



## Holocaust Memorial Video Streaming Collection Film Guide

### **Movie: In the Shadow of the Acropolis – Time: 31' 20"**

#### **Theme - A Memoir of Survival**

#### **Summary**

The Greek Jews in this documentary represent a branch of Judaism which few have ever heard of – The Romaniotes, a two-thousand-year-old culture. The original Romaniotes were headed for Rome but ended up as a result of a shipwreck in Greece. Through original testimony by the Ackos Family, this memoir tells the compelling details of how this culture was almost wiped off of the map of civilization during World War II. It tells how the last descendants of the Romaniotes survived the Holocaust.

#### **Summary Questions:**

1. *How does Laura describe each member of the family in the opening photo?*
2. *How does Sam describe his 1940 family life?*
3. *Describe what was happening in Europe between 1930 to 1938.*
4. *Who were the Romaniote Jews and how did they come to live in Greece?*
5. *From where did the first Jews in Salonika come?*
6. *Describe how Salonika came under Nazi control. Include how the country was divided.*
7. *In 1941, the family went into hiding for the first time. Describe where, how and with whom the hiding took place.*
8. *How did the Nazis get the Jews out of hiding and what was the restriction they placed on them?*
9. *What happened to Menachem when he went to register at the synagogue?*
10. *Who was left to go into the second hiding in 1944 with Mrs. Sayanou?*
11. *At the end of the war how did Rosa find out what happened to her family?*
12. *In 1951, the survivors of the Ackos family came to America. Describe their new life.*

#### **Reflective Questions:**

1. *Describe the undercurrent of antisemitism in Athens, as told by members of the family.*
2. *Discuss how Menachem's planning demonstrated foresight in order to save the family.*
3. *How did the Athens community deal with the Nazi occupation and how did the Ackos members participate?*
4. *Describe the deportation that took place on March 25<sup>th</sup> 1944.*
5. *How did Sam feel when the Germans interrogated him about whether or not he was a Jew?*
6. *Discuss what Rosa must have felt when the war was over.*
7. *Discuss Laura Zelle's motivation to create this film?*

#### **STANDARDS:**

##### **Middle School**

**Subject:** Social Studies

**Strand:** SS.6.W: World History

**Standard 1:** SS.6.W.1: Utilize historical inquiry skills and analytical processes.

**Benchmark:** SS.6.W.1.3: Interpret primary and secondary sources



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**Benchmark:** SS.6.W.1.6: Describe how history transmits culture and heritage and provides models of human character

## **High School**

**Subject:** *Social Studies*

**Strand:** *SS.912.W: World History*

**Standard 1:** SS.912.W.1: Utilize historical inquiry skills and analytical processes.

**Benchmark:** SS.912.W.1.3: Interpret and evaluate primary and secondary sources

**Standard 7:** SS.912.W.7: Recognize significant causes, events, figures, and consequences of the Great War period

**Benchmark:** SS.912.W.7.8 – Explain the causes, events, and effects of the Holocaust (1933=1945) including its roots in the long tradition of antisemitism, 19<sup>th</sup> century ideas about race and nation, and Nazi dehumanization of the Jews and other victims.

**Subject:** *Social Studies*

**Strand:** *SS.912.S: Sociology*

**Standard 4:** SS.912.S.4: Social Groups/Explore the impact of social groups on individual and group behavior.

**Benchmark:** SS.912.S.4.9: Discuss how formal organizations influence behavior of their members.

**Benchmark:** SS.912.S.4.11: Discuss how humans interact in a variety of social settings.

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With special thanks to the Florida Department of Education

