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Righteous Among the Nations

50 Years of Recognition and Renown (pp.2-3)

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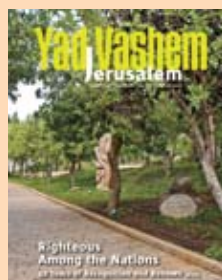
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*Avenue of the
Righteous Among the
Nations, Yad Vashem*

Righteous

Irena Steinfeldt



■ Foreign Minister Golda Meir at the dedication of
the Avenue of the Righteous Among the Nations, Yad
Vashem, 1 May 1962

■ On New Year's Eve 1942, members of the Dror underground movement in Vilna gathered in the apartment of Anton Schmid, an Austrian Wehrmacht sergeant who was secretly helping Jews in the ghetto. To express their gratitude to the soldier who was putting his own life at risk, they told him that after the war they would invite him to the Land of Israel and give him a golden Star of David. "I will wear it with pride," Schmid replied. Soon after, Schmid was caught and executed and most, if not all of the Jews at the meeting were murdered in the Holocaust. Nevertheless the promise to honor Schmid was fulfilled 22 years later, when Yad Vashem, on behalf of the Jewish people and the State of Israel, bestowed the title of Righteous Among the Nations on the Austrian rescuer.

When Yad Vashem was founded in 1953 by a law of the Knesset, included in the mission of the Remembrance Authority was paying tribute to the "Righteous Among the Nations who risked themselves to save Jews" during the Holocaust. Struggling with the enormity of the loss and grappling with the impact of total abandonment and betrayal by their neighbors, the Jewish people and the young State of Israel resolved to include these courageous non-Jews in the Israeli pantheon of heroes. This was the foundation of a unique program, an unprecedented attempt by the victims to pay tribute to those people within the nations of perpetrators, collaborators and bystanders

Among the Nations

50 Years of Recognition and Renown



■ Members of the Commission for the Designation of the Righteous Among the Nations at the President's Residence with (front, left to right) Head of the Commission Justice Jacob Türkel, Chairman of the Yad Vashem Council Rabbi Israel Meir Lau, President Shimon Peres and Yad Vashem Chairman Avner Shalev

■ On 4 September 2012, President of Israel Shimon Peres honored 50 years of activity of the Commission for the Designation of the Righteous Among the Nations. In a moving reception at the President's Residence, the President, Yad Vashem Chairman Avner Shalev, Chairman of the Yad Vashem Council Rabbi Israel Meir Lau and Commission Chairman Supreme

Court Justice (ret.) Jacob Türkel paid tribute to the Commission members and Department staff. Avner Shalev also gave the President a special memento – a copy of the testimony that Peres' father Yitzhak Perski presented to the Commission in 1965 regarding an English soldier named Charles Coward. Coward and Perski were held together in a German POW camp in Greece.

who had stood by their side at a time of horrific persecution and great tragedy.

In the years after the war, many survivors maintained a relationship with their rescuers. They sent parcels and money, invited them to come to Israel, and wrote to Israeli leaders and to Yad Vashem requesting to pay tribute to those who had selflessly saved their lives. The motivation behind this recognition was no doubt a sense of moral duty and enormous gratitude towards their rescuers, but it also responded to a deep need, so well expressed by Primo Levy when he spoke of Lorenzo Perrone, his rescuer in Auschwitz, who “constantly reminded me by his presence... that there still existed a just world outside our own, something and someone still pure and whole... for which it was worth surviving.” Survivors like Levy felt it was essential to emphasize that human beings were still capable of defending and maintaining human values. The program therefore commemorates not only the rescuers’

courage and humanity, but also constitutes a testament to the resilience of the survivors who, instead of sinking into bitterness and revenge, affirmed these human values. In a world where violence often breeds more violence, this is a unique and remarkable phenomenon.

Following the capture of Adolf Eichmann, Arie Kubovy, then Chairman of Yad Vashem, reported that requests had begun to pour in, asking to show the world “that the Jewish people were not only interested in bringing the perpetrators to justice, but also wished to pay tribute to the righteous persons.” Thus, on 1 May 1962, Holocaust Remembrance Day 5722, the Avenue of the Righteous was dedicated at Yad Vashem, and the first trees honoring the Righteous Among the Nations were planted. With Supreme Court Justice Moshe Landau as its chairman, the Commission for the Designation of the Righteous was established and charged with deciding who was worthy of the eminent distinction and establishing a fair and orderly process.



■ Meeting between Krystyna Kudiuk (left), granddaughter of Jan and Julia Lisieczynski, Righteous Among the Nations from Poland, and the granddaughter (center) of survivor Ben Zion Ribner (right), Yad Vashem, 30 June 2010

For the past five decades, thousands of requests in some 18 languages from all over the world have been researched by the Department of the Righteous and then presented to the Commission. The Commission members – mostly Holocaust survivors, all working voluntarily – invest many hours in the painstaking examination of the cases and in soul-searching deliberations before voting on the merit of each applicant. To date, over 24,300 men and women from 47 countries have been honored, representing a diverse group of people from all age groups, religious affiliations (all Christian denominations and Muslims) as well as agnostics, walks of life (highly educated people as well as illiterate peasants) and professions (university professors, teachers, physicians, clergy, nuns, diplomats, servants, resistance fighters, policemen, peasants, fishermen, a zoo director, a circus owner, and many more). Hundreds of new requests reach Yad Vashem every year. As time marches on, searching for evidence and piecing together the stories becomes more and more challenging, but the commitment of those dedicated to fulfilling this mission does not waver – maintaining the tremendous international renown that the title “Righteous Among the Nations” has gained since their vital mission began.

The author is Director of the Department for the Righteous Among the Nations.

■ During a visit to Yad Vashem on 4 September, Italian Education Minister and President of the National Research Council Francesco Profumo (left) joined Italian educators attending a teacher-training seminar at the International School for Holocaust Studies. The Minister was accompanied by 20 outstanding Italian high school students, who have written essays and completed educational projects related to the memory of the Holocaust.

The visit, during which Minister Profumo met with Yad Vashem Chairman Avner Shalev (right), International School Director Dorit Novak and other senior staff, was intended to strengthen the bilateral agreement signed last year by Education Minister Gideon Sa'ar, by which Italian teachers will be trained in Holocaust



education and a youth exchange program will take place between Israel and Italy.

Minister Profumo said he was personally committed to deepening and broadening Holocaust education in Italy. "The memory of what happened then is part of European civilization. It not only concerns the past, but also the present and the future."



■ During his three-day visit to Yad Vashem in July, the new Deputy Director of the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum Andrzej Kacorzyk (pictured) held meetings with various Yad Vashem staff members to discuss mutual cooperation and future plans between the two institutions.

Prayer During the Shoah: Ultra-Orthodox Educators' Conference

■ On the eve of Rosh Hashana 5701 (1940-1941), Haim Aharon Kaplan described in his diary hundreds of secret *minyanim* operating in Warsaw: "Public prayers are held, without omitting a single *piyut* [liturgical poem], not even the more difficult ones. Even the sermons and speeches are never missing – according to our ancient customs."

During the Holocaust period, Jews lived in a world of de-humanization, designed to strip away every spark of the Divine Image. Yet despite the efforts by the Germans to shatter every normal framework, despite hunger and death lurking in every corner, many Jews tried to live according to the commandments of the Torah as much as possible, and to pray – not only in private, but also as a *tzibbur*, a congregation.

This year, the Ultra-Orthodox Section of the International School for Holocaust Studies

chose to concentrate on prayer as the central theme of their Conference held on 23-25 July. Over 1,200 teachers and students from men's and women's educational frameworks attended the conference, which welcomed as its guests of honor Interior Minister Rabbi Eliyahu Yishai, Mayor of Beit Shemesh Rabbi Moshe Abutbul, Mayor of Beitar-Illit Rabbi Meir Rubinstein and heads of education divisions from various government agencies and local authorities.

On all three days of the conference, plenary sessions were followed by a series of didactic workshops expanding on the topic. Conference participants also toured the Holocaust History Museum, and viewed *Derekh Emunah* (The Path of Faith), a film telling the story of Rabbi Yitzchak Elhanan Gibraltar of Kovno, produced with the assistance of Israel's Ministry of Public Diplomacy.

Nava Weiss

The central lecture at the male educators' conference was delivered by the Chairman of the Yad Vashem Council and Chief Rabbi of Tel Aviv-Yafo, Rabbi Israel Meir Lau. On the other two days, the main address was given by Rabbi Sinai Adler, former Chief Rabbi of Ashdod.

Rabbi Lau reminded the audience that the power of prayer was a pillar of support to many Jews during the *Shoah*. "Because prayer provided them with a vocation, a calling in life... they had a plan, a reason to live," he explained. "A Jew is not a leaf carried by the wind, nor is he a lone tree in the desert – a Jew is part of a *minyan*, part of *Klal Yisrael*, together with all the other Jews in the block and the entire concentration camp."

The author is Head of the Ultra-Orthodox Section, International School for Holocaust Studies.



■ Participants in the conference for Ultra-Orthodox male educators tour the Holocaust History Museum



■ Interior Minister Rabbi Eliyahu Yishai addresses the recent conference for women in the Ultra-Orthodox educational framework

Hidden: Child Survivor's Story Now in German

Lauren Abecassis-Kandravy



■ Ehud Loeb (center, foreground) with his wife Shoshana (to his left), daughter Naomi Leshem (to his right), daughter, sons and grandchildren at the launch of the German-language version of *Hidden*

■ On 5 September, the German-language version of the book *Hidden* was launched at the International School for Holocaust Studies. The book, previously published in Hebrew and French, features the personal story of Holocaust survivor Dr. Ehud Loeb, beginning with his birth in southern Germany in 1934. In October 1940, six-year-old Loeb was deported along with all the Jews of his city and those from Baden and Saarpfalz to the Gurs concentration camp in southern France.

In 1941, Loeb was taken out of the camp by the French rescue organization Oeuvre de Secours aux Enfants (OSE). He was placed, among others, with a Catholic family, and began to attend school, where he learned French. After the war ended, the orphaned Loeb was invited to Switzerland to live with family members residing there who later adopted him as their child. In 1958, he immigrated to Israel. Today Loeb is a

dedicated volunteer at Yad Vashem, speaking to educators at the International School and working on the Commission for the Designation of the Righteous Among the Nations.

The original book was written by Naomi Morgenstern, and is geared for students aged 12 and up. In preparation for the German edition, Loeb worked tirelessly with staff at the German Desk of the International School's European Department, adding information to the story and providing previously unpublished family photos and documents to enhance the learner's experience. In addition, he inserted two of his own stories, *A Borrowed Shadow*, written in 1996, and *Three Fathers, Three Mothers* (1998), which explore how the adult Loeb has been dealing with his experience as a young child during the Holocaust.

Together with his daughter Naomi Leshem, a professional art photographer who contributed

the cover photo, Loeb joined Swiss seminar participants at the International School for the book launch. "Being surrounded by Swiss educators is especially meaningful for me as Switzerland became the country where, after the terrible events of the war, I found a new family and where I grew up," said Loeb. *Yad Vashem* has already begun distributing the book, and initial reactions have indicated that it will prove to be a valuable resource for educators teaching younger German-speaking students.

The author works in the European Department, International School for Holocaust Studies.



■ Ehud Loeb in his father's arms in front of their house in Bühl (Courtesy: Ehud Loeb)

New at the Virtual School: Online Courses on the Holocaust

Jonathan Clapsaddle

■ Since 2006, the International School for Holocaust Studies has been offering English-language online courses on Holocaust history, pedagogy and commemoration. The courses utilize materials from Yad Vashem's extensive archives and resources, providing the opportunity to broaden one's knowledge on the subject with the flexibility offered by online study. The courses are conducted entirely online – including submission of assignments, grading and evaluation – and registration for all courses is open at any time. Course titles include:

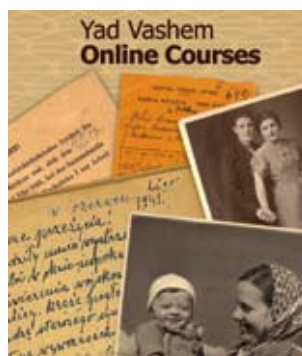
■ "Prewar Jewish Life" – examining the vibrant mosaic of Jewish life throughout Europe leading up to WWII – and thus the immense loss caused by the *Shoah*.

■ "Germany 1918-1943" – covering German Jewry in the prewar and Nazi period, and including the rise of the National Socialist Party, the establishment of the totalitarian state, anti-

Jewish policies and responses of German Jewry to racial persecution.

■ "Jewish Life in the Ghettos" – exploring the evolution of the ghettos, their function and their role within the "Final Solution." A special emphasis is placed on daily life inside the ghettos: the day-to-day struggles, dilemmas and acts of resistance in the face of diminishing living space and means.

■ "The 'Final Solution' of the Jewish Problem" – covering the steps in the establishment of the "Final Solution," and its execution in various countries. Through personal testimonies, Nazi



documentation, research and photographs, the course presents the evolution of the "Final Solution," the camp system and daily life in the camps.

■ "Commemoration and Remembrance" – focusing on Holocaust consciousness from the 1950s through the end of the 20th century. Particular attention is paid to the role of survivors in Holocaust awareness, as well as artistic representation of the Holocaust in the arts, Holocaust denial, and other related topics.

■ "Life Lessons: Bringing Holocaust History to Your Classroom" – designed specifically for teachers and educators, the course follows Yad Vashem's educational philosophy, providing chapters in Holocaust history alongside pedagogic tools applicable to the classroom.

For more information, please visit: www1.yadvashem.org/courses

The author heads the English Division of the Educational Technology Department, International School for Holocaust Studies.

Graduate Spotlight

Every year, the International School for Holocaust Studies holds hundreds of educational activities, in a dozen languages, for over 300,000 students and educators in Israel and around the world. Featured here is one of the School's graduates, and what she has achieved since:



Olena Zhadko Ukraine

Lauren Abecassis-Kandravy

■ As she began to teach the Holocaust to her students in the Dnepropetrovsk region of Ukraine, school principal Olena Zhadko found that what fascinated her most was the story of Jewish life in her region. Through internet-based research, Zhadko learned about the Ukrainian Holocaust Center – a partner of the International School for Holocaust Studies' European Department.

At the Holocaust Center, Zhadko attended professional development seminars in Ukraine, France and Poland, where she connected with many experts who broadened her scope of knowledge and provided her with a professional network of like-minded educators. But her most formative educational experience took place in 2007, when she traveled to Jerusalem to take part in a seminar for Russian-speaking educators. "At Yad Vashem I gained new pedagogical tools and techniques that I had never encountered before, especially with regards to their unique age-targeted approach," explains Zhadko. "As a consequence, for a number of years now I have been organizing school-wide programming for Holocaust Remembrance Day that is both age- and level-appropriate, and therefore much more effective."

Recently, Zhadko developed an educational unit for third- and fourth-graders, called "Ruined Childhood." The unit focuses on *Three Dolls*, the

educational resource booklet written by the International School's Dr. Irit Abramski and based on the Yad Vashem exhibit "No Child's Play." *Three Dolls* relates the experiences of three young girls and their dolls during the Holocaust,



■ *Yad Vashem Graduate Olena Zhadko*

emphasizing the role the dolls played for their young owners during a period of such great duress.

Zhadko's project is built in four stages: first the students read the Russian-language version of the booklet; then she leads a class discussion on the role of toys in their lives; and after that they are assigned homework on the topic. The final – and unique – aspect of the project is that the students are asked to bring in their own dolls, and tell the class about their history and other personal experiences they have gone through with them. "The concluding stage of the project generates incredible empathy among the children," says Zhadko. "In a natural, unthreatening atmosphere, the children begin to draw personal parallels to the girls in the



■ *Zhadko's class with their own dolls*

stories, and internalize the struggles they lived through during those dark times."

Claudine Schwartz-Rudel, whose story is featured in the booklet, was very gratified to learn that the tale of her and her doll "Collette" is being taught in Ukraine. "When I was a guide at Yad Vashem, I would tell young visitors about my doll, and it helped them understand my story," recalled Schwartz-Rudel. "I told that doll everything I was feeling, and when I was forced to change my name as we were fleeing, my doll's name changed too. Young people have an intuitive understanding of life-changing events such as these."

The author works in the European Department, International School for Holocaust Studies.

International Summer Seminar 2012 Stephanie McMahon-Kaye

■ From 1-19 July 2012, 41 teachers from across Europe, North America and South Africa came to Yad Vashem to participate in the annual International Summer Seminar for Educators in English. At the opening orientation, participants received CDs containing relevant information for the seminar, as well as source materials for the lecture on Holocaust denial given by Ephraim Kaye, Director of International Seminars for Educators at the International School for Holocaust Studies. For over three weeks, the visitors toured the country and heard talks by leading Israeli academics and historians on a wide variety of topics, including the



uniqueness of the Holocaust, and art and music during the *Shoah*. They also heard first-hand testimonies from Holocaust survivors, as well as lectures by Yad Vashem staff on the latest and most effective pedagogical tools for Holocaust education. Specialized lectures

on women in the Holocaust, the "Witnesses in Education" film testimony project and the Holocaust in film were also widely attended by participants.

"I was impressed with the wonderful diversity of this seminar," said Ben Ownes (USA). "All the lecturers were willing to hear every question we posed... while we came here thinking we knew a lot, what we received was way more than we ever expected. I will certainly bring this new knowledge and remarkable experience back to my students."

The author is Desk Head, International Seminars in English, International School for Holocaust Studies.

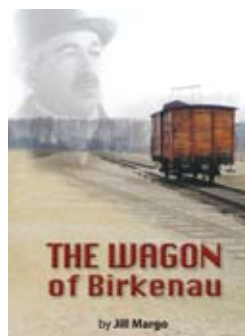
The Wagon of Birkenau

■ “Auschwitz-Birkenau was the epicentre of the Holocaust. In the middle of it there now stands a railway wagon. Inside this wagon there is a small, velvet bag.”

With these words, author Jill Margo artfully begins the moving story of Hugo Lowy, a Hungarian Jew who was captured in Budapest and sent to Auschwitz. For many decades his family tried to find out what happened to Hugo, until a random meeting, verging on the miraculous, finally unearthed the details for which they had waited so long.

The Wagon of Birkenau: A Story of Faith, Defiance and Sanctification reveals

what became of Hugo, as well as the emotional journey to place a wagon on the infamous ramp at the Birkenau death camp. The publication, produced by the International School for Holocaust Studies, was initiated by Hugo's youngest son Frank Lowy, a longtime supporter



and friend of Yad Vashem, who sought out and brought the wagon to Birkenau to memorialize his late father. Margo sweeps the reader through a breathtaking narrative, slowly revealing its fascinating details and captivating events.

The book also contains a guiding unit for groups visiting Birkenau. The unit enables guides to move from the general experience to that of an individual, turning the unique story of Hugo Lowy into a metaphor for hundreds of thousands of other Jews murdered in the Holocaust.

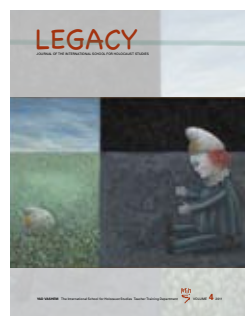
Legacy, Vol. 4: Holocaust-Related Jewish Art and Writing

Asaf Yedidya

■ The latest edition of the annual English-language periodical *Legacy* includes a selection of articles that appeared in recent editions of the Hebrew journal *Bishvil Hazikaron*, devoted to Jewish art and religious writing during and after the Holocaust.

The volume opens with an article by Director of the International Institute for Holocaust Research Dr. Bella Guterman, who presents a unique and multifaceted artistic corpus by Jewish women who were prisoners in the Ober-Hohenelbe labor camp in the Sudetenland. This historical treasure, given to Yad Vashem in 1973, includes poems in four languages as well as a rich collection of drawings. Art historian Dr. Miriam Rejner presents an array of works of art by Jewish artists from before and during the Holocaust period, raising pertinent questions

regarding the use of Jewish and universal symbols, images and memories from before the Holocaust to represent its horrors. Dr. Ari Bursztein, an educator and scholar of Jewish philosophy, discusses how two Jewish philosophers from North America – Irving Greenberg and Emil Fackenheim – dealt with the question of the meaning of the Holocaust. He notes that while they offer two different ways to relate to the issue, both ultimately ascribe a central role to the establishment of the State



of Israel. The academic articles in this issue conclude with a philosophical article by Prof. Moshe Halbertal, which was originally published in the Hebrew edition of *Legacy* marking the 50th anniversary of the Eichmann trial. Against the background of a public discourse that debated Eichmann's motivations and moral and legal responsibility for his crimes, Halbertal wrestles with the philosophical question of the essence of evil that Eichmann represents.

The issue concludes with “The Legacy of Education.” This regular feature attempts to offer diverse motivations for why Jews turned to writing poetry during the Holocaust – creations that express different ideas and target different audiences – as well as reviews of two new books.

The author is the Editorial Coordinator of Legacy.

Save the Date

Teaching the Holocaust at Memorial Sites: European Graduates' Seminar, 4-8 August 2013

■ The 21st century raises new challenges for educators; there are now fewer opportunities to meet survivors who can testify to the atrocities, and the events of the Holocaust are becoming historically remote. As a result, visiting Holocaust memorial sites has become ever more significant and vital to teaching about the *Shoah*.

Graduates of Yad Vashem European Department Seminars are invited to take part in a special seminar for graduates that will take place at the Grodzka Gate NN Theater Center in Lublin, Poland from 4-8 August 2013. The seminar will present and discuss Holocaust education as it relates to memorial sites, with visits to authentic sites

in the Lublin district, including Majdanek, Zamosc and Belzec.

Registration is open until 30 December 2012.

For further information, please contact:
yael.eaglstein@yadvashem.org.il

Discovering Family Worldwide

Deborah Berman

■ **Genealogists seeking information on Jews whose lives were impacted by the Holocaust often turn to Yad Vashem's Central Database of Shoah Victims' Names.** Nancy Diamond, of Washington DC, used the Names Database as her starting point on a global trek, piecing together fragmented information about her family that had become obscured in the aftermath of the *Shoah*. For Diamond the search became a life-altering endeavor, as she found



■ Nancy Diamond (right) with her newly found cousin, Nicole Bricianer Caminade, Paris, 2012

not only interesting facts about the past, but also living relatives in various cities around the world with whom she has now developed close relationships.

“Five years ago, my paternal family name was still a mystery and my mother’s family appeared to be unsearchable,” explains Diamond. However, her first search of the Names Database in 2008 revealed her original paternal family name, Dashut; six family members who were Holocaust victims; and a living cousin, an elderly Israeli named Avshalom Dayagi (Dashut) who has since passed away. The reunited families visited Yad Vashem in 2008 and have maintained contact since then, helping Diamond to meet paternal cousins in Israel and Austria. Diamond has also found cousins in California, Colorado, Arizona and Argentina, growing her paternal family tree by some 200 people.

Diamond’s success in finding relatives from her father’s side motivated her to turn her attention to her maternal line. “By 2010, I was ready to work on my mother’s tree from

Romania and once again, Yad Vashem’s Name Database was key to my research,” explains Diamond. “After reading US censuses and ship records, I discovered that my maternal great-grandmother was Ernestine Schwartz (née Bricianer) from Botoșani rather than Esther Schwartz from Bucharest. Once more, I turned to the Database to find the most likely spelling of her maiden name, Britschaner, prior to WWII. This led me to two French relatives, Joseph and Lisa Bricianer, born in Botoșani and killed in Auschwitz.” Diamond soon discovered Nicole Bricianer Caminade, a Parisian cousin who happens to be a Yad Vashem volunteer. In May 2012, they met in Paris and found that they share many common interests. “With help from Nicole and other recently discovered relatives in the US, France and one American relative living in Belgium, we built our Bricianer family tree and expanded our knowledge of family lore,” Diamond recounts. “Seeing old pictures of my great-grandparents and cousins for the first time was an incredible experience.”

One of the highlights of Diamond’s research was a visit in May to her ancestors’ native town of Botoșani, Romania, where she found relatives on her mother’s side. “One Friday night, I found myself among a tiny minyan of aging men praying in the Great Synagogue of Botoșani – the only remaining synagogue of more than 70 that existed prior to WWII. I leafed through prayer books that were over 120 years old, placing them in the same era as when my maternal great-grandparents, Solomon and Ernestine Schwartz, and my grandmother, when she was younger, lived in this town.”

Diamond’s “global quest to understand my family’s story and myself,” continues, and she is keen to give credit to one of the main resources that has contributed to her newly enriched life. “The Names Database is a vital resource for those looking to learn more about their family trees. In my case, two original family names were lost for many years, and so I never knew my own cousins. The links within my family weakened over time, particularly for the branches like mine that lived far away from others. Now we know which relatives were lost in the *Shoah*, and we can share that loss – as well as our many joyous occasions – together.”

Two Portraits

■ **Chaim Uryson was born in Slonim, Poland in 1905.** When he was three years old, his family moved to Lodz. In primary school, his teachers already noted Chaim’s special affinity for drawing and music, and Mauricio Trembacz, the lauded Jewish artist, became his mentor. In 1919, the “redhead with the beautiful eyes” joined the Yavne Gymnasium, where Zionism reigned supreme and most subjects were taught in Hebrew. In 1925, Uryson traveled to Paris and enrolled in the Art Department at the Académie de la Grande Chaumière. To appease his parents, who were unsettled by his choice of a career in art, he also registered at the Department of French Literature.

Six years later, Chaim returned to Lodz. Visiting an orphanage at Helenówek in the city suburbs, he delighted the children by drawing their portraits – while a young girl named Neomi watched from the side. A friendship soon developed between the two, and when Neomi moved to Warsaw, Uryson followed her. They married soon afterwards. Five years later, Neomi found work in Vilna. In the bustling city, Uryson joined a circle of Jewish avant-garde artists called Yung Vilne. His artworks were highly successful, and his 1938 exhibition earned critical acclaim.

The Urysons spent their 1939 summer vacation with Neomi’s parents in the village of Mielnica, on the Dniester riverside. In that pastoral and still peaceful setting, Chaim continued to paint. But when the couple returned to their hometown of Częstochowa, the real state of affairs became clear, and in early September, they fled to Borszczow in eastern Poland. In the spring of 1941, they received a heart-rending letter from Chaim’s widowed mother in Białystok: her health was deteriorating and her only wish was to see her dear son one last time. “On Friday 20 July 1941, my father and I put Chaim on the train to Białystok,” recalled Neomi. “I never saw him again.”

According to testimony given by the artist Yitzchak Tzelinker, Uryson was murdered during an *aktion* in the Białystok ghetto in August 1943. Before his death, Chaim told Tzelinker that he had left his wife a large stock of artworks in Poland. Neomi, who had stayed on the Soviet side of the border in fear, yearning and loneliness, returned to Poland in 1946. “I needed to get to Częstochowa, to find the heart and soul of Chaim’s life,” related Neomi. “We got the keys and went up to the attic,

Portraits Reunited At Last

Yehudit Shendar



■ Chaim Uryson (1905-1943), **Portrait of Neomi Uryson, the artist's wife**, Vilna, 1936-1938, Watercolor on paper



■ Chaim Uryson (1905-1943), **Self-portrait**, Oil on canvas (Both portraits: Collection of the Yad Vashem Art Museum, Jerusalem. Gift of Ariel Pokotinski, Herzliya)

where Chaim's paintings had been hidden for seven years. The works were frameless, damaged and scattered all over the place. I was terribly shaken... My friend Shimon [Quarnit] went to the city and brought back a large chest for the treasure I had found – a treasure more precious to me than anything.”

Some years later, Neomi and her new husband Shimon immigrated to Israel. In April 1961, the first exhibition of Uryson's rescued artworks was held at Beit Sokolov. In 1984, Neomi Uryson-Quarnit donated seven of Chaim Uryson's paintings to the Yad Vashem art collection. But the journeys of Uryson's artworks did not end there.

A teacher by profession, Neomi grew very attached to one of her students, Haim Tsoref, whose family became the children and grandchildren she never had. In gratitude, Neomi presented Tsoref

with a large collection of graphics and watercolors by her first husband. In May 2011, Tsoref and his wife attended a collection day held by Yad Vashem in Rehovot as part of the “Gathering the Fragments” project. Tsoref brought with him over 40 of Uryson's works. To the Yad Vashem staff, he explained his indebtedness to Neomi, and his resulting decision to place the artworks in the care and safekeeping of Yad Vashem.

Coincidentally, more of Uryson's works were on their way to Yad Vashem. In her old age, Neomi had been cared for by a relative, Orit Silberstein, to whom she also presented some of her first husband's artworks. These pieces, mostly oil portraits and watercolor landscapes, remained in Silberstein's home for almost 20 years. Just a few months after his mother passed away, Ariel Pkotinsky learned about the “Gathering the Fragments” project, and with the help of

his friend Ron Bartosh, contacted Yad Vashem. When the project team arrived at Pkotinsky's home, they were amazed to discover eleven of Uryson's works, mostly portraits of his family members and close friends, including of Chaim himself and his beloved Neomi.

Thus, many years after the paintings came to life under the artist's brush, Chaim Uryson and his devoted partner Neomi have unexpectedly been reunited. Both their portraits form part of the same collection at Yad Vashem and are displayed exactly where they should be – at the Yad Vashem Museum of Holocaust Art.

The “Gathering the Fragments” campaign continues. Yad Vashem calls on the public to donate Holocaust-related personal items so they may be preserved for generations to come. For more information, please call (in Israel): 1-800-25-7777.

The author is Senior Art Curator and Deputy Director, Museums Division.

Theology in the Shadow of

■ When Czech researcher and Holocaust survivor Prof. Tomas Radil began singing the melody that he and his friends used to hum as children at the Auschwitz concentration camp, there was complete silence in the International Institute for Holocaust Research's lecture auditorium at Yad Vashem. Prof. Radil was in the midst of analyzing the development of religious thinking among the youth growing up in Auschwitz. His words – and his rendition – undoubtedly provided one of the major highlights of the Research Institute's fifth summer workshop, "Theological Contemplations and Debates vis-à-vis the Holocaust in Real Time," held this July.

The workshop touched upon the ranges of opinion and knowledge in this fascinating field of research: how religious Jews and Christians witnessing the Holocaust coped with the theological implications of the mind-boggling events surrounding them. Some 15 presenters and a similar number of other participants from a dozen countries exposed a wide variety of theological stances taken by Jewish thinkers of diverse persuasions, as well as by different Christian churches and denominations in various countries.

One of the workshop participants, Prof. Gershon Greenberg, pointed out that despite the differences between Jewish and Christian theologies, during the Holocaust they had one topic in common – the motif of suffering and redemption. According to a definition by the renowned Religious Science scholar



■ Jewish refugees deported from surrounding towns engaged in Torah study, Warsaw, Poland, 1939-40

News from the Research Institute

EHRI Researchers to Study Perpetrators, Bystanders

■ This fall, two fellows from the new EHRI (European Holocaust Research Infrastructure) program will be in tenure at Yad Vashem: Kimberly Partee-Allar and Istvan Pal Adam. The researchers are benefitting from the commitment of the European-wide Holocaust research project to provide grants to scholars conducting investigations at leading archives in Europe, as well as at Yad Vashem.

Partee-Allar is conducting research for her PhD, "Lessons in Terror and Death:

Comparative Studies in the Training of Holocaust Perpetrators," at Clark University, Massachusetts. Her dissertation analyzes the recruitment and training of Nazi concentration camp guards from 1933-1945. By examining three camps where distinctive groups of perpetrators were trained (Dachau, Ravensbrück and Trawniki), this research explores a crucial stage in the careers of the perpetrators, and provides pertinent commentary on the emotional and social basis of the Nazi genocide.

Pal Adam is working on his PhD at the University of Bristol on "Bystanders to Genocide? The Role of Building Managers in the Hungarian Holocaust." His research draws on unique material collected in the immediate aftermath of WWII: questionnaires filled out by janitors, denunciations filed against them, and many sworn testimonies of the buildings' inhabitants.

The EHRI program is supported by the European Union, and Yad Vashem is one of the program's leading partners.

the Holocaust



Summer Workshop at the Research Institute

At the heart of Judaism's inner argument and discussion is the ongoing attempt to understand the meaning of the Jewish people's existence and the tension between destruction and hope, suffering and faith. This realization is clearly of particular relevance to the questions of Holocaust and redemption

Prof. Zvi Werblowsky (the Hebrew University of Jerusalem), Jewish theology is essentially different from Christianity. The former, he claimed, is the product of ongoing argument and discussion, free of an inflexible dogmatic system. At the heart of Judaism's inner argument and discussion is the ongoing attempt to understand the meaning of the Jewish people's existence and the tension between destruction and hope, suffering and faith – all of which explains the immense influence of history upon Jewish theology. This realization is clearly of particular

relevance to the questions of Holocaust and redemption.

Lectures delivered by Dr. Isaac Hershkowitz, Dr. Assaf Yedidya, Esther Farbstein, Dr. Chaim Shalem and Prof. Yehuda Bauer (all from Israel) in this context raised an intellectual storm that enveloped the entire audience. On a different note, Dr. Alexandre Guilherme (UK) analyzed the exchange of letters between Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Buber, revealing Gandhi's failure to understand

the Nazis' relentless pursuit against the Jews.

Extensive interest was raised by the theological doctrine presented by Israel Prize Laureate Prof. David Weiss-Halivni, a Holocaust survivor from Hungary and one of the greatest Talmud researchers of our time. Prof. Weiss-Halivni spoke of the need felt by a believing survivor to come to terms with the Holocaust, and the difficulties this presents.

The position of the Romanian Orthodox church, antisemitic in its very core, was explained by doctoral student Ion Popa (UK/Romania). Other scholars presented various aspects and viewpoints of the Catholic theology. Dr. Graciela Ben-Dror (Israel) compared Church texts that were revised by the Bishop of Argentina in order to bring them – as well as himself – into correlation with the political and social reality, as well as the prevailing attitude towards Fascism. Analyzing



■ Three Jewish thinkers featured during the workshop: Rabbi Issachar Shlomo Teichthal (1885-1945), founder of the Yeshiva, Piestany, Czechoslovakia
Rabbi Kalonymus Kalman Shapira, Grand Rabbi of Piaseczno, Poland (1889-1943)
Ka-Tzetnik (Yehiel Dinur) (1909-2001), Jewish writer and Holocaust survivor

the official Vatican press, Dr. Tommaso Dell'Era (Italy) showed how the Vatican, while denouncing Nazi racism, simultaneously developed a racist-tinted philosophy of itself in parallel (though not identical) terms, mainly to avoid losing any of its audience of believers.

In her concluding lecture, Yad Vashem's Chief Historian Prof. Dina Porat related to the definition given by Prof. Dan Michman, Head of the Research Institute and Incumbent of the John Najmann Chair of Holocaust Studies, whereby theology does not explain religion but rather life itself: "Theology is a methodical way of thinking about religion, faith, opinions and philosophies about the past and the future, the nature of human beings, and the basis of certain principles of faith," said Prof. Porat. "This leads us to conclude that theology relates to every layer and aspect of life."

Claims Conference Workshop Hosted at Yad Vashem

■ In July, the International Institute for Holocaust Research hosted the Claims Conference Saul Kagan Fellowship in Advanced Shoah Studies' annual five-day workshop. The Kagan Fellows, doctoral students from Germany, Hungary, Ukraine, Poland, Romania, the Netherlands, Israel, Canada and the US, utilized newly uncovered archival material to present thought-provoking topics. For example: Yuri Radchenko of Ukraine accessed former KGB records in his research into the extermination of Ukrainian Jewry; Ion Popa of Romania was the first person ever to handle documents from the Romanian Orthodox Church, aiding his

studies in the historical development of and core reasons for Holocaust denial in Romania; and Ella Florsheim of Israel spoke about her research into Yiddish writers in the DP camps.

Fellows were able to gain broader perspectives on their topics, as well as on Holocaust research and historiography, from the valuable feedback and discussions moderated by world-renowned scholars in Holocaust history. Contributions from peers and professors alike not only enhanced this academically rewarding experience, but also encouraged greater expansion of and progress towards the presenters' dissertations. Furthermore, the broad scope of networking

opportunities continues to provide fellows with access to other research and teaching opportunities.



Sporting Legends and Heroes



■ Dutch artist Bob Denneboom was born in Amsterdam in December 1909. In addition to his talent for painting, Denneboom dove competitively, winning many prizes and becoming the Netherlands' national champion.

During the war, Denneboom went into hiding at his weekend cottage in Egmond-Binnen. When the coastal region was evacuated, Denneboom abandoned his hiding place and on 1 January 1943, went to live with his close friend and gymnastics teacher Jan Kasper Klein. Klein gradually took in Denneboom's entire family, hiding a total of 19 Jews in his house. On

28 May 1974, Yad Vashem recognized Jan Kasper Klein as Righteous Among the Nations.

Denneboom and Klein's incredible rescue story is featured in two separate online exhibitions recently produced on Yad Vashem's website. "With so much attention and interest being paid to the Olympic Games over the summer, we decided to create two new exhibitions dedicated to Jewish sportsmen and women before the Holocaust, as well as Righteous Among the Nations who engaged in sporting activities," explained Director of the Internet Department, Dana Porath. "This is part of our ongoing efforts to help make Holocaust remembrance relevant

to the diverse visitors to our website, as well as our followers on Yad Vashem's social media platforms." Yad Vashem's Internet team even posted photos and stories daily on Facebook and Twitter that related to the sports being played at the Olympics that particular day.

Below are some of the pictures and stories featured in the exhibitions: readers are invited to enter the user-friendly sites to learn and view more.



■ Bob Denneboom diving, 1930s

"The Game of Their Lives"

■ This online exhibition features stories of Righteous Among the Nations who devoted their lives to sports as athletes, coaches, teachers or writers. These courageous men and women, who risked their lives to save Jews during the Holocaust, embodied the Olympic spirit by dedicating their lives to "social responsibility and respect for universal fundamental ethical principles" (from the Olympic Charter). Related resources – artwork, documents, photographs and more – add further dimensions to these fascinating stories.

Béla Stollár, Sports Reporter

■ Béla Stollár was a sports reporter for *Nemzeti Sport* (National Sport), Hungary's main sports newspaper. He specialized in swimming and boxing events. In the 1930s, Stollár had several Jewish friends.

In 1943, Stollár was drafted to the Hungarian army. An accomplished stenographer, he was assigned to work in the Headquarters of the Ministry of Defense. There he was able to obtain various blank official forms, stamps and signets. In 1944, he made use of these items to save Jews, including Éva Deák, her parents, brother and cousin. Stollár also formed an armed resistance group that fought against the German invaders,

as well as the Fascist Hungarian Arrow Cross forces. He obtained forged documents, forged military orders, and provided food and arms for the members of the group who were either escaped Jewish forced laborers or deserters from



■ Béla Stollár and Éva Deák, 1942

"Jews and Sport Before the Holocaust: A Visual Retrospective"

■ **Jewish life before the Holocaust flourished with creativity and culture, religion and tradition, social life and politics.** This exhibition gives visual expression to one facet of what was a very diverse Jewish culture: Jews who engaged in sports. From all over Europe, Jewish men and women took part in and competed in many different types of sporting activities, including athletics, boxing, cycling, football, gymnastics, rowing and tennis. Many of the individuals in these photos were murdered during the Holocaust. When available, links have been provided to Pages of Testimony submitted in their memory.



■ *Girls rowing on the Sola River, Oswiecim, Poland, 1933. Right: Chava Dochleuter; left: Gezela Band. Both girls were murdered during the Holocaust. (Yad Vashem Photo Archive)*

■ Based on a Page of Testimony submitted by her cousin, Gezela Band was born in Oswiecim, Poland in 1914 to Mendel and Helena. During

the war she lived in Tarnow, Poland. She was murdered in 1944 in Tarnow at the age of 30. Chava Dochleuter (née Akerman) was a member of WIZO. She was murdered during a deportation. The photograph was submitted to Yad Vashem by Chava's son.



■ *Maccabi group from Vilna and Kispesti group from Budapest, Vilna, Poland, 1937. (Yad Vashem Photo Archive: Courtesy Central Historic Museum in Estonia)*

■ This photograph is taken from those found in the pockets of murdered Jews in the Klooga camp after liberation. The largest labor camp in Estonia, Klooga was established in the summer of 1943. Most of the prisoners were brought there from the Vilna ghetto in August-September 1943. On 19 September 1944, days before the Red Army liberated the camp, the Germans and

their Estonian collaborators murdered over 2,000 Jews in the forests near the camp. They tried to conceal the murder, but did not manage to completely burn most of the bodies.



■ *Attila Petschauer fencing in competition, Amsterdam, 1928. (Yad Vashem Photo Archive)*

■ Attila Petschauer was born in Budapest, Hungary in 1904. He was an Olympic fencer and won the team gold medal and a personal silver medal in the 1928 Amsterdam Olympic Games, and the team gold medal in the 1932 Los Angeles Olympic Games. In 1943, Petschauer was murdered in a concentration camp by a camp officer who had previously been his teammate in the Olympics. His story inspired István Szabó's film *Sunshine*.

the Hungarian army. Stollár was killed on 25 December 1944 after his group was informed upon and raided by Arrow Cross militia.

Maria Helena Friedlander, Gymnastics Teacher

■ Paul Citroën, a well-known Dutch painter and art teacher, was friendly with Henri Friedlander. Friedlander, also Jewish, had been born in France and was working in Holland as a typographer and graphic designer. In 1940 Friedlander married Maria Helena Bruhn, a German gymnastics teacher who had been living in Holland since 1931. The civil marriage

was not recognized according to the racist Nuremberg Laws.

On 28 August 1942, Citroën was warned by a policeman that he was due to be arrested. He fled to Maria's house in Wassenaar, southern Holland, where she hid him in the attic for some six months. Her husband had gone into hiding, but after two months he returned to his wife, and was hidden by her in the yard of their home until the end of the war.

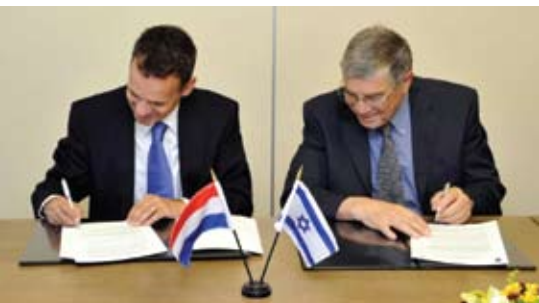
To avoid drawing the attention of the German authorities to her home, Maria pretended to be a Nazi sympathizer and gave gymnastics lessons to German women in her house. With her income she managed to provide for her



■ *Maria Helena Friedlander (Bruhn) with her husband Henri Friedlander at their house at Wassenaar before the war*

husband and other fugitives hidden in her home, among them Citroën, the Resistance worker Paul Guermontprez, and his Jewish wife, Trude Jalowetz. After the war, the Friedlanders immigrated to Israel.

Dutch to Contribute to Digitization of Righteous Material



■ On 27 August 2012, Vashem Chairman Avner Shalev (right) and Ambassador H.E. Mr. Caspar Veldkamp (left) of the Netherlands signed an agreement whereby the Dutch government will support the scanning of the files concerning the Dutch Righteous Among the Nations. "Providing easier access for researchers, filmmakers, students and anyone else interested in learning about these extraordinary men and women, the digitization

process is a key aspect in commemorating the choices these individuals made not to be bystanders," said Shalev.

Currently, over 5,200 rescuers from the Netherlands have been recognized as Righteous Among the Nations. The database of Dutch Righteous is now available on the Yad Vashem website (www.yadvashem.org), along with those from the Baltic States and from the Former Soviet Union.

Yad Vashem, Then and Now: Calendar 5773 (2012-2013)



■ Yad Vashem's calendar for 5773 (2012-2013) presents a visual retrospective of the Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority throughout the years: a tribute to six decades of dynamic growth and development. Historical photographs of years past are depicted alongside contemporary images, portraying the physical, cultural and conceptual developments that have taken place on the Mount of Remembrance. As Yad

Vashem marks the beginning of its landmark 60th anniversary year, the calendar offers the opportunity to reflect upon the fundamental milestones that have been reached and the myriad changes that have transformed Holocaust remembrance and education.

Produced with the generous support of Lee Liberman of Melbourne, Australia, this distinctive calendar is now available at Yad Vashem's Book and Resource Center.

News from the Archives Two New Collections: Lithuanian Children in Hiding and the DP Camp at Bergen-Belsen

Lital Beer

■ This July, Dr. Shalom Eilati presented the Yad Vashem Archives with a collection of summaries and questionnaires documenting the stories of 165 Jewish children who were in hiding in Lithuania during the Holocaust.

The collection is the product of the dedicated work carried out by a group of volunteers over a number of years. The initiative originated at the Haifa branch of the Association of Lithuanian Jews in Israel, and was bolstered at a conference held in April 2000, in which some 400 people took part. The resulting collection comprises testimonies from survivors who now live both in Israel and abroad. It complements the video testimonies given by some of the child survivors and submitted to Yad Vashem by Dr. Elik Peretz in 2011. Both Dr. Peretz and Dr. Eilati lived in Kovno as children, and escaped the ghetto in the same boat in 1944 – later finding shelter in different places. In due course, both found themselves collecting data on "children in hiding" like themselves, who

were saved in Lithuania thanks to the noble spirit of the courageous few. The complete collection contains a wealth of information – both on the children's experiences and about their rescuers. The new collection joins some 110,000 testimonies currently held at Yad Vashem – including those collected by Yad Vashem and other accounts gathered by various organizations and individuals in Israel and abroad.

Also in July, Yad Vashem received the personal archives of the late Rachel and Rafael Olewski, which describe the Bergen-Belsen Displaced Persons Camp and the activities of the *She'erit Hapleitah* (Surviving Remnants) Bergen-Belsen Organization in Israel. The collection was presented to Yad Vashem by their children, Jochevet (Jochi) Ritz-Olewski and Arie Olewski.

Rafael Olewski was born in 1914 in Osigęciny, Poland. During the Holocaust, he managed to survive the Buna-Monowitz,

Auschwitz and Bergen-Belsen camps. Upon liberation, he became a prominent activist in reviving the public and cultural life of the *She'erit Hapleitah* in Germany. After his immigration to Israel, Olewski dedicated his life to Holocaust commemoration. Rachel Olewski (née Zelmanowicz) was born in 1921 in Bendin, Poland. During the Holocaust she played the mandolin in the women's orchestra at Auschwitz. After liberation from Bergen-Belsen, she worked alongside her husband rehabilitating the *She'erit Hapleitah*.

The Olewski collection complements other archival materials held at Yad Vashem documenting the DP Camp in the British Occupation Zone of Germany: the Joseph Rosensaft Bergen-Belsen Archive and the personal archives of Rabbi Dr. Zvi Asaria-Hermann Helfgott.

The author is Head of the "Gathering the Fragments" Project in the Archives Division.

RECENT VISITS TO YAD VASHEM

During July–September 2012, Yad Vashem conducted over 173 guided tours for more than 2,300 official visitors from Israel and abroad. These guests included heads of government and ambassadors, military leaders, NGO representatives and media personalities. Following is a small selection of our honored guests over the summer months:

■ **President of the European Commission José Manuel Barroso** toured the Holocaust History Museum on 9 July. After participating in a memorial ceremony and visiting the Children's Memorial, President Barroso met with Yad Vashem Chairman Avner Shalev.



■ **Prime Minister of Tonga Lord Tu'ivankano** visited Yad Vashem on 7 August.



■ **Angolan Foreign Minister Dr. Georges Rebelo Chikoti** (center) was guided through the Holocaust History Museum on 31 July by Director of the Yad Vashem Libraries Dr. Robert Rozett (right).



■ On 9 September, **US Ambassador to Israel H.E. Mr. Dan Shapiro** (left) accompanied 60 embassy employees and their families on a moving tour of the Holocaust History Museum.



■ During his visit to Yad Vashem on 17 July, **King of Ashanti Otumfuo Osei Tutu** toured the Holocaust History Museum and Hall of Names.



■ **Prime Minister of Bulgaria Boyko Borissov** (center) visited Yad Vashem on 11 September, accompanied by 12 government ministers. The Prime Minister was greeted by Yad Vashem Director-General Nathan Eitan (left) and by Deputy Director of the Museums Division and Senior Art Curator Yehudit Shendar (right).



■ During his visit to Yad Vashem on 7 August, **Foreign Minister of Australia Bob Carr** participated in a memorial ceremony in the Hall of Remembrance.



■ On 17 July, **President of Hungary János Áder** toured the Holocaust History Museum and Garden of the Righteous Among the Nations.



■ **Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Terzi** visited Yad Vashem on 5 September. He toured the Holocaust History Museum, participated in a memorial ceremony in the Hall of Remembrance and visited the Children's Memorial before signing the Yad Vashem Guest Book.



■ **Speaker of the Swedish Parliament Per Westerberg** (right) visited Yad Vashem on 17 July and was guided through the Holocaust History Museum by Deputy Director of the Museums Division and Senior Art Curator Yehudit Shendar (left).



70 Years since the Deportation of Polish Jewry

■ On 31 July, Yad Vashem held a special memorial event to commemorate 70 years since the deportation of Polish Jews in the Generalgouvernement to the Belzec, Sobibor and Treblinka extermination camps as part of “Operation Reinhard.” Some two million Jews were murdered during the Operation, which took place between March 1942 and November 1943.



Dr. Yitzchak Arad, Deputy Chairman of the Yad Vashem Council and author of *Belzec, Sobibor, Treblinka: The Operation Reinhard Death Camps*, gave the keynote address. Distinguished speakers also included Minister of Education Gideon Sa’ar, Poland’s Secretary of State for National Heritage Piotr Zuchowski, and Yad Vashem Chairman Avner Shalev.

The memorial event took place in Yad Vashem’s Edmond J. Safra Lecture Hall, in partnership with the Ministry of Education. During the event, the audience watched video testimonies of Treblinka survivors Eliahu Rosenberg and Abraham Bomba. The evening’s musical program was conducted by Eli Yaffe and accompanied by tenor Dudu Fisher.

Moshe Sanbar, z"l

■ Yad Vashem mourns the recent passing of Moshe Sanbar, one of the founders of the Centre of Holocaust Organizations in Israel and a member of the Yad Vashem Council.

Moshe Sanbar was born in Kecskemét, Hungary. In 1944, he was drafted into the forced labor battalions of the Hungarian army and was later deported to the Dachau and Mühldorf-Waldlager concentration camps. He was liberated in 1945 by the American army. In 1948 he arrived in *Eretz Israel* and participated in the War of Independence, during which he was seriously wounded at the battle for Latrun. After his release from the IDF in 1949, Sanbar studied economics at the Hebrew University. He served in senior government positions in Israel’s economy, including as

70th Anniversary of the Vel D’Hiv

■ Yad Vashem held a memorial ceremony and commemoration event on 16 July marking 70 years since the notorious “Vel D’Hiv” roundup of French Jewry during the *Shoah*. Speakers at the event included Chairman of the Yad Vashem Council Rabbi Israel Meir Lau and French Ambassador to Israel H.E. Mr. Christophe Bigot (pictured); Shlomo Balsam, President of Aloumim, the Israel Association of Jewish Children Hidden in France during the Holocaust; Robert Spira, Representative of Sons and Daughters of French Jewish Deportees; and Dr. Simha Epstein of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, who delivered the keynote lecture.



In a speech delivered in Paris on 22 July marking the roundup of 13,000 French Jews and their subsequent deportation to Nazi concentration camps, French President François Hollande said that France bore a direct responsibility for their deaths. “Not one German soldier, not a single one” participated in the July 1942 operation, the president declared. “The truth is that this crime was committed in France, by France.”

Minister of Trade and Industry and Governor of the Bank of Israel. He was also President of International Chamber of Commerce in Israel and a member of the World Trade Institute, and was consulted on department budgets of the United Nations.

Sanbar devoted much of his time to activities on behalf of Holocaust survivors, serving as Chairman of the Centre of Organizations of Holocaust Survivors in Israel and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany.

“Moshe Sanbar symbolized the ability of Holocaust survivors not just to return to life, but to be counted among those that advanced Israeli society in all its spheres, including the shaping of its economy,” said Yad Vashem

Hollande also paid tribute to the “anonymous heroes” who risked imprisonment or worse by hiding Jewish neighbors, and who “allowed three-quarters of French Jews to survive.”

“Mashiv Haruach” Concert

■ Over 1,000 guests, including Holocaust survivors and Israel’s Justice Minister Prof. Yaakov Neeman, gathered at the Monument to the Jewish Soldiers and Partisans to enjoy the



sixth concert in the series “Mashiv Haruach – From Safed to Jerusalem” a concert of Jewish soul music that took place on 26 August. Fifty-five musicians from Argentina, Australia, Austria, Brazil, China, France, Israel, Russia and the US took part in the concert, together with students from the Safed international master classes – “Clarinet and Klezmer in the Galilee” – under the musical direction of Maestro Giora Feidman (pictured, with Minister Neeman).

The author assists production in the Events Department, Commemoration and Public Relations Division.



Chairman Avner Shalev. “Moshe saw the tremendous educational and leadership value in Holocaust remembrance, and was among the first survivors to write a memorial book in which he shared his personal story with the younger generation.”

Avner Shalev Appointed Deputy Chairman of International Auschwitz Council

■ In early September, Prime Minister of Poland Donald Tusk appointed Yad Vashem Chairman Avner Shalev as Deputy Chairman of the International Auschwitz Council.

Established by Poland in 2000, the International Auschwitz Council is a consultative and advisory body of the Polish Prime Minister regarding the preservation and functioning of the Auschwitz site and other Holocaust memorials.

The Council is made up of 21 members from Poland, Israel, the US, France, Germany and the UK, who each serve six-year terms. Current Council Chairman is former Foreign Minister of Poland Prof. Wladyslaw Bartoszewski, an historian and writer who has been recognized as Righteous Among the Nations. The two current deputy chairmen are Avner Shalev and Polish Holocaust historian Dr. Barbara Engelking.

“As the events of the Holocaust recede into history, it is increasingly challenging to preserve the authentic sites of the Holocaust, where the murders took place,” said Shalev. “This is especially important if these sites are to serve as tools for meaningful Holocaust commemoration and education, and in shaping Holocaust remembrance for future generations.”

Visit by the Grand Rabbi of Sassov

■ On 10 July 2012 (20 Tammuz 5752), the Grand Rabbi (“Admor”) of Sassov, Rabbi Yoseph Dovid Teitelbaum, *shlit”a*, of Ganei Tikva, Israel (pictured, center), paid a moving visit to Yad Vashem. The visit was initiated by Sara Berkowitz and Rabbi Moshe Fixler of the Names Recovery Project, Torah World Section. The Grand Rabbi was accompanied by members of his family and a group of his Hassidic followers.

The Grand Rabbi, who was greeted by Yad Vashem Director-General Nathan Eitan, toured the Holocaust History Museum for a number of hours, expertly guided by Rabbi Shachar Rachmani (right). The Grand Rabbi showed great interest in the personal artifacts in the Museum, and discussed wide-ranging historical information about different periods and various locations during the *Shoah*, according to information shared with him by his family and Hassidim who survived.

One of the highlights of the visit occurred when Director of the Hall of Names Alexander

Avraham showed the Grand Rabbi Pages of Testimony and pictures from his grandfather and other family members as they appear on Yad Vashem’s Central Database of *Shoah* Victims’ Names. He then visited the Yad Vashem Synagogue, where he paid close attention to the rescued Judaica displayed within, and where he prayed the evening prayer service. During his visit, the Grand Rabbi was also introduced to “Unto Every Person There is a Name,” a project featuring the work of the Ultra-Orthodox staff in the Names Recovery Project, as well as the activities conducted by the Ultra-Orthodox Section in the International School for Holocaust Studies. At the conclusion of the visit, the Grand Rabbi was given a booklet compiled by the Archives Division, containing information about his family members who were murdered in the *Shoah*.

A letter sent by the Grand Rabbi’s court thanked the organizers of the visit: “His Honorable Admor is certain that this visit will

add another dimension to the development of relations between Yad Vashem and the Ultra-Orthodox community, and lead to fruitful cooperation. The Grand Rabbi will also call upon the public to fill out Pages of Testimony for the vital Names Database.”



The Ford Foundation: Partnering to Honor the Righteous Among the Nations

■ This year marks the start of the 50th anniversary of the Righteous Among the Nations program at Yad Vashem. It is very symbolic, therefore, that the Ford Foundation, under the leadership of its president, Luis A. Ubiñas (pictured), recently announced the continuation of its support of Yad Vashem with the establishment of an endowment fund to honor the Righteous Among the Nations, and to assist in maintaining the 2,000 trees planted in their honor.

In 1962-63, Yad Vashem commenced its endeavor to honor the Righteous Among the Nations and plant trees in their memory along

the Avenue of the Righteous. These trees, which extend along the Avenue from the exit of the Visitors Center to Warsaw Ghetto Square as well as throughout the Mount of Remembrance, serve not only as a constant reminder of the small glimmers of light that shone in those dark days, but also as much-needed protection from the Middle Eastern sun for Yad Vashem’s multitude of annual visitors.

Established in 1936, the Ford Foundation has become one of the world’s foremost philanthropic entities, supporting visionary leaders and organizations on the frontlines of social change. The Foundation’s programs continue

to serve public welfare by strengthening democratic values, reducing poverty and injustice, promoting international cooperation and advancing human achievement. Currently, the Foundation offers grants throughout the United States and supports programs in more than 50 countries. Since 2006, as part of their commitment to advancing human achievement, the Ford Foundation has supported the activities of Yad Vashem’s Righteous Among the Nations Department.



Yad Vashem Mourns Eliezer (Eli) Zborowski

American Society Chairman Dedicated to Holocaust Remembrance

■ Yad Vashem mourns the recent passing of Holocaust survivor Eliezer (Eli) Zborowski z"l, founder and Chairman of the American Society for Yad Vashem and Yad Vashem Benefactor who dedicated his life to ensuring the future of Holocaust commemoration, research and education.

"Eli Zborowski was a dear friend and devoted partner in ensuring that the legacy of the Holocaust is not forgotten," said Avner Shalev, Chairman of Yad Vashem. "From a young age, Eli was instilled with the values of integrity, diligence and responsibility as well as a strong Zionist legacy by his beloved parents. These principles motivated him to ensure the future not only of his own family, to which he was profoundly dedicated, but also that of Holocaust remembrance and education for generations to come. His determination and dynamic leadership serve as an inspiration for survivors around the world. Eli's pioneering vision and inspiring leadership generated extensive and innovative commemorative activities – including the establishment of Yad Vashem's Valley of the Communities and Monument to the Jewish Soldiers and Partisans who fought against Nazi Germany, as well as his strategic partnership in Yad Vashem's comprehensive development plan at the turn of the century – and motivated younger generations to find meaning in lasting Holocaust remembrance. He also spearheaded many projects that helped ensure Yad Vashem's continuing ability to be at the forefront of Holocaust commemoration, research and education. We will miss his friendship, his leadership, his drive and his unwavering commitment and willingness to put his entire self into his mission to ensure that the memory of the Holocaust is not forgotten."

Eli Zborowski was born in 1925, in Zarki, Poland. Shortly after the outbreak of WWII, Eli and his family were incarcerated in the town ghetto. Eli managed to secure false papers and leave the ghetto, serving as its liaison with the non-Jewish underground. Eli's father Moshe was separated from the family, and he was murdered by local Poles. Eli, his mother, brother and sister survived the war, and their rescuers, the Placzek and Kolacz families, were later recognized as Righteous Among the Nations.



Following the war, Eli was active in the "Aliyah Bet" organization (the smuggling of Jews into British-Mandate Palestine) until the founding of the State of Israel.

In early 1952, Eli emigrated with his wife Diana (née Wilf), also a Holocaust survivor, to the United States, where they settled in New York. He prospered in business, and simultaneously assumed his lifelong commitment to Holocaust commemoration and Yad Vashem. A genuine initiator, leader and visionary, Eli can be credited with essential "firsts" in the field of Holocaust remembrance: in 1963, he organized the first United States Holocaust Remembrance Day commemoration; and in 1970, he founded the first umbrella organization for all Holocaust survivors. In 1974, he founded *Martyrdom & Resistance*, a periodical devoted to the Holocaust, and that same year, the Zborowskis endowed the United States' first academic chair in Holocaust Studies, at Yeshiva University, New York. Eli was appointed to the US Holocaust Memorial Council by President Jimmy Carter, and reappointed by President Reagan. He was also appointed to the New York Permanent Commission on the Holocaust by Mayor Edward Koch.

In 1981, Eli Zborowski founded the American Society for Yad Vashem, and served as its Chairman until his death. Under his dynamic leadership, the American Society was the first among Holocaust organizations to encourage the third generation to be involved in Holocaust remembrance, establishing its Young Leadership Association. In addition, he was a long-time member of the Yad Vashem Directorate. Beit Hakehillot in the Valley of Communities, which provides information on prewar Jewish communities, was established through the generosity of Eli and Diana Zborowski. Eli's beloved first wife Diana passed away in 2004, and in 2008 he endowed The Diana Zborowski Center for the Study of the Aftermath of the Holocaust in Yad Vashem's International Institute for Holocaust Research. Eli also served on the boards of a number of organizations, including the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany.

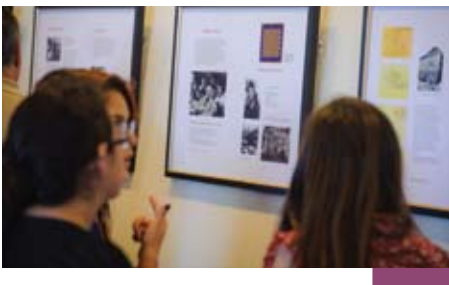
Eli is survived by his wife, Dr. Elizabeth Mundlak (whom he married in 2006), a Holocaust survivor from Częstochowa, Poland; his children, Dr. Lilly Zborowski Naveh and Murry Zborowski; his brother Marvin Zborowski; his sister, Tzila Listenberg; and seven grandchildren.

Friends Worldwide

USA

■ Yad Vashem's "No Child's Play" traveling exhibition about Jewish children in the Holocaust was displayed at the Rogers Center for Holocaust Education at Chapman University in Orange, California. The Center includes the Sala and Aron Samuelli Holocaust Memorial Library, dedicated by **Susan and Henry Samuelli** in honor of Henry's parents who survived the Holocaust.

Jeanine Hill Photography



■ **Milton Maltz** was accompanied by Director of the Museums Division **Yehudit Inbar** (right) during his visit to Yad Vashem's Museum of Holocaust Art, where the two discussed Holocaust museum displays. Milton and his wife **Tamar** dedicated the Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage in Cleveland, Ohio.



■ During a return visit to Yad Vashem, **Leonard Feinstein** (left), accompanied by his son **Jeff** (second from right) and 16-year-old grandson **Andrew** (right), toured the Children's Memorial with Deputy Managing Director of the International Relations Division **Sari Granitza** (second from left).



■ Yad Vashem Benefactors **Marilyn and Jack Belz** (left) unveiled a plaque in honor of the Belz family and their patronage of the Yad Vashem Library, the world's most comprehensive collection of Holocaust-related publications. They were accompanied by their daughter and son-in-law, Yad Vashem Builders **Jan and Andy Groveman** (right).



■ Yad Vashem Builders **Bernie and Hanna Rubinstein** (third and fourth from left), President of the American Congress of Holocaust Survivors in Beverly Hills, visited Yad Vashem with their family.



■ **Leon and Halina Kleiner** brought their children and grandchildren to Yad Vashem to share with them their journey of survival during the Holocaust. The family visited the Garden of the Righteous Among the Nations to pay tribute to **Hrytzai and Hania Tymush**, who risked their lives to save Leon.



■ Yad Vashem mourns the passing of **Henry Jacob Tenenbaum z"l**, Yad Vashem Guardian and survivor of the Cracow ghetto and Plaszow and Mauthausen concentration camps. After the Holocaust, Henry moved to New York, where, together with his wife Lola, he built a life that revolved around family, community and philanthropy. Henry's sense of humor, positive outlook and generous spirit were familiar to all who knew him. He was a staunch supporter of Israel, chairing many fundraising events on its behalf in the US and finally making aliyah at the age of 81. Henry was a founding member of the New Cracow Friendship Society in New York and a strong supporter of Yad Vashem, believing Holocaust remembrance and education to be of paramount importance. Born in Cracow in 1923, Henry passed away in Jerusalem on 22 June 2012. He leaves two daughters and sons-in-law, five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.



CANADA

■ A young professionals' delegation from MAGBIT-UJA Canada visited Yad Vashem on 10 August. Participants included **David Albert, Zack Belzberg, Lee Berger, Matt Cohen, Ryan Cohen, Ari Diamond, Shane Fenton, Josh Finkelstein, Jamie Firsten, Mitch Freed, Noah Goldstein, Jeffrey Kimel, Michael Kimel, Isaac Langleben, Sam Langleben, Adam Menkes, Matt Nisker, Shael Rosenbaum, Daniel Silwin, David Silwin, Adam Spears, Jon Tkatch and Josh Zagdanski.**

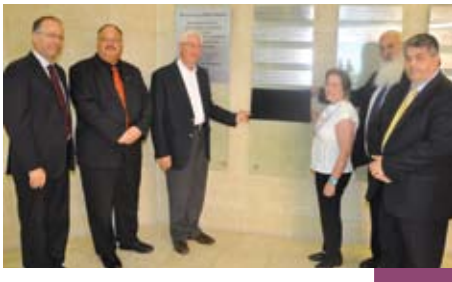


Friends Worldwide

■ **Fred Waks** (center), Board Member and Trustee of the **Canadian Society for Yad Vashem**, visited Yad Vashem on 30 April with a JNF delegation, which included **Josh Cooper, Stuart Suckonic, Andrew Phillips, Alan Greenberg, Jordan Robins, Jeff Ross, John Ruddy** and **George Grossman**.



■ **Howard Tanenbaum**, President of Tritan Capital, and his wife **Carole**, both noted philanthropists and Guardians of Yad Vashem, unveiled a plaque at Yad Vashem on 30 August, which acknowledged their generous contribution to the Photo Preservation Laboratory in the Archives Division.



■ **Audrey and Fred Guth** celebrated the bar and bat mitzvahs of their nephew **William Belford** and niece **Sara Belford** at Yad Vashem on 29 July. Left to right: (back row) **Fred Guth, Benjamin Guth, Shauna Guth, Claudia Lauer, Jenni Belford, Bill Guth, Jesse Guth, Keith Mitchell, Audrey Guth, David Belford**; (front row) **Charlie Belford, Emma Belford, Sara Belford, William Belford**



■ The Bensoussan family marked **Daniel's** bar mitzvah at Yad Vashem on 5 August. Daniel participated in Yad Vashem's twinning program. Left to right: (bottom row) **Emily Mendel, Diane Mendel, Holly Mendel, Jillian Mendel, Polly Mendel, Andrea Mendel, Ashley Mendel, Haim Bensoussan, Daniel Bensoussan, Monica Bensoussan, Talia Bensoussan, Lauren Sugar**; (top row) **Allen Mendel, Joseph Mendel, Dean Mendel, Shawn Mendel**



■ Yad Vashem mourns the passing of the Canadian Society's founder and long-time supporter, Holocaust partisan and survivor **David Smuschkowitz z"l**.

David was living with his family in a Polish *shtetl* in today's Belarus when the Nazis invaded in 1941. After hiding with non-Jewish neighbors for several years, he joined the Spartak partisans, risking his life to help others. After the war, David moved to Canada, eventually establishing and becoming President of Steele Valley Developments Ltd. in the GTA. A staunch supporter of Holocaust education and commemoration, David was instrumental in building the Canadian Society's Holocaust Wall of Remembrance at Earl Bales Park in Toronto, where the names of thousands of Holocaust victims and survivors are engraved. He also co-wrote a Holocaust memoir, *From Victims to Victors*, with Peter Silverman and Peter Smuszkowicz. David and his wife Luba gave generously to many charities. His legacy lives on through his family and many contributions.



■ Yad Vashem mourns the passing of Holocaust survivor **Henry Zagdanski z"l**, a philanthropist who was dedicated to promoting Holocaust remembrance.

Henry was born in Radom, Poland, in 1925. As a teenager during WWII, he survived six years of forced marches and several concentration camps. After the war, Henry moved to Toronto, Canada. In 1950, he started Nu-Mode Dress Company, which became the largest dress manufacturer in Toronto. Henry's Holocaust memoir, *It Must Never Happen Again*, was published in 1998.

Henry passed away on 15 June but lives on in the hearts of his four children and 14 grandchildren.



UK

■ **Michael Gee** (center), Yad Vashem Benefactor and head of The Archie Sherman Charitable Trust, visited Yad Vashem on 12 June. He was given a behind-the-scenes tour of the Artifacts Collection, and met with Yad Vashem Chairman **Avner Shalev**.



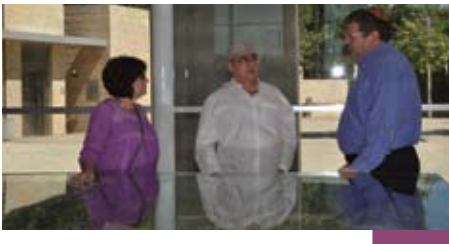
■ Yad Vashem Benefactors **Gail and Colin Halpern** (fourth and third from left) were accompanied by Yad Vashem Chairman **Avner Shalev** on 20 August for the unveiling of a plaque in their honor at the entrance to the Archives Division. The Halperns are generously supporting the project to rescue the identities of individual victims of the Holocaust through the creation of unique online Virtual Personal Files.



■ Chairman of UJIA (United Jewish Israel Appeal) and the Jewish Leadership Council, Xstrata CEO **Mick Davis** (fifth from right) was accompanied by his wife **Barbara** (sixth from right) and family during a tour of the Holocaust History Museum and Children's Memorial on 18 June.



■ Founder and Chairman of Linn Products, **Ivor Siegmund Tiefenbrun** MBE (center), visited Yad Vashem's Holocaust History Museum accompanied by his wife **Evelyn** (left). They also visited Yad Vashem's Archives, where Ivor was presented with copies of documents relating to his grandfather **Siegmund z"l**, after whom he was named, who was murdered in Buchenwald.



■ This year's **Yad Vashem-UK Foundation** Gala Dinner was held at the Imperial War Museum in London. The program featured an "In Conversation" between the Rt. Hon. **John Bercow** MP, the first Jewish Speaker of the House of Commons, and Executive Editor of *The Times* newspaper **Daniel Finkelstein**. Left to right: Daniel Finkelstein, John Bercow, Yad Vashem-UK Foundation Chairman **Simon Bentley**, Foundation Trustee **Ashley Rogoff**



AUSTRALIA

■ **Michael Dunkel** (right) visited Yad Vashem on 10 June and met with staff to discuss the work of the Orion Foundation with Yad Vashem. He then took a behind-the-scenes tour of Yad Vashem's Archives with Archives Director **Dr. Haim Gertner** (left).



■ Proprietor of TMG Developments and *The Australian Jewish News*, Sydney-based **Robert Magid** (second from left), visited the Holocaust History Museum on 18 June with his wife **Ruth** (left) and their daughter and grandson.



■ Chairman of Latitude Investments Pty Ltd **Gary Zamel** (right), his wife **Karyn** and their extended family held a bar mitzvah twinning ceremony for their nephew **Ben Dalley** in Yad Vashem's Synagogue on 29 June. The group also toured the Holocaust History Museum.



FRANCE & BENELUX

■ On 10 July, Yad Vashem Chairman **Avner Shalev** (third from left) traveled to the Museum of the Legion of Honor in Paris to place the Righteous Among the Nations medal and certificate honoring the late Archbishop of Toulouse, Msgnr. Jules-Gérard Saliège, in the Museum's collection of medals from all over the world. He was hosted at the ceremony by the Great Chancellor of the French National Order of the Legion of Honor **General Jean-Louis Georgelin** (right) and accompanied by Israel's Ambassador to France H.E. Mr. **Yossi Gal** (second from left) and Director of the French and Benelux Desk, Yad Vashem's International Relations Division, **Miry Gross** (left).



■ On 25 July, President of the Shoah Memorial in France **Baron Eric de Rothschild** (center) visited Yad Vashem, where he met with Yad Vashem Chairman **Avner Shalev** (left), Archives Director **Dr. Haim Gertner**, Director of the Department of the Righteous Among the Nations **Irena Steinfeld**, Director of the International Relations Division **Shaya Ben Yehuda** and Director of the French and Benelux Desk **Miry Gross** (right). The meeting led to the examination of an extended partnership between the two institutions in Paris and Jerusalem in the fields of documentation and education, as well as the strengthening of cooperation in other fields.



Friends Worldwide

LIECHTENSTEIN

■ Yad Vashem mourns the passing of **Fritz Baum z"l**, founder of the **Society of Friends of Yad Vashem in Liechtenstein**, who succumbed to a long illness on 9 June 2012. Fritz was a true friend, great supporter and strong pillar of the Society's board, and he will be greatly missed.



GERMANY

■ Yad Vashem's traveling exhibition, "With Me Here Are Six Million Accusers: Marking the 50th Anniversary of the Eichmann Trial," was displayed for the first time in Germany at the Higher Regional Court of Düsseldorf (OLG). This important exhibition, facilitated through generous sponsors including the Federal Ministry of Justice and the State Ministry of Justice in North Rhine-Westphalia, will travel through several German cities in the upcoming months, reaching wide audiences.



Left to right: North Rhine-Westphalia Minister of Justice **Thomas Kutschaty**, President of the Court of Appeal **Anne-José Paulsen**, Special Assistant to the Chief Prosecutor at the Eichmann trial **Michael Goldmann-Gilead** and his wife, Director of Switzerland and German-Speaking Countries Desk in the International Relations Division **Arik Rav-On**

BRAZIL

■ **Susy, Jonathan and Elie Horn** took a special behind-the-scenes tour in the Yad Vashem Archives, accompanied by Managing Director of the International Relations Division **Shaya Ben Yehuda** (left).



CHILE

■ Benefactors of Yad Vashem and Holocaust survivors **David and Sara Marysia Feuerstein** visited Yad Vashem in July with their family. David, President of the **Chile Association for Yad Vashem**, blessed IDF Regiment Commander **Yochai Rotem** after giving a short speech to a group of officers at the VIP Pavilion that was endowed by David and Marysia in memory of their family.



COSTA RICA

■ The Aizenman family recently visited Yad Vashem.



MEXICO

■ The Laniado family was joined by Director of the Latin America, Spain, Portugal and Miami Desk **Perla Hazan** (right) during their visit to Yad Vashem to mark the bar mitzvah of their son **David Laniado** (center).



■ The Mischne-Garza families visited Yad Vashem to mark the bar mitzvah of their son and nephew **Isaac Garza** (fifth from the right). They were joined by **Perla Hazan** and **Shaya Ben Yehuda** (right), Managing Director of the International Relations Division.



■ The Sasson-Khafif families were accompanied by **Perla Hazan** during their visit Yad Vashem to mark the bar mitzvah of their son **Nissim Sasson-Khafif** (center).



■ **Jennie and David Serur** (third from left and second from right) and their family came to Yad Vashem to mark the bar mitzvah of their grandson **Aaron Araf** (sixth from left) and to attend the unveiling of a plaque in honor of their grandchildren.



MIAMI

■ **Nira Meir** (center), originally from Venezuela, visited Yad Vashem with her daughter **Mary** (left) and grandson **Eduardo** (right).



PANAMA

■ **Moti Zrihen** (second from right) was joined by Director of the Latin America, Spain, Portugal and Miami Desk **Perla Hazan** (right) during his visit to Yad Vashem to celebrate a family bar mitzvah.



VENEZUELA

■ The Darwiche family was joined by Director of the Latin America, Spain, Portugal and Miami Desk **Perla Hazan** (right) during their recent visit to Yad Vashem.



■ The Korenbluth family visited Yad Vashem to mark the bar mitzvah of their sons **Moises** (sixth from right) and **Aharon** (ninth from right) and to attend the unveiling of a plaque in honor of **Moises Korenbluth z"l**.



CHRISTIAN DESK IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ICEJ

■ “Grafted,” the youth program of ICEJ (International Christian Embassy Jerusalem), brought an international youth group to Yad Vashem for a day of activities. The group visited the Holocaust History Museum as well as Yad Vashem’s Archives, the Museum of Holocaust Art and the exhibition about the Eichmann Trial. They were guided by **Liz Elsby** of the International School for Holocaust Studies.



Your Support Helps Make a Difference

All of the activities, projects and events which you have just read about are made possible thanks to the generous support of our donors. In these difficult times of financial uncertainty and a worrying rise in antisemitism around the world, Yad Vashem is doubling its efforts to commemorate the Holocaust, disseminate its universal implications and strengthen Jewish continuity. Yad Vashem is deeply grateful for your generosity in supporting its vital work and welcomes both new friends and established supporters as partners in our shared mission.

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■ For information on societies in other countries,

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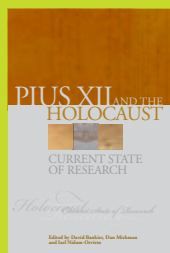
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International Institute for Holocaust Research: New on the Shelf

Pius XII and the Holocaust: Current State of Research

Editors: David Bankier, Dan Michman, Iael Nidam-Orvieto

NIS 174 / NIS 128



■ Dilemmas, silence, active rescue and passivity are words often associated with Pius XII. “Critics” emphasize the wartime Pope’s failure to condemn Nazism, while “defenders” maintain that Vatican neutrality facilitated rescue activities by the faithful. This publication, which consists of the oral presentations of scholars gathered at Yad Vashem in March 2009 for a groundbreaking international workshop, attempts to present the current state of research on Pius XII and the Holocaust, based on new documentation.

Yad Vashem Studies, 40:1

Editor: David Silberklang

NIS 80 / NIS 60



■ This volume is dedicated to the memory of Leon Volovici, an important scholar and *Yad Vashem Studies* Editorial Board member, and opens with Raphael Vago’s analysis of his contribution to scholarship. Six research articles are devoted to an examination of aspects of the Holocaust in its European context. They help answer some of the questions about personal and societal motivations regarding Jews seeking aid and asylum and show

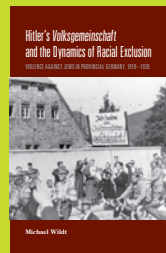
that a complex mix of radical nationalism, racism, antisemitism, sovereignty, greed and ideals – or their abandonment – were among the factors that came into play in influencing attitudes and behavior toward Jews in need. The analyses include: Rachel Feldhay Brenner on the diary of a liberal Polish rescuer; Jan Grabowski on rural Poles; Joanna Tokarska-Bakir on the Armia Ludowa Polish underground; László Karsai on the Hungarian regime under Ferenc Szálasi; Ronit Fisher on Ion Anonescu’s regime and Romanian society; and Susanne Urban on German attitudes toward the death marches. Review articles by Omer Bartov, Stephan Lehnstaedt, Theodore Weeks and Dimitry Shumsky round out the issue.

Hitler’s *Volksgemeinschaft* and the Dynamics of Racial Exclusion: Violence Against Jews in Provincial Germany, 1919-1939

Michael Wildt

In Association with Berghahn Books

NIS 348 / NIS 248

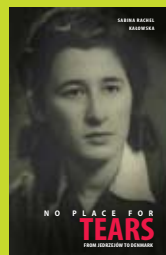


■ In the spring of 1933, German society was deeply divided, yet once Hitler seized power, his creation of a socially inclusive *Volksgemeinschaft*, promising equality, economic prosperity and the restoration of honor and pride after the humiliating ending of WWI, persuaded many Germans to support him and to shut their eyes to dictatorial coercion, concentration camps, secret state police and the exclusion of large sections of the population. This book offers one of the most comprehensive accounts of this transformation.

No Place for Tears: From Jędrzejów to Denmark

Sabina Rachel Kałowska

NIS 74 / NIS 56



■ Life began for Sabina (Rózia) Cheçiński in 1925 as part of a close-knit, religious family in Jędrzejów, Poland, some 80 kilometers from Kraków. When the Germans invaded Poland, Rafał Kałowski, a non-Jew, was relocated to Jędrzejów, and moved into the Cheçiński family home. He quickly fell in love with the young Rózia, and decided to take care of her.

One day, while out looking for food to smuggle into the ghetto, Rózia received a message that the Germans had liquidated the ghetto, and everyone she knew, except her uncle Heniek, had disappeared. Kałowski helped secure false identity papers, shelter and clothing for Rózia and her uncle, but suspicion of her true identity was always high, and Rózia was constantly on the run. Despite all the trials and adversities, Rafał’s love for Rózia never waned, and in October 1947 they finally married.

Sabina Kałowska’s story provides dramatic psychological insights about identity, memory, totalitarianism and the experience of immigration. While recreating a lost universe, she emphasizes the power of dreams and reminiscences both to hurt and to heal, and ultimately give the strength to survive.



The Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes'
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■
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