

From: JIMENA: Jews Indigenous to the Middle East and North Africa

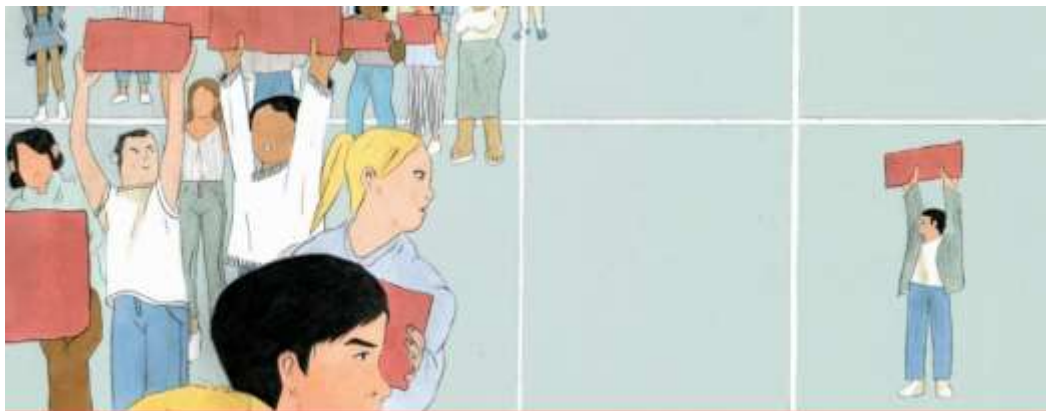
Sent: Wednesday, December 30, 2020 11:21 AM

To: Ethnic Studies

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Sign Petition to Keep Antisemitism Included in CA's Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum



**Ensure that JIMENA's Antisemitism Lesson is Included in
the Final Draft of California's Ethnic Studies Model
Curriculum**



**ADD YOUR NAME TO JIMENA'S EMAIL CAMPAIGN
BY JANUARY 21ST**

**Tell California's State Board of Education to
add the lesson plan *Antisemitism and Jewish Middle Eastern
Americans* to the Asian American Studies Section of
California's Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum. This is our LAST
CHANCE to demand inclusion and balance before the
curriculum is approved and disseminated across the nation.**

JIMENA needs your help before California's Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum is finalized!

Join us in recognizing that while the California's Department of Education and the Instructional Quality Commission (IQC) recommended that JIMENA's lesson [Antisemitism and Jewish Middle Eastern-Americans](#) be included in the Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum (ESMC), improvements must be made to the final draft of the curriculum.

[Sign JIMENA's petition to California's State Board of Education by January 21st asking the following:](#)

1) The State Board of Education should remove bias from the Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum (ESMC) and treat Asian communities with proportionality and balance as California and Federal laws and the State Board of Education's Content Standards and ESMC Guidelines require. JIMENA's lesson plan "Antisemitism and Jewish Middle Eastern-Americans" must be added to the "Asian American and Pacific Islander Studies" section, paired with the IQC-recommended lessons that focus on Islamophobia and xenophobia of South Asians.

Currently, this section omits antisemitism -- reminiscent of the omissions that embroiled the ESMC's first draft in controversy. Antisemitism continues to be the most prevalent religious-based hate crime in the United States and California according to FBI statistics -- comprising 68% of all religious-based hate crimes targeting the Jewish 2% of the population. Anti-Muslim hate crimes comprise 12% of the religious-based hate crimes total for 1% of the population.

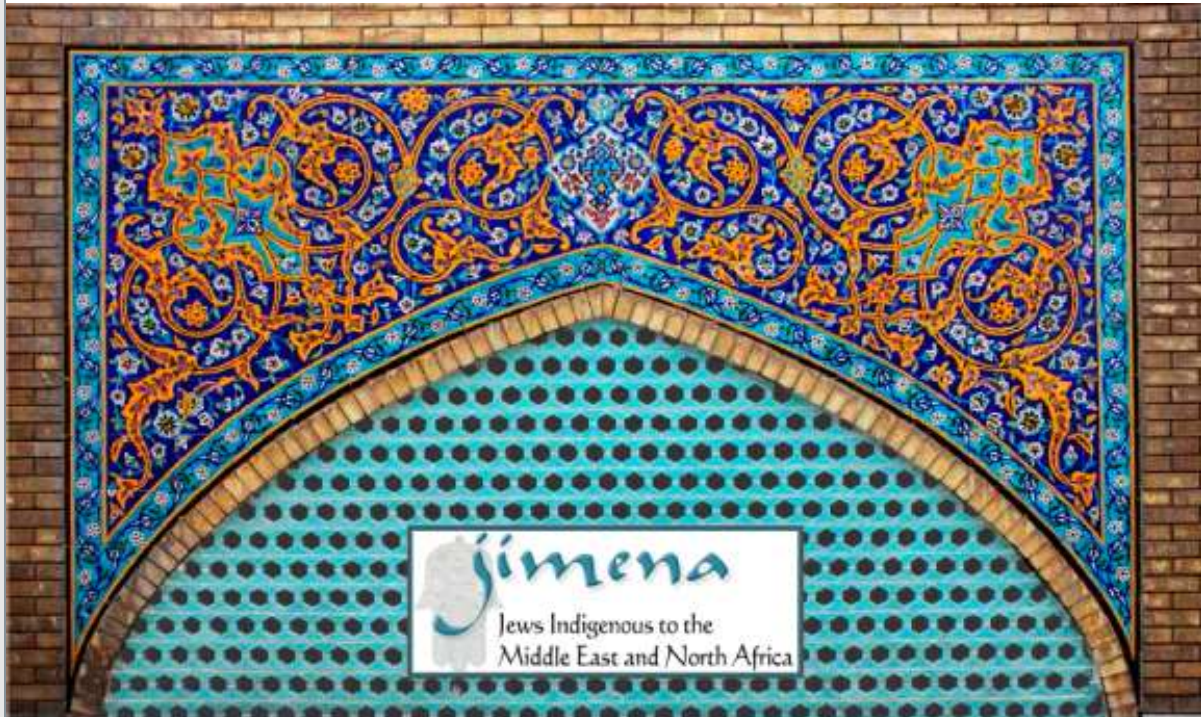
2) Add links to the primary sources in the "Antisemitism and Jewish Middle Eastern-Americans" lesson's definitions of antisemitism.

3) Include the seven-minute United States Holocaust Memorial Museum video, "[Antisemitism Today](#)" in the "Antisemitism and Middle Eastern Jewish Americans" lesson. This video provides succinct and compelling information on contemporary antisemitism, Islamophobia, and other forms of bigotry further enriching and reinforcing content in the Asian Studies section.

[SIGN PETITION TODAY](#)

Between now and January 1st each dollar contributed to JIMENA will be matched by a giving circle of Sephardic and Mizrahi donors in the San Francisco Bay Area. Double your gift today!

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JIMENA's mission is to achieve universal recognition of the heritage and history of the one million Jewish refugees from the Middle East and North Africa and their descendants. Our programs aim to ensure that the accurate history of Mizrahi and Sephardic Jews is incorporated into mainstream Jewish and Middle Eastern narratives in order to create balance in attitudes, narratives, and discourse about Middle Eastern refugees and the modern Jewish experience.