



Yad Vashem – The International School for Holocaust  
Studies

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*THE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL FOR HOLOCAUST*

*STUDIES*

*YAD VASHEM*

*TEACHING ABOUT THE SHOAH*

*AND ANTISEMITISM*

*TENTATIVE PROGRAM FOR FACING HISTORY*

*EDUCATORS*

*February 7, 2010– February 21, 2010*

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*This seminar is sponsored by:*



ADELSON FAMILY FOUNDATION



The Conference on Jewish Material  
Claims Against Germany

**Sunday, February 7, 2010**

**Evening:**

**20:00 Program Orientation at the Park Plaza Hotel, Jerusalem**

**Dorit Novak** Director, International School for Holocaust Studies

**Ephraim Kaye** Director, International Seminars for Educators

**Stephanie McMahon-Kaye** Desk for International Seminars in English

**Mira Museri** Dept. Coordinator, International Seminars for Educators

**Monday, February 8, 2009**

**08:30-10:00 Holocaust Historiography in Context: Emergence, Challenges, Polemics and Achievements**

This presentation will focus on issues and perspectives in Holocaust research in various countries, with leading historians on the implications of their work. The presentation will cover the early beginnings of Holocaust research and the emergence of Jewish research centers. This overview will include researchers such as: Berg, Browning, Cesarani, de Haan, Engel, Rozett, Yablonka, Weinberg and many others, ranging from Italian Holocaust historiography through Dutch and Hungarian contexts and the Eichmann trial.

***Prof. David Bankier, Yad Vashem***

**10:00-10:30 Break**

**10:30-11:30 An Introduction to Holocaust Pedagogy**

Many pedagogical questions arise when addressing the Holocaust. For example, how do we teach and incorporate the stories of the victims, perpetrators, and bystanders? Where do we begin? Who were the perpetrators? What was their ideology and motivation? How was it humanly possible? How do we define the "bystanders"? How do some become indifferent while others become Righteous Among the Nations? How does an interdisciplinary approach in an age-appropriate manner when teaching the Holocaust allow educators and students to gain a broader understanding about this complex subject, while raising a number of universal educational messages?

***Shulamit Imber, Pedagogical Director, ISHS***

**11:30- 12:00 Discussion**

**12:00-13:00 Lunch Break**

**13:30-14:45 Judaism, and Anti-Judaism in Medieval Christianity**

Who are the Jews in antiquity (the time of the 1st and 2nd Temple)? What was the attitude towards the Jews in the Pagan world – Persia, Greece, and Rome? What were the effects of Anti-Judaism and Philo-Judaism during this period? How did the rise of Christianity affect these relationships?

***Prof. Jeremy Cohen, Tel Aviv University***

**14:30-17:30 Bus Tour of Jerusalem with guide Amir Golani**

Amir Golani will introduce the participants to the geographical/political aspects of the city of Jerusalem and will tour Gilo, (an overview of Beit Jalla and Bethlehem), Armon Hanatziv, (an overview of the eastern and southern part of the city with a beautiful view of the Old City), and Mt. Scopus, (with a view of the western and northern parts of the new city and the Old City). Then the tour will continue on to the Tomb of the Prophet Samuel for an overview of the northern and western entrances of the city.

**17:30 Return to the Hotel**

**Evening- Free**

**Tuesday, February 9, 2010****08:30-10:00 The Rise of Modern Antisemitism in Europe – 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries**

Wagner, Chamberlain, Wilhelm Marr, and Gobineau –these are names that gave rise to modern antisemitism in France and Germany. Were social, economic, political, and racial antisemitism a replacement for anti-Judaism in the Middle Ages? What was the Jewish response to modern antisemitism?

***Prof. Robert Wistrich, Hebrew University***

**10:00-10:30 Break****10:30- 12:00 Discussion: How do we teach Antisemitism in the classroom? Yad Vashem Staff and Facing History Staff****12:00-13:00 Lunch Break****13:00-16:00****Guided Tour of the New Holocaust History Museum of Yad Vashem – An Educational and Methodological Approach**

What are the educational concepts and objectives that were imbedded into the new historical museum? How does the architectural design of the museum influence the way that the story is told? How do the

chronological and thematic aspects of the museum affect the personalization of the story of the Holocaust?

***Ephraim Kaye, Yad Vashem***

**16:00-17:00 Processing the tour of the museum**

**17:00 Return to the Hotel.**

**18:45-21:00 Optional Visit to the Israel Museum with *Amir Golani***

This guided tour will take you to the "Shrine of the Book" which houses the Dead Sea scrolls and through the part of the museum that deals with Jewish culture and artifacts from different Jewish communities around the world. Participants may have time to see some of the archeological exhibits as well.

**Wednesday, February 10, 2010**

**08:30- 10:00 Jewish life in the Soviet Union –the Interwar Period:**

**1919-1939**

Who were the Jews of Czarist Russia before the Bolshevik Revolution? Where did they live? What were their professions? What were the main issues that they faced on the eve of the Bolshevik Revolution? How did the revolution change the lives of the Jews in Russia? Lenin, Stalin, and the Russification of the Jews in the 1920s and 1930s. What was the influence of the Evseksiia on Jewish life? The Biro-Bidzhan program and the Jewish response.

***Dr. Irit Abramski, Yad Vashem***

**10:00-10:15 Break**

**10:15-10:45 Presentation of a new mobile teaching unit on Jewish life in Interwar Poland**

***Orit Margaliot, Yad Vashem***

**10:45-11:00 Break**

**11:00-12:30 Antecedents to Holocaust Literature**

Literary response to the Holocaust did not come out of the blue. Earlier Eastern European Jewish writers felt called upon to confront the disasters of their generation, including lethal pogroms and the terrible carnage of the First World War. We will look at examples of his writing – by Scholem Aleichem, S. Ansky, Jacob Glatstein, and others – to get a sense of the literary landscape of pre WWII Eastern Europe.

***Dr. Alan Rosen***

**12:30-13:30 Lunch Break****13:30-14:30 Introduction to the *Reflection Center* in the New Holocaust History Museum Complex of Yad Vashem**

This new Reflection Center presents 17 major questions asked in the wake of the Holocaust; questions such as: Where was God during the Holocaust? What were the dilemmas facing the Jewish leadership? How did Christians respond to the Holocaust? Are there limitations to the artistic representation of the Holocaust? These and other questions are addressed in interviews with Jewish and non-Jewish scholars from Israel and abroad.

***Ephraim Kaye, Yad Vashem***

**15:00-17:00 The Valley of the Communities as a Resource for Teaching Pre-War Jewish Life- a Tour and Survivor Testimony**

The Valley of the Communities is a memorial to the Jewish communities that were destroyed during the Holocaust. The concept behind the memorial and the educational uses of the site for students and teachers will be discussed. We will hear two survivors relate their pre-war experiences.

***Hanna Pick, Germany and Holland***  
***Ruth Brand, Romania and Hungary***

**17:00- Return to the Hotel****Evening at the Hotel –****19:30-21:00 Discussion: How do we teach pre-war Jewish life in the classroom?**

**Thursday, February 11, 2010**

**08:30-10:00 Nazi Racial Ideology and the Jewish Question**

What are the basic tenants of Nazi racial ideology? What are the antecedents of this ideology and the innovations initiated by Hitler? Can we deconstruct the Nazi mind – the rationality vs. the irrationality?

What was the centrality of the “Jewish Question” within this Weltanschauung? Why did the cultural and academic elites support the Nazi Party?

***Prof. David Bankier, Yad Vashem***

**10:00-10:30 Break**

**10:30-12:00 Persecution of the Jews in Nazi Germany –1933-39**

Hitler’s consolidation of power and the anti-Jewish decrees between 1933 and 1939. The attitudes of different social and economic elites to Hitler’s antisemitic policy (academics at universities, doctors, lawyers, industrialists, clergy) and the effect that this had on the Jewish population. The “aryanization” of Jewish property and its effect on Germans of all social and economic strata in Nazi Germany. Why was there overwhelming support in Germany for Hitler and his regime preceding WWII?

***Prof. David Bankier, Yad Vashem***

**12:00-13:30 Lunch Break**

**13:30-15:00 *Entartete Kunst*” (Degenerate Art): Nazi Aesthetics and the Campaign Against Modernism**

"Art in the Third Reich" examines the issues and historical context surrounding two state-sponsored exhibitions mounted one day apart in the summer of 1937 in Munich: the infamous “Degenerate Art” exhibition and the “Great German Art Exhibition” in the House of German Art. Through a variety of media, we explore both the aesthetic espoused by Hitler and the Nazi party as well as the cultural repression and censorship of modernist art (labeled "degenerate") and the fates of the individual artists banned, exiled and targeted in the purges.

***Dr. Rachel Perry, Yad Vashem***

**15:00-15:30 Break**

**15:30-16:30 A Visit to the Visual Center**

The new Visual Center houses all of the relevant entertainment and documentary films and survivor testimony, in a digitized format, from both Yad Vashem and the Shoah Foundation. Over 50 computers provide participants with the opportunity to individually view the films. As part of our visit, we will screen a short film in the viewing room. There will also be time to process the topics that we have covered over the last few days.

**16:30-16:45 Break**

**16:45-18:00 Discussion with Yad Vashem Staff and Facing History Staff- Teaching about Antisemitism and Nazi ideology in the Classroom- the challenges**

**18:00 Return to the Hotel**

**Evening- Free**

### **Friday, February 12, 2010**

**08:30-14:30 Tour of the Christian Holy Sites in the Old City and a Tour of Jewish Quarter with *Amir Golani***

This tour will take the participants through the Christian quarter of the Old City – to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, to Mount Zion, and to the traditional site of the Last Supper. In the Jewish Quarter the tour will take the participants to the new Davidson Center near the southern wall of the Temple Mount. Here the participants will experience a multimedia presentation that depicts what Jewish pilgrims encountered when they came during the Second Temple period to offer up their gifts. The center will also give an overview of the new archeological finding along the southern wall. Participants will see the Western Wall (the Kotel) and from there they will walk up to the Jewish Quarter to visit the underground Wohl museum. Here they will experience everyday life during the time of the Second Temple on the eve of its destruction by the Romans in 70 CE.

**14:30 Return to the Hotel and free time**

**Friday Night**

#### **Shabbat Evening Service at the Great Synagogue (optional)**

We invite all of the participants to take part in an Orthodox Jewish service celebrating the Shabbat. The participants will be provided with selected materials in English so that they can follow the service and enjoy the choir. At the conclusion of the service, we invite you to be our guests at the hotel for a communal Shabbat meal with Yad Vashem staff members. After the meal, there will be an optional discussion about elements of the Torah portion for that week and its connection to current events.

### **Saturday, February 13, 2010**

**8:30- 17:00 Free day- Optional Trip to Massada and the Dead Sea with *Amir Golani***

This optional guided tour will take the participants to the 2nd Temple fortress of Massada built by King Herod in the Judean Desert in the 1st cent. BCE. The participants will hear the story of the final battle with the Roman Legions as told by Josephus in the years 70-74 CE. After

this, there will be time to swim/float in the Dead Sea and enjoy all the medicinal treatments connected with this unique place.

## **Sunday, February 14, 2010**

### **08:30-10:00 New Trends and Research on the Ghettos**

Why was the term “ghetto” used? What was the real reason behind the emergence of the ghettos? How many ghettos were there? Why were they created only in Eastern Europe?

*Prof. Dan Michman, Yad Vashem*

### **10:00-10:30 Break**

### **10:30-12:00 Medical Dilemmas of Jewish Doctors During the Holocaust**

Jewish doctors became a type of alternative leadership in the Ghetto. As such they had unique dilemmas as doctors. This presentation will focus on medical dilemmas in the ghettos and camps using documentary evidence from the time period and video clips of survivors taken recently.

*Shulamit Imber, Pedagogical Director, ISHS*

### **12:30-13:30 Lunch Break**

### **13:30- 15:00 The Representation of the Holocaust in Literature**

What is literature? How does literary response differ from other approaches to the Holocaust? What have been the various kinds of literary responses? How have literary responses to the Holocaust changed from the time of the war to the present day? How do the different languages of this literature shape the response to the Holocaust.

*Dr. Alan Rosen*

### **15:00-15:30 Break**

### **15:30-17:00 How do we teach the Holocaust in a multi-cultural environment?**

**Different approaches by Facing History and Yad Vashem Staff who teach in the Israeli school system- Discussion**

### **17:00 Return to the Hotel**

**19:30 – 22:00 Optional Tour of the Western Wall Tunnels**

This will be a unique, exciting, and eye-opening guided tour of the entire length of the Western Wall to where it meets the northern wall of the Temple Mount. The tour will take you underground and allow you to see over 3000 years of history in the Old City of Jerusalem.

**Monday, February 15, 2010****08:30-10:30 Pius XII and the Holocaust: The Historical Controversy**

This presentation will focus on the activities of Pope Pius XII during the Holocaust and the historical controversy surrounding the role he played.

*Professor Sergio Minerbi, Ben Gurion University  
Father David Neuhaus*

**10:30-11:00 Break****11:00-12:00 – A visit to the Yad Vashem Archives- new documents and Artifacts**

*Dr. Haim Gertner, Yad Vashem*

**11:00-12:00 Alternative program:****- The Daily Life in the Warsaw Ghetto through Pictures of German Soldiers and Jewish Diaries- A Multi-Disciplinary Approach**

What was the daily life in the Warsaw ghetto as perceived through the photographs from a German soldier (Heinz Yost) and Jewish diaries written in the ghetto? This presentation will focus on the dialogue between history, media (pictures) and diaries.

*Ephraim Kaye, Yad Vashem*

**12:00-13:30 Lunch Break**

**13:30-17:30 A Workshop with Moshe Sternberg and Four Holocaust Survivors**

This workshop will include the following elements:

- 1) **13:30-14:30** - Moshe Sternberg will speak to the participants from his professional experience, about the effects of traumatization on the survivors and the consequence this subsequently had on their lives.
- 2) **14:30- 16:30** - We will meet with four Holocaust survivors from various countries who will relate short episodes from their personal experiences. The participants will be able to ask the survivors questions about their lives. There will also be an opportunity to talk to the survivors in small informal groups.
- 3) **16:30- 17:30** - This will be a debriefing session with Moshe Sternberg and will allow the participants to express their feelings and thoughts as a result of this encounter with the survivors.

***Eliezer Ayalon - Poland***  
***Elisheva Lehman - Holland***  
***Richard Wanger - Poland***  
***Yehudit Kleinman - Italy***

**Tuesday, February 16, 2010**

**08:30-10:00 The Holocaust and Art – a Teaching Tool in the Classroom**

This presentation will introduce the participant to artists who created works of art during and after the Holocaust including Felix Nussbaum, Bedrich Fritta, and Charlotte Salomon. How do we engage our students by using this type of visual media?

***Eliad More, Yad Vashem***

**10:00-10:30 Break**

**10:30-12:00 The Decision to Kill the Jews -The Final Solution and Its' Implementation**

Who gave the order to murder the Jews? Was it Hitler? Himmler? Goring or Heydrich? Was it one person or a group of people? Did the order come from "above"- the highest echelon of power-- or from "below" -junior officials? When was this order given? The *intentionalists* and the *functionalists*--what are their positions? Was it one order or a series of orders over time? What is the importance of the Wannse Conference in this sequence of events? Who was involved in perpetrating the murders, the SS, the ORPO, and the Wehrmacht? Who collaborated

with the Nazis in order to murder their Jewish neighbors - ordinary men vs. ordinary Germans?

***Ephraim Kaye, Yad Vashem***

**12:00-13:00 Break**

**13:00-14:00 Discussion- The dynamics of teaching students about the “Final Solution” – “How was it Humanely Possible?”**

**14:15- 15:45 Women in the Camps: The Auschwitz Experience**

This presentation will focus on the fate of Jewish women in Auschwitz. Were there any differences between the experiences of women and men in the camp? What were the specific experiences that women had in the camp e.g. the deportation, selection, the sauna, the everyday life, motherhood and pregnancy?

***Naama Shik, Yad Vashem***

**15:45-16:00 Break**

**16:00-17:30 Testimony of a Survivor from Auschwitz-Birkenau**

***Ruth Brand***

**17:30 Return to the Hotel**

**Wednesday, February 17, 2010**

**08:30-10:00 Antisemitism and Holocaust Denial in the Arab/Muslim World Today (with discussion)**

What are the roots of Arab/Muslim antisemitism in the 20th century? What is the attitude of Islam/ the Koran towards the Jews? What are the dangers of extreme Muslim fundamentalism for the western world in general and for the Jews specifically? The Hizbolla, Hamas, and the Islamic Jihad and the language of genocide as portrayed in film clips taken from Egyptian TV and El Manar cable TV. Anti-Judaism, anti-Semitism, and anti-Zionism- are they connected? How can we combat this phenomenon?

***Prof. Menachem Milson, Hebrew University***

**10:00-10:30 Break**

**10:30-12:00 Current Issues in Holocaust Education and Research: The Unprecedentedness of the Holocaust in an Age of Genocide**

What are the parameters that make the Holocaust an unprecedented historical event? What are the parallels between the Holocaust and other genocides of the 20th century -Armenia, Cambodia, Rwanda? How can we incorporate the study of genocide into our curricula in order to make the study of the Holocaust more relevant?

***Prof. Yehuda Bauer, Yad Vashem***

**12:00-13:30 Break**

**13:30- 15:00 Confronting the Phenomenon of Holocaust Denial - a Workshop**

How do we define "denial" of the Holocaust? What are the definitions of Holocaust Revisionism, Relativism, and Reversal? Is Holocaust denial a new form of Antisemitism? Who are the deniers? Are they historians? When did this phenomenon begin? From which countries does this emanate? What are the main issues that they raise? How can we combat this phenomenon? These are the educational challenges we face today as educators.

***Ephraim Kaye, Yad Vashem***

**15:00-15:30 Break**

**15:00-16:30 The Problems Facing Israel Today**

What was the hope of the Oslo Accords in 1994 and why have they failed to produce a peace agreement between the PA and Israel? What transpired after Sept. 2000 and how has this affected Israel-- both politically and militarily? Where is the Israeli public today? Is there still hope that there can be peace between Israel and the Palestinians?

***David Horovitz, Editor in Chief, Jerusalem Post***

**16:45- 17:30 A meeting with Avner Shalev, Chairman of the Yad Vashem Directorate**

**17:30- 18:30 Group Defriefing**

**18:30 Return to the Hotel**

**20:00 Farewell Dinner**

## **Thursday, February 18, 2010**

### **7:30- 19:00 Trip to the North**

Our trip to the north will take us from Jerusalem to the east and down into the Jordan Valley. We will travel around the biblical city of Jericho and travel up the Jordan Valley rift to Beit Shean. Just north of Beit Shean, we will go up the mountain called "the Star of the Jordan" where we will visit the Crusader castle *Belvoir*. Built in the 12th century, we will explore the castle and see the beautiful view to the east, north, and south. The mountains of Moav, Edom, the Gilad, and the Golan to Mt. Hermon are all-visible from this castle. From there we will visit Naharayim- and see a model of the original hydroelectric power station that was built there in the 1920's. We will experience the story of Kibbutz Gesher—the pioneers who struggled to settle and cultivate the land, and their fight for survival during the War of Independence in 1948. We will have lunch at the Kibbutz Ein Gev and then continue our tour along the Golan Heights. We will travel to Mt. Bental and see the border between Syria and Israel. We will wind up our tour with a stop at the Golan Heights Winery for an explanation about the operation of the winery and end with a wine tasting!! From there we will continue due west across the Jordan River to the western Galilee to the Ghetto Fighter's House where we will rest for the night.

## **Friday, February 19, 2010**

### **8:30-15:30 The Seminar at the Ghetto Fighters' House will focus on the following topics:**

- 1) Jewish youth movements before and during the Holocaust
- 2) Jewish armed resistance in the ghettos and forests
- 3) The testimony of a Holocaust survivor who worked as a courier in the Warsaw Ghetto
- 4) The Children's Museum – Yad L'Yeled – a museum built specifically for middle school children
- 5) The presentation of an educational film on the life and legacy of Janus Korczak

### **Friday night- Evening meal will be at a restaurant in Akko**

## **Saturday, February 20, 2010**

### **Program with the GFH and touring**

## **Sunday, February 21, 2010**

### **Program at the GHF and touring**

### **20:00- Arrival at the Ben Gurion Airport and return home!**

