The opening ceremony of the 12th Asians Physics Olympiad took place in a beautiful sunny day at the ‘Eretz Israel’ Museum in northern Tel Aviv. After some mingling, and a lot of picture taking, the participants gathered at the conference hall of the museum. Some of the participants were dressed in formal wear, and others in traditional outfits – it was a truly beautiful gathering.

The ceremony was a colorful mixture of performances and speeches. Dr. Ofer Rimon from the Israeli ministry of Education, the head of the organizing committee of the Olympiad, said that he hopes this visit will give the participants a first taste of Israel and will encourage them to visit again. Prof. Ming Juey Lin, president of the Asian Physics Olympiad, said that for centuries Asian countries legged behind the west in sciences, but that today the situation has changed, a lot of effort has been made and it is wonderful to see that so many international Physics Olympiads winners come from Asian countries.

Prof. Dina Prialnik, vice rector of Tel Aviv University, a physicist herself, spoke about the passion physicist share for understanding how the world works, and gave a brief description of the university and its different programs.

Dr. Shimon Shoshany, Minister of Education’s CEO, spoke about the special meaning of the day, being the eve of the Israeli Holocaust Memorial Day, and mentioned the important Jewish scientists that were among those that perished in the holocaust.

At the end of the ceremony, the audience applauded as the participants went up on stage, team by team.

We wish the best of luck to all the participants and hope that you will have a great time in Israel.
**People You May Know**

**Albert Einsrein**
Look deep into nature, and then you will understand everything better

May 3 at 7:10am  Like · Comment · See Freindship

**Alexandra Vasilyeva ➤ Russia**
What is your first impression of the Olympiad?
I've been to many Olympiads, but this one is nicer! I know some of the people from my team — although we come from different schools we've met each other in various international Olympiads we've all participated in, such as the Olympiads in Russia, Kazakhstan and Belarus.
My first impression of the Olympiad is great. This is my first time is Israel, and I'm looking forward to meeting new people and to the exciting 10 days that await us.

about an hour ago · Like

**Huy Hong Quan Dinh ➤ Vietnam**
What are you looking forwards to during your visit?
This is my first visit to Israel, so far it seems very nice and our guide is nice and happy. I'm looking forward to having a good time; and especially to our visits to the Dead Sea, because it seems like a strange, interesting place, and to Jerusaleem, because it's such an old city with so much history.

about an hour ago · Like

**Yesterday's album**

**Sunday Pictures**
6 photos

**Sunday Pictures**
6 photos

**Sunday Pictures**
6 photos

**Sunday Pictures**
6 photos

**Sunday Pictures**
6 photos

**Sunday Pictures**
6 photos

**Sunday Pictures**
6 photos
Physics is merely a word, but as words go, it is one that can inspire an entire universe-worth of thought. Big things and ideas can come in small packages, and, as such, the Faculty of Exact Science of Tel Aviv University carries out its part through its internationally recognized teaching faculty and commendable research. Not so small, however, is the University’s Raymond and Beverly Sackler School of Astronomy and Physics, which, now run by Academic Head Professor Yaron Oz, holder of the Yuval Ne’eman Chair in Physics. The department has the largest population of undergrad and graduate students in Israel under its wing, a total of approximately 600 scientists-in-the-making.

Founded in 1963 by Yuval Ne’eman, the school is split into three departments—Astronomy and Astrophysics, Condensed Matter Physics, and Particle Physics. Apart from these units, various theory and experimental research groups—namely those in Applied physics, Bioinformatics and Quantum Information—keep the school busy with exciting and innovative investigation.

Where Particle Physics is concerned, the faculty maintains a research group that works directly with scientists in Geneva, dealing with data analysis and construction of the LHC, the Large Hydron Collider. As for Astronomy, the school operates Israel’s only astronomical observatory, the Wise Observatory, located near Mitzpe Ramon in the Negev.

And that’s not all, Six research institutes provide students with the opportunity to take Physics from the classroom and into the field, where academia meets the world beyond the laboratory.

The school’s programs are internationally recognized and with great appreciation and acclaim at that; graduates of Physics at Tel Aviv University tend to extend themselves... universally, one could say.

It clearly doesn’t take big names, such as Quantum Information’s Professor Aharonov, who is a supremely regarded and longstanding natural candidate for the Nobel Prize, to explain why Tel Aviv University’s School of Astronomy and Physics is proud to be science-smart as they are. The school’s aspirations have been met and continue to flourish well into the 21st century, and with stellar motivations and capacities, TAU’s Physics department is undeniably finding its place in the Universe.
If you were to put Israel under a microscope, you would surely discover a unique scientific phenomenon under the lens. A subject of intrigue so miniscule compared to its indubitably rich and complex contents, the Holy Land is home to one of Lonely Planet’s top 10 cities for 2011—the seaside metropolis of Tel Aviv-Jaffa.

Located on the sunny coast of the Mediterranean Sea, Tel Aviv-Jaffa as it is now called, includes both Tel Aviv, formally founded by 66 Jewish families living on its outskirts in 1909, and Jaffa, the ancient 4000 year-old city that lies to its south-west.

The stunningly beautiful Jaffa, whose stone buildings date back to the time of the Ottoman Empire is a veritable mish-mash of new and old, a timeless capsule of Middle-Eastern traditions and style that mingle with the new and constantly evolving world. Old Jaffa’s resident population is just as multi-faceted as the city’s eclectic choice of sights and activities. Home to Jews, Arabs, Muslims and Christians alike, Jaffa is as diverse and fascinating as its past. It has one of the world’s oldest ports, and its natural harbor has been used for import-export purposes since the Bronze Age. Currently the old city stands as a vibrant tourist attraction, quickly developing into a leisure spot specked with excellent restaurants, cafes, and a vivid cultural center that includes galleries, artists’ studios and small museums.

The city of Tel Aviv-Jaffa is constantly growing as it turns into an important point of international intrigue.

**Today’s Program**

**May 2, Monday**

### Students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08:00-08:30</td>
<td>Transportation to Jaffa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08:30-10:30</td>
<td>Guided tour. Old City of Jaffa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30-11:00</td>
<td>Refreshments break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00-12:00</td>
<td>Shopping. Jaffa Flea Market</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:15-12:30</td>
<td>Transportation to lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:00-14:00</td>
<td>Lunch Gordo Restaurant, TLV</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:00-16:00</td>
<td>Guided tour. “Neve Tzedek” &amp; old Train stat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16:00-16:45</td>
<td>Transportation to “Kfar Maccabiah” hotel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17:30-18:15</td>
<td>Social activity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18:30-19:15</td>
<td>Dinner “Kfar Maccabiah” hotel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19:30-20:30</td>
<td>Lecture: Dr. Oded Hod “the wonders of graj</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20:30-22:00</td>
<td>Lecture hall “Kfar Maccabiah” hotel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23:00</td>
<td>Social activity &amp; summation of day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Leaders, Observers and Visitors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:00-13:00</td>
<td>Discussion Crowne Plaza hotel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13:00-14:00</td>
<td>Lunch Crowne Plaza hotel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14:00-19:00</td>
<td>Continuation of discussion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19:00-20:00</td>
<td>Dinner Crowne Plaza Hotel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20:00-01:00</td>
<td>Continuation of translation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sentence of the day**

“EIN HAHAM KE BAAL NISAYON” This simple phrase states the wisest person is the most experienced one. Its source is in ‘Chazal’ which is the acronym for ‘our sages may their memory be blessed’. This emphasises the need to acquire knowledge through making and doing and not solely observing. About an hour ago.

**Featured**

- **Tuesdays Weather**
  - Sunny
  - Max. Day Temperature 25°C
  - Min. Night Temperature 17°C
  - UV Index 10 Very High