



## OUR MISSION

Sephardi Mizrachi Voices Australia was founded with the aim of raising awareness of Sephardi and Mizrachi culture, tradition and history.

### **Background**

While Sephardi-Mizrachi presence in Australia dates back to the First Fleet, there is little meaningful representation of their stories in the mainstream Jewish community. Whilst no official statistics exist, Sydney scholar Dr Myer Samra estimates that the population of Sephardi-Mizrachi Jews in Australia is about 5000-6000.

### **Activities**

Today, SMVA works with Jewish day schools to include Sephardi and Mizrachi customs, traditions, history and liturgy into current curriculum. In addition, SMVA is working to create a digital record of SM history by recording the experiences of Jews from South East-Asia, the Middle East, North Africa and Iran who settled in Australia. Our filmed interviews document the fascinating history, rich culture and vibrant traditions of the communities our interviewees left behind. We hope our work allows the families of our interviewees to connect with their past, whilst simultaneously providing both researchers and members of the general public a window into the histories of these unique communities.

We are currently working on a website. For now you can contact the group; Elana Benjamin, Angela David, Miriam Ziegler and Lilach Weininger, through this email: [smvaust@gmail.com](mailto:smvaust@gmail.com)