

# FOUR QUESTIONS *for today*



*A Yemenite family reunites in Israel at Ben-Gurion Airport.*

Following a covert rescue operation coordinated by The Jewish Agency for Israel, the last group of Yemenite Jews was evacuated to Israel. One of the recent arrivals described themselves as “prisoners” when they lived in Yemen. This happened in March, 2016.

Since 1948, 51,000 Yemenite Jews have immigrated to Israel, and The Jewish Agency continues efforts to rescue some 50,000 Jews living in high-risk countries around the world.

As we observe this festival of freedom, we know that not all Jews are truly free. In France, there is growing antisemitism. In Russia and Ukraine, there is political unrest. In many Muslim countries, Jews face uncertainty and insecurity. Closer to home, many struggle to make ends meet.

Therefore, let those of us blessed with freedom remember to treat this night’s telling not as a story from our past, but rather as a current event.

1. The Haggadah tells us that the Israelites were rescued “with a strong hand and an outstretched arm.” Is there a strong hand and outstretched arm to rescue Jews in danger today?
2. If you were among the 19 Jews who escaped Yemen last month, how might this year’s seder be different than last year’s?
3. The Haggadah reminds us of those who arise against us in every generation. Do we feel threatened today?
4. What role does fear play in connecting us as a people?

