

Short BIO OF RABBI HANAN SCHLESINGER

Rabbi Hanan Schlesinger is one of the founders of Roots/Shorashim/Judur, The Palestinian Israeli Grassroots Initiative for Understanding, Nonviolence and Transformation and has served as its Director of International Relations from the very beginning. He also is the founder and a board member of the American Friends of Roots, a multi-faith organization dedicated to supporting the work of Roots/Shorashim/Judur. Rav Hanan frequently speaks in the USA together with one of his Palestinian partners about the inspiring work of Roots/Shorashim/Judur.

Prior to the founding of Roots, Rabbi Hanan spent his whole career teaching Jewish studies in various seminaries, colleges and frameworks in the Jerusalem area, among them the Pardes Institute, Beit Midrash Elul, Nishmat and Yeshivat Bat Ayin. He also spent two years as part of the Judaic Fellows Program in Boca Raton Florida and ten years in Dallas Texas, first as Rosh Kollel of the Community Kollel and later as founder and Executive Director and Community Rabbinic Scholar for the Jewish Studies Initiative of North Texas.

Rabbi Hanan recently completed a 600 hour, in-person training program from which he graduated as a certified practitioner of Radical Aliveness. The program, in which 10 Israeli Jews and 10 Palestinians met over the course of 3 years, dealt with navigating complexity on the personal, interpersonal, and systemic levels, working with conflict and powerful emotions to enable individual and relational healing, and harnessing the wisdom and transformative power of multiple perspectives.

He resides in Jerusalem and has four grown children and thirteen grandchildren.