**Background Information**

**The Dream for a Jewish Home**

**World Zionist Congress:**

* 1. The World Zionist Congress was convened by Theodor Herzl to be the “Parliament of the Jewish People.” Throughout the first century of Modern Zionism, delegates were elected from countries around the world to represent their constituencies at the Congress, which remains the supreme governing body of the World Zionist Organization – an international agency for Zionism.
	2. These congresses are held generally every four years, where delegates elect people to senior positions in the World Zionist Organization and its partner, the Jewish Agency for Israel
	3. Part of what is at stake at each W.Z.C. is the distribution of world Jewry’s resources, since – in recent years – the WZO had joint authority over the annual budget of the Jewish Agency
	4. Monies are generally spent for two things: the absorption and resettlement of immigrants in Israel AND Jewish and Zionist education around the world
	5. The symbol of the First Congress.
	6. The First Zionist Congress is credited for the following achievements:
		1. The formulation of the Zionist platform (the [Basel Program](http://www.google.com/url?q=http%3A%2F%2Fen.wikipedia.org%2Fwiki%2FFirst_Zionist_Congress%23Congress&sa=D&sntz=1&usg=AFQjCNHOTmQ4Cj2GgxhrIYRgICbHGIz8PA))

Basel program states: "[Zionism](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zionism) seeks to establish a home for the [Jewish people](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jew) in [Palestine](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Palestine) secured under public law."

* + 1. The founding of the World Zionist Organization
		2. The adoption of [Hatikvah](http://www.google.com/url?q=http%3A%2F%2Fhatikvah&sa=D&sntz=1&usg=AFQjCNHRYhVnlk5pKKrGPlDCD0aGyMUTrQ) as its anthem
		3. The suggestion for the establishment of a people's bank
		4. The election of Herzl as President of the Zionist Organization and [Max Nordau](http://www.google.com/url?q=http%3A%2F%2Fnordau&sa=D&sntz=1&usg=AFQjCNEwmrOZaQa-qfz37Y3ZgxMqhygrgA) as one of three Vice-Presidents.