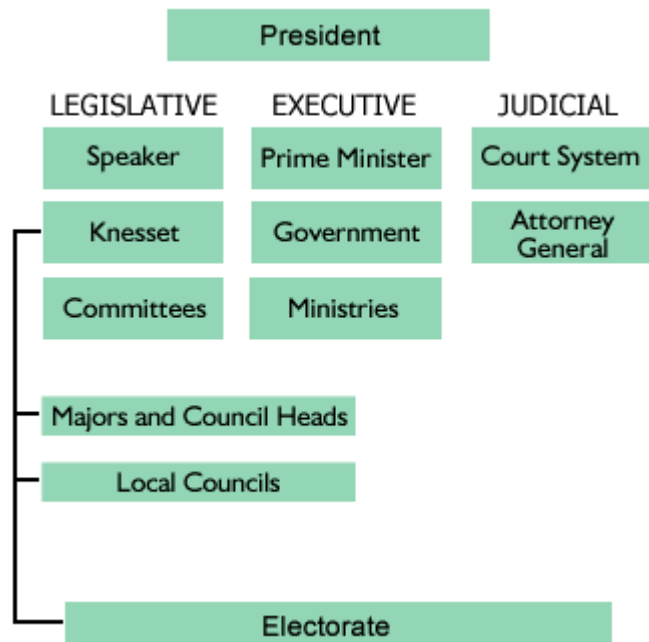
President – אישנ

To Vote – עיבצהל

Prime Minister – טלשמ שאר

The Government in Israel

The Knesset is the house of representatives of the State of Israel. Basic Law: The Knesset states that the seat of the Knesset is Jerusalem, and during elections, it will have at 120 members. The law deals with the elections to the Knesset and with the essence of the service, the work and the immunity of the Knesset, its committees and its members. The law does not define the authority of the Knesset and details regarding the way its functions appear in its regulations.



The President of the State is elected by the Knesset in a secret vote, and primarily fulfills ceremonial functions as head of State.

Candidates for the presidency are customarily proposed by the large parties, and are usually well-known public figures. The President is appointed for one term of seven years.