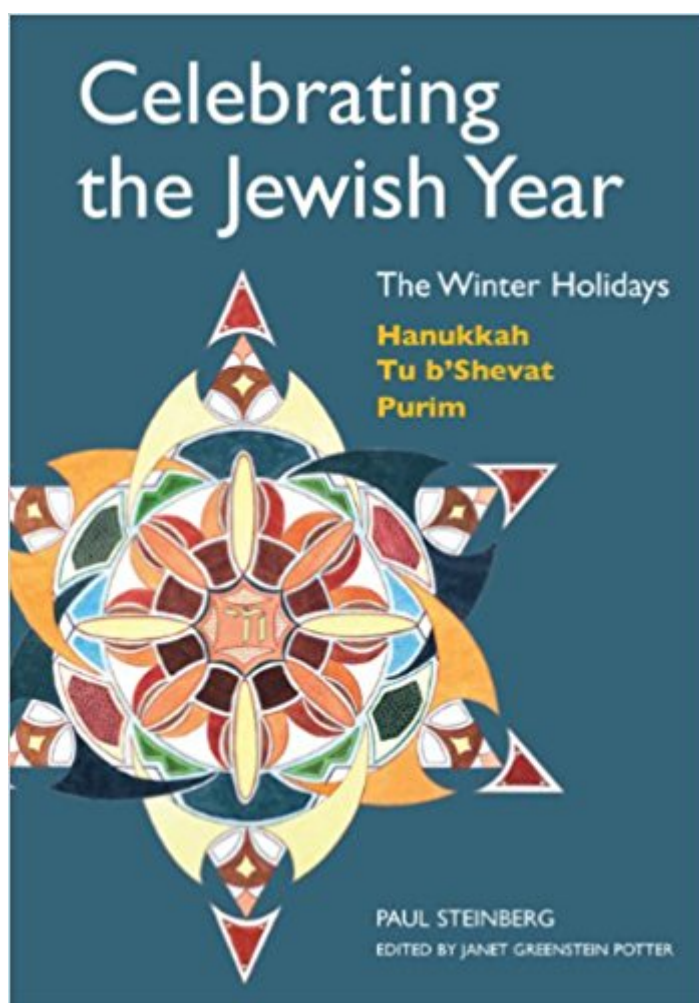


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# Celebrating The Jewish Year: The Winter Holidays: Hanukkah, Tu B'shevat, Purim



## Synopsis

Named a 2007 National Jewish Book Award Runner-Up in the category of Contemporary Jewish Life and Practice. JPS's new holiday books take us through the joys, spirit, and meaning of the seasons. Blending the old and the new, they ground us in the origins and traditions of each holiday and open up to us ways we can add our own expression to these special days. Although synagogue ritual is touched upon, the real focus here is on our personal connections to each holiday and our home observance. As we move from season to season, Paul Steinberg shares with us a rich collection of readings from many of the Jewish greats—Maimonides, Rashi, Nachmanides, Shlomo Carlebach, Marge Piercy, Elie Wiesel, Martin Buber, Abraham Joshua Heschel, Arthur Green, and others—and he guides us in discovering for ourselves the many treasures within each text. The readings teach us about the history of each holiday, as well as its theological, ethical, agricultural, and seasonal importance and interpretation; others give us inspiration and much food for thought. These stories, essays, poems, anecdotes, and rituals help us discover how deeply Jewish traditions are rooted in nature's yearly cycle, and how beautifully season and spirit are woven together throughout the Jewish year. The Fall Holidays: Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, and Sukkot is also available. The Spring and Summer Holidays: Passover, Shavuot, The Omer, and Tisha B'Av will follow in 2008.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"A superb addition to personal, family, school and community library Judaic Studies

reference collections, Celebrating the Jewish Year is very highly recommended and informative reading that will help the reader to create a memorable holiday experience for themselves and their loved ones that will be enhanced in both meaning and spirit. [Midwest Book Review \(Midwest Book Review\)](#) "This is the kind of book where a reviewer says every family should own one. All three volumes will make excellent contributions to the celebrations of our Jewish holidays. [Sybil Kaplan, National Jewish Post and Opinion](#) (Sybil Kaplan National Jewish Post and Opinion)

"A superb addition to personal, family, school, and community library Judaic Studies reference collections, Celebrating the Jewish Year is very highly recommended and informative reading that will help the reader to create a memorable holiday experience for themselves and their loved ones that will be enhanced in both meaning and spirit."

This has been very insightful in my studies and i'm very grateful to get it so quickly!! Thank you so much!

Who knew there were various seasons of celebrations for a variety of topics, how the Jewish nation thinks, creates and prospers.

Deftly edited by Janet Greenstein Potter, "Celebrating The Jewish Year: The Winter Holidays" by Rabbi Paul Steinberg (Director of Jewish Studies and Hebrew at the Levine Academy: A Solomon Schechter School in Dallas, Texas) focuses upon three Jewish sacred events: Hanukkah, Tu b'Shevat, and Purim. Drawing from an impressive roster of original sources ranging from Maimonides, to Nachman of Bratzlav, to Theodor Herzle, Rabbi Steinberg provides readers with histories and insights into these Judaic celebrations including the prayers, rituals, and stories associated with each of them. A superb addition to personal, family, school and community library Judaic Studies reference collections, "Celebrating The Jewish Year" is very highly recommended and informative reading that will help the reader to crate a memorable holiday experience for themselves and their loved ones that will be enhanced in both meaning and spirit.

This book is fabulous! It breaks down the holidays, discusses history as well as ritual.Great for someone who didn't have tremendous education growing up or for those explaining to non-Jews or children.

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