ISRAEL SHINES

Overcoming The Odds And Making The World A Better Place

Israel

represents resilience and hope.
It was built by people who overcame
1,900 years of oppression to achieve
freedom in their ancestral home.

Despite flaws, challenges, and conflicts,
Israelis find countless ways to shine
and make the world a better place.

Israel received the highest rating for political rights among all states in the Middle East according to Freedom House, which evaluates democracy and freedom around the world.

There are 130 Christian-majority countries in the world, 49 Islamic and three Hindu. Israel is the only Jewish-majority country in the world and has been the Jewish homeland for over 3,000 years.

Jerusalem is the only city in the world with ancient sites that are holy to Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Israel safeguards free access to sacred places and each religious group's right to administer its own holy sites.

Israel protects minority rights, and many Israelis actively work to advance social and economic equality. Arab citizens of Israel have served in the Knesset since 1948. Arab Supreme Court Justice Salim Joubran oversaw Israel's national elections in 2015. Israel's government formed in 2021 included a religious Arab party and invested billions of dollars in the security and prosperity of its Arab citizens.

In Israel, gender equality is enshrined in law. Women pursue all careers, make up the majority of students in higher education, serve in the military and prominent government positions, and have full reproductive rights and personal freedoms.

Israel is the only Middle Eastern country where the Christian population has grown in the last half-century.

In Israel, LGBTQ+ people have been able to fight for their rights and win.

Israel's $387 billion economy (2019) is ranked 20th out of 140 countries in global competitiveness by the World Economic Forum.

Israeli students consistently rank among the best in the world for achievements in math and science.

Israel spends more of its budget on research and development than any other country in the world.

**Since 2000, Israelis have won
the most Nobel Prizes per capita
in the world.**

Israeli scientists Dr. Avram Hershko (left) and Dr. Aaron Ciechanover (right) won a Nobel Prize for research that could lead to new treatments and cures for diseases like Alzheimer's and Parkinson's as well as genetic disorders.

In 2022, Israel attracted the second
most venture capital funding
per capita in the world.

Through its Indo-Israel Agriculture Project, Israel trains 120,000 farmers per year in India, focusing on beekeeping, vegetable cultivation, dairy production, and more.
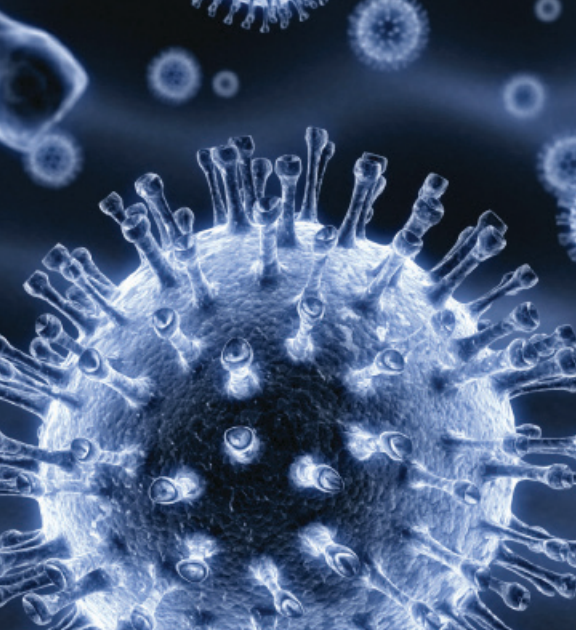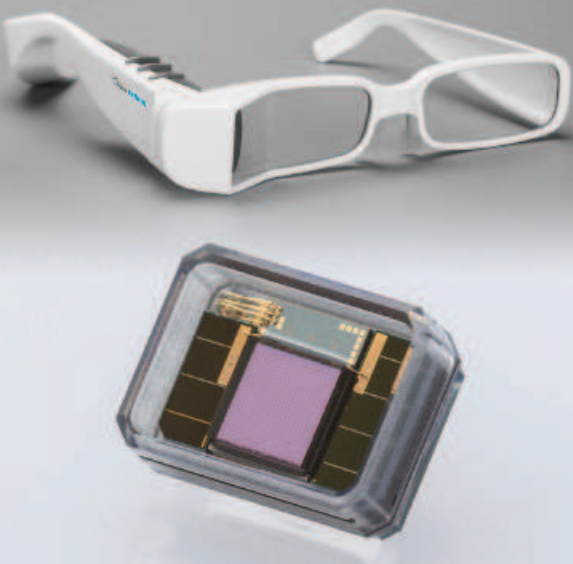
Israeli company NitroFix invented a way to produce ammonia with zero emissions. This could eliminate up to 500 million tons of CO2 per year, making agriculture and heavy industry more sustainable.

An Israeli company, Given Imaging, pioneered the PillCam, an ingestible video camera that is pain-free, noninvasive, and allows doctors to see the small intestine and esophagus to detect disease.

Israeli scientists developed an AIDS treatment that targets and destroys 40 percent of HIV-infected cells without affecting healthy cells.

**An Israeli company, Nano Retina,
is developing an artificial retina to
restore sight to the visually impaired.**

An Israeli company developed ReWalk™, the first commercially viable upright walking assistance tool, enabling people with paraplegia to stand, walk, and climb stairs.

**An Israeli company developed
a computerized system for
administering medications in order
to prevent human error.**

Israel has provided international humanitarian aid to over 140 countries or territories, including a number that have no diplomatic relations with the Jewish state.

Israel exports more life-saving medical technology than any other country of similar size.

An Israeli scientist discovered a natural
bacterium that combats river blindness,
helping to protect the people of
11 African nations.

Israel was among the first on the scene after the 2010 Haiti earthquake to provide disaster relief. "The Israeli hospital...is the paramount medical center operating in Haiti. ...It receives the cases that other hospitals find difficult to manage."
–Time

An Israeli nonprofit organization called Save a Child's Heart performs free open-heart surgeries for underprivileged children from around the world, regardless of race, religion, or ethnicity. Almost 50 percent of the patients are from Iraq, Syria, Jordan, the West Bank, Gaza, Morocco, Indonesia, Azerbaijan, and Afghanistan.

Israeli company Netafim invented drip irrigation, helping farmers on six continents conserve water and maximize efficiency.

Israel leads the world in water recycling and is using its technology to help people all over the world overcome water scarcity.

Israel was the first country in the world to adopt the Kimberley Process, an international standard that certifies diamonds as "conflict-free."

The Waze navigation app, instant messaging, firewall security software, Intel wireless computer chips, the Windows NT operating system, voicemail technology, VOIP technology, and the USB drive were all developed in Israel.

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