

## [Shmuel Yosef Agnon](#)

### Shmuel Yosef Agnon



**Date of birth:** 07/17/1888 | **Date of death:** 07/02/1970

**Occupation or position:** Author

**Community:** [Buchach](#)

**Shmuel Yosef Agnon** (Hebrew: שמואל יוסף אגנון) was a Nobel Prize laureate writer and was one of the central figures of modern Hebrew fiction. In Hebrew, he is known by the acronym Shai Agnon (ש"י אגנון). In English, his name is published as S. Y. Agnon.

Agnon was born in Galicia, Austro-Hungarian Empire (today Ukraine). He later immigrated to the British Mandate of Palestine, and died in Jerusalem, Israel.

His works deal with the conflict between the traditional Jewish life and language and the modern world. They also attempt to recapture the fading traditions of the European *shtetl* (village). In a wider context, he also contributed to broadening the characteristic conception of the narrator's role in literature. Agnon shared the Nobel Prize with the poet Nelly Sachs in 1966.

**Image:** [Israel Government Press Office](#)

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