

**Professor Amotz Zahavi** (August 14, 1928 – May 12, 2017) was known to many as a founder of the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel and as a scientist who introduced to the world the Handicap Principle. His main work concerned the evolution of signals, animal communication, and social behavior. He worked in particular on the Arabian babbler, a long-lived and social bird with altruistic behavior. Zahavi is also credited with co-developing the information center hypothesis in 1973 with Peter Ward. Towards the end of his life he attempted to apply his signal selection theory (the handicap principle) at the molecular scale.

## Awards

In 1980, The Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel, Zahavi and two other colleagues, was awarded the **Israel Prize** for SPNI's special contribution to society and the State, for the environment.

In 2011, Zahavi received the **Fyssen Foundation's International Prize** for the evolution of social communication.[10]

In 2016, Zahavi received a prize for **lifetime achievement from the Israel Society of Ecology and Environmental Sciences**.

## Articles about Prof. Amotz Zahavi:

Clutton-Brock, T., & Ridley, A. (2017). Obituary: Amotz Zahavi 1928–2017. Behavioral Ecology, 28(5), 1195-1197. [PDF](#)

Meller, A. P. (2017). Amotz Zahavi (1928–2017). Ethology, 123(6-7), 493-494. [PDF](#)

Maklakov, A. A. (2017). Amotz Zahavi (1928–2017). Nature Ecology & Evolution [PDF](#)

Anderson, T. R. (2017). Amotz Zahavi, 1928–2017. The Auk, 135(1), 160-161. [PDF](#)

Lotem, A., Rothstein, S. I., & Yom-Tov, Y. (2017). Israel J Ecol & Evolution. [PDF](#)

[PDF](#). עודד קינן (2017) - אמוץ זחבי, חינוך שמירת טבע ומחקר כדרך חיים