

## Hausner, Gideon

(1915--1990), Israeli law expert who served as the chief prosecuting attorney in the riveting trial of senior SS officer Adolf Eichmann, which took place in Jerusalem, Israel in 1961.

Hausner was born in Lvov and reached Palestine in 1927. From 1960 to 1963 Hausner served as Israel's attorney general. It was during this term of office that he served as the chief prosecuting attorney in the Eichmann Trial. Many feel that his opening remarks constituted one of the high points of the trial. Based on the incredible volume of evidence presented to the court by Hausner, Eichmann was convicted and sentenced to death—the first time that Israel had ever invoked the death sentence.

Hausner served as a member of the *Knesset* (Israel's parliament) from 1965 to 1981, and from 1972 to 1974 he joined the cabinet as a minister without portfolio. After retiring from the *Knesset*, Hausner became the chairman of the World Council of Yad Vashem, and traveled all over Israel and to many other countries, lecturing on the Holocaust. He authored a book on the Eichmann trial called *Justice in Jerusalem*, which has since been translated into several languages