



YAD VASHEM

The Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority



ECHOES and REFLECTIONS

A Multimedia Curriculum on the Holocaust



TENTATIVE PROGRAM

***Echoes and Reflections* Professors' Study Tour**

January 6, 2010 – January 13, 2010

(Jan. 14-16, 2010- Optional Program)

(Jan. 14-18, 2010- Optional Program)

Wednesday, January 6, 2010

Arrival in Israel and transportation to the Prima Royale Hotel

20:30 Introduction to the Seminar and Yad Vashem team

Dorit Novak Director, International School for Holocaust Studies (ISHS)
Ephraim Kaye Director, International Seminars for Educators (ISHS)
Stephanie McMahon-Kaye Desk for International Seminars in English (ISHS)
Mira Museri, Dept. Coordinator, International Seminars for Educators (ISHS)

Thursday, January 7, 2010

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.

Professor David Bankier, Yad Vashem

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

10:30-12:00 **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 the Holocaust humanly possible? How do we define the "bystanders"? How did some become indifferent while others became 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 as outlined in *Echoes and Reflections*?

Shulamit Imber, Pedagogical Director ISHS

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

13:00-14:30

[Echoes and Reflections](#) — Methods and Materials

Participants will be introduced to the philosophy, organization, format, and multimedia components of *Echoes and Reflections* through a hands-on exploration of select activities from the curriculum.

Deborah Batiste, ADL Echoes and Reflections Project Director

14:30-14:45

Break

14:45-16:15

The Rise of Modern Antisemitism in Europe –19th-20th Century

Wagner, Chamberlain, Wilhelm Marr, and Gobineau – the rise of modern antisemitism in France and Germany. Social, economic, political, and racial Antisemitism as a replacement for anti-Judaism in the Middle Ages.

Dr. Rafi Vago, Tel Aviv University

16:15-16:30

Break

16:30-17:30

Teaching Antisemitism in the Classroom

This will be a brainstorming session with the participants on how to approach this topic in the classroom as well as a Q&A session with Dr. Rafi Vago.

17:30

Return to Hotel

Friday, January 8, 2010

08:00 – 11:30

Guided Tour of the New Holocaust History Museum and the Children's Memorial of Yad Vashem – An Educational and Methodological Approach ([online link](#))

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

11:45-15:00 Bus Tour of Jerusalem

Participants will be introduced to the geographical/political aspects of the city of Jerusalem and will tour 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).

Barak Zemer, Yad Ben-Zvi

16:00 Shabbat Evening Service at the Great Synagogue (optional)

Participants are invited 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 their connection to current events.

19:30 Debrief and Discussion (optional)

This session provides time for participants to reflect on some of the topics and experiences from the day, as well as to express thoughts and feelings about this difficult and complex subject matter.

Saturday, January 9, 2010

8:30- 17:00 Guided Tour of Massada and the Dead Sea (optional)

This guided tour will take participants to the 2nd Temple fortress of Massada built by King Herod in the Judean Desert in the 1st cent. BCE. 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.

Nadav Kersh

Sunday, January 10, 2010

08:00- 11:30 Tour of the Christian and Jewish Quarters of the Old City

This tour will take participants through the Christian quarter of the Old City— to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Mount Zion, and the traditional site of the Last Supper. Participants will also see the Western Wall (the Kotel) and from there they will walk up to the Jewish Quarter to visit the Cardo and other sites in the Jewish quarter.

Barak Zemer, Yad Ben-Zvi

11:30-12:30 Lunch

**12:30- 14:00 Jewish Life in Pre-war Europe—The Jews of Poland: 1919-1939
(Zionists, the Orthodox, and the Bund)**

Who were the Jews of Poland? What were the major issues that the different political parties faced in inter-war Poland? What were the possible solutions that each political party put forward to improve their situation? This presentation, using film excerpts from *Image Before My Eyes*, will explore these questions in an attempt to understand the Jewish community of Poland during the inter-war period on the eve of their destruction.

Ephraim Kaye, Yad Vashem

14:00- 14:30 Break

**14:30- 15:00 Using Visual History Testimony to Teach about Pre-war Jewish Life in our
classrooms**

Participants will view testimonies from *Echoes and Reflections* that provide a glimpse into what pre-war life was like for Jews in Germany and consider the importance of including such testimonies when teaching about the Holocaust.

Deborah Batiste, ADL Echoes and Reflections Project Director

**15:15- 16:15 Introduction to the Learning Center in the New Holocaust
History Museum Complex of Yad Vashem**

The Learning 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

**16:30- 17:30 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. Participants will hear two survivors relate their pre-war experiences.

***Masha Greenbaum – Lithuania
Ruth Brand – Romania/Hungary***

17:30 Return to Hotel

19:30-21:00 Debrief and Discussion

Deborah Batiste, Sherry Bard, and Yad Vashem staff

Monday, January 11, 2010

8:30-10:00 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*?

Professor David Bankier, Yad Vashem

10:00-10:30 Break

10:30- 12:00 Presenting the Visual History Archive on the Internet

The *Echoes and Reflections* team is building an online companion to the curriculum. This Web-based application will give students and educators direct access to over 1,000 testimonies of the USC Shoah Foundation Institute’s archive along with access to a wide range of contextual materials. What are the advantages of reaching out to students with this tool in an online environment? What are some of the concerns? Erin Riesland will preview this innovative online tool and invite discussion from workshop attendees.

Erin Riesland, USC Shoah Foundation Institute

12:00-13:00 Lunch

13:00-14:30 The Dilemmas of Jewish Leadership during the Holocaust –The *Judenrate*—A Comparison between Eastern and Western Europe

Why did the Germans create Jewish councils in both Eastern and Western Europe? What functions did they fulfill for the Germans? How did the Jewish community feel towards these councils? How did the Jewish leadership of these councils respond to the Nazi demands for forced labor/deportations? What were the different responses of the various *Judenrate* in Eastern and Western Europe to the Nazi demands? What were the parallels?

Dr. Rob Rozett, Yad Vashem

14:30-14:45 Break

14:45-15:45 ***Echoes and Reflections— Lesson 4: The Ghettos***

This presentation will focus on the period of ghettoization, including an in-depth look at the history of the period in question as well as the personal eyewitness testimony and reflection of a young man as preserved in his diary. This presentation also allows an opportunity for participants to consider how Jews grappled with dilemmas and attempted to maintain their traditions despite the insurmountable circumstances they faced.

Stephanie McMahon-Kaye, Yad Vashem

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

16:00-17:30 **The Holocaust and Art —A Teaching Tool in the Classroom**

In a visit to the Holocaust Art Museum at Yad Vashem, participants will be introduced 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? Orit will focus on works of art that are part of *Echoes and Reflections*.

Orit Margaliot, Yad Vashem

17:30 **Return to Hotel**

20:00- 22:00 **Tour of the Western Wall Tunnel in the Old City (Optional)**

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.

Tuesday, January 12, 2010

08:30- 10:00 **Jewish Armed Resistance during the Holocaust**

Why were Jewish youth movements in the ghettos involved in organizing armed resistance in the ghettos? What were their dilemmas? To stay in the ghetto or to join the partisans in the forests? How and when was the decision taken to revolt against the Nazi oppressor? What was the outcome in different ghettos? Simcha will present examples of Jewish fighting units in the forests.

Simcha Stein, Former Director, Ghetto Fighters' House

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 Lunch

13:00-14:00 *Echoes and Reflections*— Lesson 5: The “Final Solution”

Realizing the time constraints that most U.S. teachers face when teaching the Holocaust, how do we prepare the next generation of teachers to present complex topics like extermination camps to their students in a meaningful way? Using material from Lesson 5, participants will examine effective strategies to introduce the topic of the “Final Solution” to today’s students.

Deborah Batiste, ADL Echoes and Reflections Project Director

14:00-14:15 Break

14:15-15:45 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

15:45-16:00 Break

16:00- 17:00 Survivor Testimony –a childhood friend of Anne Frank

Hanna Pick, Germany and Holland

17:15-18:00 **Debrief and Discussion**
Deborah Batiste, Sherry Bard and Yad Vashem staff

18:00 **Return to Hotel**

19:30 **Farewell Dinner at a Restaurant in Jerusalem**

Wednesday, January 13, 2010

08:30-10:00 **Problems Facing Israel Today— Q&A**

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 September 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 of the Jerusalem Post

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 including Armenia, Cambodia, and Rwanda? How can we incorporate the study of genocide into our curricula in order to make the study of the Holocaust more relevant?

Professor Yehuda Bauer, Yad Vashem

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

13:00-14:30 **Confronting the Phenomenon of the New Antisemitism and Holocaust Denial**

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

14:30-15:00 Break

15:00-16:00 Challenges in Teaching the Holocaust

What are the challenges that face educators today? How is Yad Vashem responding to these challenges?

Avner Shalev, Chairman of the Yad Vashem Directorate

16:00-16:15 Break

16:15-17:30 Debrief and Discussion: Incorporating *Echoes and Reflections* at U.S. Colleges and Universities

Deborah Batiste, Sherry Bard and Yad Vashem staff

17:30 Return to Hotel

20:30 Depart Hotel for the Airport (for those returning)

Optional program - Thursday, January 14, 2010

08:30-10:00 "The Words, Too, Will Nourish": Poetry and Resistance

How (and what) does poetry resist? Can it properly be described as a form of spiritual resistance? Does victim writing during the Holocaust solicit a category of its own? Can we say, moreover, that poems written in the aftermath of the Holocaust also resist—and, if so, what? The session will hope to address these and related questions, drawing on among others the nourishing words of Avraham Sutzkever.

Dr. Alan Rosen

10:00-10:30 Break

10:30-12:00 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

12:00-13:30 Lunch and free time

13:30- 14:30 Nazi Medicine during the Holocaust - Implications for Medical Education Today

The United Nations declared January 27th as the International Day of Commemoration of the victims of the Holocaust. Physicians played a crucial role in Nazi Germany. We will explore the underlying ideological background and trends in medical education during that period which led to the most horrific atrocities. The study of medicine before and during the Holocaust is an important platform for medical ethics education in medical schools today and must serve as a safeguard for the future. This presentation attempts to address these issues.

Benjamin Gesundheit, MD, PhD

14:30- 15:00 Break

15:00-16:30 Death Factory Auschwitz – A Presentation of Pictures and Testimonies from the Sonderkommando

This is an exploration of the *work* of this special unit in the death factory. How was it organized? Who were the SS that ran this camp? What was the everyday life of the Jewish prisoners? Who were the men of the Sonderkommando and what did they leave us in their diaries and testimonies?

Dr. Gideon Greif

16:30-17:00 Break

17:00-18:30 Testimony of a Survivor from Auschwitz-Birkenau

Ruth Brand

18:30 Return to Hotel

Friday, January 15, 2010

08:30-10:00 The Vatican and the Shoah – Post- Holocaust Catholic Theology

How did the Catholic Church change its attitude towards the Jews as a result of the Holocaust? *Nostra Aetate* and its influence on the Church will be discussed. Is there hope for better understanding between Christians and Jews?

Dr. Gemma Del Duca , Yad Vashem
Father David Neuhaus

10:00-10:30 Break

**10:30-12:00 The Struggle with Jewish Faith during the Shoah
"A Tale of Two cities" – Warsaw and Budapest.**

This lecture will look at the rare documented responses of two martyred spiritual leaders to the cataclysmic events that engulfed them and their communities. Rabbi Kalonymus Shapira, of Warsaw was the author of "Esh Kodesh"(Sacred Fire) and Rabbi Yissachar Shlomo Teichthal from Budapest authored "Em Habanim Semacha" (A Happy Mother of Children). Is there a mutual suffering of people and/with God? Is the mutual suffering of people aligned with their redemptive destiny?

Dr. Pesach Schindler

12:00 Return to the Hotel and free time

Saturday, January 16, 2010

7:30-19:00 An Optional Trip to the Galilee

This trip will take the participants to Nazareth and the Church of the Annunciation, the Mt. of Beatitudes Tabgha, and Capernaum. The participants will continue to Tiberias and the Kinneret (the Sea of Galilee) and will enjoy a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee. The participants will return to Jerusalem on the coastal road.

Barak Zemer, Yad Ben-Zvi

20:30 Leave Hotel for the Ben Gurion Airport

00:05 Flight back to NYC

Optional Program- Sunday, January 17, 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 Geshet-- 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.

Monday, January 18, 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

19:00 Arrival at the Ben Gurion Airport and return to USA