# TIME, HISTORY, AND MEMORY

# **Eviatar Zerubavel**

# January 23 TOWARD A SOCIOLOGY OF THE PAST

History and memory; social memory; the sociomental topography of the past; a formal-structural approach to social memory

- Eviatar Zerubavel, *Time Maps: Collective Memory and the Social Shape of the Past* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2003), pp. 1-2, 8-10.
- Eviatar Zerubavel, "Generally Speaking: The Logic and Mechanics of Social Pattern Analysis," *Sociological Forum* 22 (2007): 131-45.

# January 30 THE SOCIAL FOUNDATIONS OF MEMORY

Shared memories; collective memory; mnemonic communities; mnemonic synchronization; mnemonic traditions; norms of remembrance; mnemonic socialization; impersonal sites of memory; the politics of memory: official memory and counter-memories, mnemonic battles

- Maurice Halbwachs, *The Social Frameworks of Memory*, in Lewis A. Coser (ed.), *Maurice Halbwachs on Collective Memory* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1992 [1925]), pp. 37-40, 74-83.
- Maurice Halbwachs, *The Collective Memory* (New York: Harper Colophon, 1980 [1950]), pp. 22-30, 101-05.
- Frances FitzGerald, *America Revised: History Schoolbooks in the Twentieth Century* (New York: Vintage, 1980), pp. 75-105.
- Eviatar Zerubavel, "Easter and Passover: On Calendars and Group Identity," *American Sociological Review* 47 (1982): 284-89.
- Michael Frisch, "American History and the Structures of Collective Memory: A Modest Exercise in Empirical Iconography," *Journal of American History* 75 (1989): 1133-43.
- Barry Schwartz, "The Reconstruction of Abraham Lincoln," in David Middleton and Derek Edwards (eds.), *Collective Remembering* (London: Sage, 1990), pp. 83-97, 101-04.
- Yael Zerubavel, Recovered Roots: Collective Memory and the Making of Israeli National Tradition (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1995), pp. 147-60.
- Eviatar Zerubavel, *Social Mindscapes: An Invitation to Cognitive Sociology* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1997), pp. 81-84, 87-101.

### February 6 PLOTLINES AND NARRATIVES I

History as a narrative: historical plotlines; progress: development, improvement, evolutionism; decline: Golden Ages, regression, degeneration; zigzag narratives: transitions, turning points

- Hayden White, "The Historical Text as Literary Artifact," in *Tropics of Discourse: Essays in Cultural Criticism* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1978 [1974]), pp. 81-87.
- Agnes Hankiss, "Ontologies of the Self: On the Mythological Rearranging of One's Life-History," in Daniel Bertaux (ed.), *Biography and Society: The Life History Approach in the Social Sciences* (Beverly Hills, CA: Sage, 1981), pp. 203-09.
- Kenneth J. Gergen and Mary M. Gergen, "Narratives of the Self," in Theodore R. Sarbin and Karl E. Scheibe (eds.), *Studies in Social Identity* (New York: Praeger, 1983), pp. 254-73.
- Peter J. Bowler, *Theories of Human Evolution: A Century of Debate, 1844-1944* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1986), pp. 50-52.
- E. Zerubavel, Time Maps, pp. 11-20.
- Jenna Howard, "Expecting and Accepting: The Temporal Ambiguity of Recovery Identities," Social Psychology Quarterly 69 (2006): 307-24.
- Thomas DeGloma, "Awakenings: Autobiography, Memory, and the Social Logic of Personal Discovery," *Sociological Forum* 25 (2010): 519-540.

# February 13 PLOTLINES AND NARRATIVES II

Unilinear and multilinear plotlines: teleology, determinism; linearity and circularity: recurrence, historical "rhyming," mnemonic typification

- Mircea Eliade, *The Sacred and the Profane: The Nature of Religion* (New York: Harcourt, Brace & World, 1959 [1957]), pp. 68-72, 77-80, 104-07.
- Johannes Fabian, *Time and the Other: How Anthropology Makes Its Object* (New York: Columbia University Press, 1983), pp. 28-31, 75-77, 80-83, 147-49.
- Eviatar Zerubavel, *The Seven-Day Circle: The History and Meaning of the Week* (New York: Free Press, 1985), pp. 83-86.
- Bowler, *Theories of Human Evolution*, pp. 41-42, 213-23.
- Stephen J. Gould, Wonderful Life: The Burgess Shale and the Nature of History (New York: W. W. Norton, 1989), pp. 29-35.
- Peter J. Bowler, *Life's Splendid Drama: Evolutionary Biology and the Reconstruction of Life's Ancestry, 1860-1940* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1996), pp. 424-28.
- E. Zerubavel, *Time Maps*, pp. 20-25.

### February 20 THE SOCIAL MARKING OF THE PAST

Physico-mathematical and sociocultural time; marked and unmarked time; metrical and topological approaches to chronology; mnemonic density; norms of historical attention; social "eventfulness"; sacred periods and "empty lulls"; social time and chronology; commemograms

- Henri Hubert, "A Brief Study of the Representation of Time in Religion and Magic," in *Essay on Time* (Oxford: Durkheim Press, 1999 [1905]), pp. 50-56, 61-63, 72-76.
- Pitirim A. Sorokin, Sociocultural Causality, Space, Time: A Study of Referential Principles of Sociology and Social Science (Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 1943), pp. 171-72, 182-84, 197-204, 208-12.
- W. Lloyd Warner, *The Living and the Dead: A Study of the Symbolic Life of Americans* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1959), pp. 129-35.
- Claude Lévi-Strauss, *The Savage Mind* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1966 [1962]), pp. 257-60.
- E. Zerubavel, *The Seven-Day Circle*, pp. 107-08, 113-20, 133-38.
- Y. Zerubavel, *Recovered Roots*, pp. 6-10.
- Johanna Foster, "Menstrual Time: The Sociocognitive Mapping of 'The Menstrual Cycle," *Sociological Forum* 11 (1996): 525-28, 540-42.
- E. Zerubavel, *Time Maps*, pp. 25-34.
- Eviatar Zerubavel, "The Social Marking of the Past: Toward a Socio-Semiotics of Memory," in Roger Friedland and John Mohr (eds.), *Matters of Culture: Cultural Sociology in Practice* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2004), pp. 184-92.

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# February 27 ANCESTRY AND DESCENT

Predecessors; symbolic immortality; succession; lineage; bloodlines; symbolic ancestry and descent; genealogical identity; genealogical fantasies; historical contact chains; dynasties; genealogical depth; pedigree

- Georg Simmel, "The Persistence of Social Groups," *American Journal of Sociology* 3 (1897-98): 669-71.
- Hugh Baker, *Chinese Family and Kinship* (New York: Columbia University Press, 1979), pp. 26-28, 71-74, 88-91.
- Edward Shils, *Tradition* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1981), pp. 34-38.
- Thomas R. Trautmann, "The Revolution in Ethnological Time," Man 27 (1992): 379-93.
- Bob Simpson, "Bringing the 'Unclear' Family into Focus: Divorce and Re-Marriage in Contemporary Britain," *Man* 29 (1994): 831-47.
- Randall Collins, *The Sociology of Philosophies: A Global Theory of Intellectual Change* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1998), pp. 55-56, 64-68.
- María E. Martínez, Genealogical Fictions: Limpieza de Sangre, Religion, and Gender in Colonial Mexico (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2008), pp. 46-52.
- Eviatar Zerubavel, *Ancestors and Relatives: Genealogy, Identity, and Community* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2011), pp. 3-30, 118-21.

#### March 5 KINSHIP

Multilinear narratives of descent; common ancestry and co-descent; relatives; genealogical distance; cladistics; family trees; evolution, speciation, and phylogeny; genealogical communities: families,

clans, ethnicity, nationalism

- Charles Darwin, *The Origin of Species* (New York: Sterling, 2008 [1859]), pp. 440-50. Edward E. Evans-Pritchard, *The Nuer: A Description of the Modes of Livelihood and* 
  - Political Institutions of a Nilotic People (London: Oxford University Press, 1940), pp. 105-07, 195-202.
- Norman I. Platnick and H. Don Cameron, "Cladistic Methods in Textual, Linguistic, and Phylogenetic Analysis," *Systematic Zoology* 26 (1977): 380-85.
- Luigi L. Cavalli-Sforza and Francesco Cavalli-Sforza, *The Great Human Diasporas: The History of Diversity and Evolution* (Reading, MA: Addison-Wesley, 1995 [1993]), pp. 36-41, 66-70.
- Richard Dawkins, *River out of Eden: A Darwinian View of Life* (New York: Basic Books, 1995), pp. 5-12.
- Bowler, Life's Splendid Drama, pp. 45-52.
- Mary Bouquet, "Family Trees and Their Affinities: The Visual Imperative of the Genealogical Diagram," *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute* 2 (1996): 43-48, 55-59.
- Rogers Brubaker, "Ethnicity, Race, and Nationalism," *Annual Review of Sociology* 35 (2009): 21-35.
- E. Zerubavel, Ancestors and Relatives, pp. 31-52, 121-22.

### March 19 THE SOCIAL CONSTRUCTION OF GENEALOGICAL RELATEDNESS

Consanguinity; genetic essentialism; genetic ancestry testing; "roots"; "race"; rules of genealogical lineation; unilineal descent systems: matrilineality, patrilineality, genealogical denial, genealogical amnesia; the one-drop rule; rules of genealogical delineation

- David M. Schneider, *American Kinship: A Cultural Account* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1980), pp. 67-75.
- Anthony D. Smith, *The Ethnic Origins of Nations* (Oxford: Basil Blackwell, 1986), pp. 24-25, 52-53.
- Israel Gershoni and James P. Jankowski, *Egypt, Islam, and the Arabs: The Search for Egyptian Nationhood, 1900-1930* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1986), pp. 165-68.
- Barbara K. Rothman, Recreating Motherhood (New York: W. W. Norton, 1989), pp. 15-20.
- Mary C. Waters, *Ethnic Options: Choosing Identities in America* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1990), pp. 16-26, 64-68.
- Cavalli-Sforza and Cavalli-Sforza, The Great Human Diasporas, pp. 121-25.
- Dorothy Nelkin and Susan Lindee, *The DNA Mystique: The Gene as a Cultural Icon* (New York: W. H. Freeman, 1995), pp. 58-60, 66-72.
- Werner Sollors, Neither Black Nor White Yet Both: Thematic Explorations of Interracial Literature (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1997), pp. 112-29.
- Mara Loveman, "Is 'Race' Essential?" *American Sociological Review* 64 (1999): 891-98. Jonathan Marks, "We're Going To Tell These People Who They Really Are': Science and Relatedness," in Sarah Franklin and Susan McKinnon (eds.), *Relative Values: Reconfiguring Kinship Studies* (Durham: Duke University Press, 2001), pp. 355-72.
- Mark D. Shriver and Rick A. Kittles, "Genetic Ancestry and the Search for Personalized Genetic Histories," *Nature Review: Genetics* 5 (2004): 611-18.

- Catherine Nash, "Genetic Kinship," Cultural Studies 18 (2004): 1-27.
- Richard Dawkins, *The Ancestor's Tale: A Pilgrimage to the Dawn of Civilization* (Boston: Mariner, 2005), pp. 307-10.
- Morgan Clarke, "The Modernity of Milk Kinship," Social Anthropology 15 (2007): 287-304.
- Henry T. Greely, "Genetic Genealogy: Genetics Meets the Marketplace," in Barbara A. Koenig et al. (eds.), *Revisiting Race in a Genomic Age* (New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 2008), pp. 223-29.
- Kenneth M. Weiss and Jeffrey C. Long. "Non-Darwinian Estimation: My Ancestors, My Genes' Ancestors," *Genome Research* 19 (2009): 703-10.
- E. Zerubavel, Ancestors and Relatives, pp. 53-75, 115-18.

### March 26 THE POLITICS OF DESCENT

Genealogical continuity; origin myths; monogenism and polygenism; taxonomic inflation and deflation; genealogical purity; genealogical tactics; genealogical engineering: integration and segregation, endogamy and exogamy, multiculturalism vs. the "melting pot"

- Michael Hammond, "The Expulsion of the Neanderthals from Human Ancestry: Marcellin Boule and the Social Context of Scientific Research," *Social Studies of Science* 12 (1982): 1-30.
- Werner Sollors, *Beyond Ethnicity: Consent and Descent in American Culture* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1986), pp. 66-101.
- Bowler, Theories of Human Evolution, pp. 55-58.
- Jared Diamond, *The Third Chimpanzee: The Evolution and Future of the Human Animal* (New York: HarperCollins, 1992), pp. 23-25.
- Morris Goodman, "Epilogue: A Personal Account of the Origins of a New Paradigm," Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution 5 (1996): 269-85.
- France W. Twine, *Racism in a Racial Democracy: The Maintenance of White Supremacy in Brazil* (New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 1998), pp. 122-33.
- Anthony Smith, The Antiquity of Nations (Cambridge: Polity, 2004), pp. 42-48.
- Yael Zerubavel, "Trans-Historical Encounters in the Land of Israel: On Symbolic Bridges, National Memory, and the Literary Imagination," *Jewish Social Studies* 11 (2005): 115-35.
- Martínez, Genealogical Fictions, pp. 54-58.
- E. Zerubavel, Ancestors and Relatives, pp. 77-114, 122-30.

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# April 2 THE SOCIAL CONSTRUCTION OF HISTORICAL CONTINUITY I

Continuity and discontinuity; gradualism and catastrophism; traditionalism and conservatism; nostalgia; mnemonic "bridging" and "pasting"; ruins, pilgrimage, preservationism, archaeology; relics and memorabilia, antiques, commemorative monuments, museums; imitation, replication, restoration and revivals, repetition, ritual reenactment; invented traditions

David Hume, A Treatise of Human Nature (1739), Book 1, Part 4, Section 6.

- Bernard Lewis, *History: Remembered, Recovered, Invented* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1975), pp. 71-76.
- Fred Davis, *Yearning for Yesterday: A Sociology of Nostalgia* (New York: Free Press, 1979), pp. 64-67, 101-08.
- Shils, Tradition, pp. 43-54, 63-73, 163-68.
- Eric J. Hobsbawm, "Introduction," in Eric J. Hobsbawm and Terence Ranger (eds.), *The Invention of Tradition* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1983), pp. 1-5.
- Samuel C. Heilman, A Walker in Jerusalem (New York: Summit Books, 1986), pp. 77-111.
- Helen R. F. Ebaugh, *Becoming an Ex: The Process of Role Exit* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1988), pp. 155-63.
- E. Zerubavel, *Time Maps*, pp. 37-46.

# April 9 THE SOCIAL CONSTRUCTION OF HISTORICAL CONTINUITY II

Symbolic simultaneity: holidays and other anniversaries; historical analogies: models, parallels, and "lessons"; discursive continuity; biographical continuity

- Harold Garfinkel, "Passing and the Managed Achievement of Sex Status in An Intersexed Person," in *Studies in Ethnomethodology* (Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall, 1967), pp. 128-31.
- Haskell Fain, Between Philosophy and History: The Resurrection of Speculative Philosophy of History within the Analytic Tradition (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1970), pp. 74-80.
- Lewis, History, pp. 83-87.
- Gershoni and Jankowski, *Egypt, Islam, and the Arabs*, pp. 143-49, 154-58.
- Paul Connerton, *How Societies Remember* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1989), pp. 41-48, 65-66.
- Yuen F. Khong, *Analogies at War: Korea, Munich, Dien Bien Phu, and the Vietnam Decisions of 1965* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1992), pp. 4-6.
- Charlotte Linde, *Life Stories: The Creation of Coherence* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1993), pp. 151-58.
- Y. Zerubavel, *Recovered Roots*, pp. 70-75, 138-44, 160-67, 216-21.
- Vered Vinitzky-Seroussi, *After Pomp and Circumstance: High School Reunions as Autobiographical Occasions* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1998), pp. 113-27.
- E. Zerubavel, *Time Maps*, pp. 46-54.

# April 16 THE SOCIAL CONSTRUCTION OF HISTORICAL DISCONTINUITY I

The sociomental partitioning of the past: history as a classification system, the social construction of historical "periods", historical assimilation and differentiation, mnemonic inflation and compression, the politics of periodization; the social punctuation of the past: staccato narratives, historical "watersheds"; identity transformation, rites of passage, social death and rebirth

Arnold van Gennep, *The Rites of Passage* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1960 [1909]), pp. 74-82, 91-96.

Halbwachs, *The Collective Memory*, pp. 80-82.

- Eviatar Zerubavel, *The Fine Line: Making Distinctions in Everyday Life* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1993 [1991]), pp. 9-10, 18-32, 61-62, 67-69, 72, 74-76.
- Y. Zerubavel, Recovered Roots, pp. 13-36, 86-91, 229-31.
- Nicole E. Isaacson, "The 'Fetus-Infant': Changing Classifications of *In Utero* Development in Medical Texts," *Sociological Forum* 11 (1996): 467-70, 472-76.
- Barry S. Strauss, "The Problem of Periodization: The Case of the Peloponnesian War," in Mark Golden and Peter Toohey (eds.), *Inventing Ancient Culture: Historicism, Periodization, and the Ancient World* (London: Routledge, 1997), pp. 165-75.
- Eviatar Zerubavel, "Language and Memory: 'Pre-Columbian' America and the Social Logic of Periodization," *Social Research* 65 (1998): 315-28.
- E. Zerubavel, *Time Maps*, pp. 34-36, 82-100.

# April 23 THE SOCIAL CONSTRUCTION OF HISTORICAL DISCONTINUITY II

History and pre-history: points of historical departure, collective amnesia; the social construction of beginnings and endings; origins and symbolic birth; antiquity and legitimacy; priority and out-pasting; natives, aborigines, and indigenous people

Lewis, *History*, pp. 30-41.

- Y. Zerubavel, Recovered Roots, pp. 221-28.
- E. Zerubavel, *Time Maps*, pp. 101-10.

### **April 30 CONCLUSION**

Mini-Paper I – due on February 27

Mini-Paper II - due on April 2

Mini-Paper III - due on May 7