

Shifra SHVARTS

The T.T.T. Project – Professor Moshe Prywes and the Health Promotion Campaign Among Jewish Immigrants in North Africa

The North African T.T.T. Project designed to eradicate primary contagious diseases among the Jewish community of North Africa, enabling North African Jews to immigrate to Israel in an improved health state. The ‘triple-T’ stood for T for tuberculosis, T for trachoma and T for tinea or ringworm. The T.T.T. Campaign constituted the main thrust and the crown achievement of preparations for the immigration of North African Jews to Israel in the first years after statehood.

Teams of doctors, nurses, public health professionals and social workers established scores of clinics and health centers that conducted check-ups and surveyed the student body in the Alliance Jewish school system and the Talmud Torahs operating in North African Jewish communities. Teams operated in every location within access. Even treatment and medical rehab camps were established. The young physician behind this endeavor was Dr. Moshe Prywes.

The paper will discuss the birth of the T.T.T. project and the role of Prof. Moshe Prywes in its first years of operation.

Ben Gurion University of the Negev
shvarts@bgu.ac.il