

Highlights of Yad Vashem's Activities in 2009

Holocaust Education – The International School

- Some 280,000 students from Israel and abroad, soldiers and officers of the IDF and other Israeli security forces participated in seminars and programs of the International School for Holocaust Studies and at the School's branch in Givatayim. Of those, more than 60,000 were Jewish students from abroad.
- 75 long-term seminars were held at Yad Vashem for more than 1,650 educators from abroad.
- Some 1,300 educators from abroad participated in 59 teacher-training days at the School.
- School staff participated in 58 seminars and conferences around the world and worked in some 60 different countries around the globe.
- 122 seminars were conducted for more than 3,200 Israeli teachers.
- Some 12,600 Israeli educators attended 442 teacher-training days at Yad Vashem and throughout Israel. Among these were more than 4,100 Ultra-orthodox teachers.



- Some 900 educators from across Israel participated in the Third National Teachers' Conference in July.
- More than 2,000 teachers across the US received training as part of "Echoes and Reflections," a joint project of Yad Vashem, the ADL and the USC Shoah Foundation Institute. Close to 10,000 educators and community leaders have been trained since the inception of the program.
- 28 educational units were published in a variety of languages: Spanish, German, Hungarian, Russian, English and Hebrew. The units are intended for both formal and informal frameworks, and include textbooks, study guides, DVDs and drawings, providing a multi-disciplinary approach to Holocaust education.
- There were some 1.2 million visits to the School's interactive virtual school.
- A new online portal in Russian including a variety of educational materials and content was uploaded to the School's website, as well as an extensive range of educational material in 22 different languages, including 14 online courses, 18 lesson plans, 23 sub-sites for special events, 10 international video conferences, 25 educational presentations, online community forums, interactive maps, ceremonies, educational units and survivor testimonies.

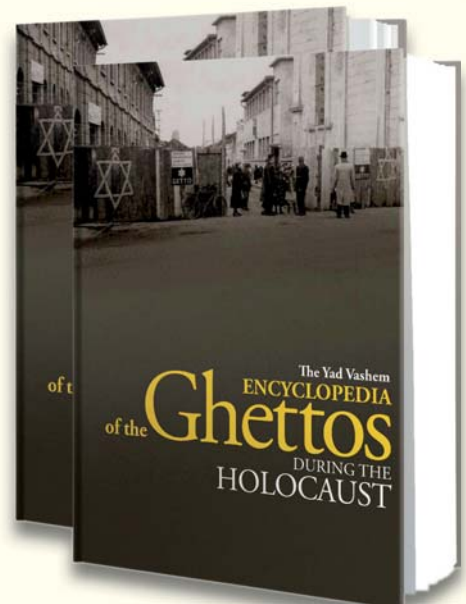
Research and Publications

■ The International Institute for Holocaust Research held 4 international research workshops and symposia and 19 workshops for Holocaust scholars, as well as the annual lecture of The John Najmann Chair of Holocaust Studies.

■ 10 senior researchers from Israel and abroad were hosted at Yad Vashem, assisted by 4-month fellowship grants by the Research Institute. The Institute also granted 14 awards to masters and doctoral students.

■ 35 new books were published by Yad Vashem, including 7 new memoirs (4 in English and 3 in Hebrew), 5 diaries and other original documents, 14 research studies, 4 volumes of *Yad Vashem Studies*, 3 booklets from the "Search and Research" series, one album and an encyclopedia.

■ The first reference book of its kind, the comprehensive *Yad Vashem Encyclopedia of the Ghettos During the Holocaust*, was published in English by the International Institute for Holocaust Research. The encyclopedia includes some 1,100 entries about ghettos in Nazi-occupied Europe, 250 photographs and 60 maps.



Art works and Artifacts

■ 508 artifacts and 284 works of art were added to Yad Vashem's collections. The artifacts collection now holds more than 22,900 items, and the art collection comprises over 12,360 pieces.

■ The exhibition "My Homeland," the story of Holocaust survivors in the shaping of Israeli identity, was held in the Yad Vashem Exhibitions Pavilion.

■ Traveling exhibitions were displayed in 39 locations worldwide. 25 exhibitions are now available in 11 languages including Arabic, German, Spanish and English.

Righteous Among the Nations

■ 457 individuals were recognized as Righteous Among the Nations. As of the end of 2009, more than 23,200 individuals have been recognized as Righteous Among the Nations.



Documentation, Photographs, Names, Testimonies and Films

■ 4.5 million pages of Holocaust-era documentation were gathered by Yad Vashem. To date, Yad Vashem's Archives, the largest and most comprehensive repository of its kind, contain some 130 million pages of documentation.

■ Over 600,000 name occurrences of victims and survivors from archival lists and other documentation were digitized, among them archival documents gathered in Hungary, the former Soviet Union and other sources.

■ The Central Database of Shoah Victims' Names has been enlarged and now contains close to 3.8 million names of Holocaust victims, all of which are accessible online. The Names Database now contains some 2.2 million Pages of Testimony, more than half of the total number of names in the Names Database.

Tens of thousands of Pages of Testimony were gathered as a result of intensive activity of the Names Recovery campaign in the ultra-Orthodox and Russian-speaking sectors in Israel and worldwide.



■ Some 10,000 photographs were added to the Photo Archive, and 4,200 to the Hall of Names. Yad Vashem currently houses more than 385,000 photographs, including over 136,000 photographs attached to Pages of Testimony. Some 260,000 of these photographs are easily accessible to the general public at www.yadvashem.org.

■ Some 1,000 new Holocaust survivor testimonies were filmed and recorded by the Oral History Section, Archives Division, aided by a new outreach program enabling survivors to have their testimonies filmed at home. The Archives currently house 101,000 video, audio and written testimonies.

■ 32,500 public inquiries were answered by the Reference and Information Services Unit. Of these inquiries, 8,500 members of the public were assisted in the Library and Archives Reading Room, and 27,000 were written queries.

■ Some 3,800 book titles were acquired by the Yad Vashem Library. Containing the most comprehensive collection of published material about the Holocaust, the Library holds over 123,000 titles in 54 languages.

■ The Visual Center acquired some 500 films, including classics from the past as well as new films, and catalogued more than 850 from a variety of genres. The total number of catalogued films has reached 6,100. Currently over half of these titles, more than 3,800 films, are available for viewing at the Visual Center.

■ Some 100 groups of students, teachers and film directors visited the Visual Center, taking part in Holocaust-related film programs. The Visual Center held six special screenings of new films at commemorative events and at film festivals in Jerusalem and Paris.

■ The Visual Center granted the fourth annual Avner Shalev Yad Vashem Chairman's Award to Director Michael Verhoeven for his film *Human Failure*. The annual award is presented for artistic achievement in a Holocaust-related film.





Visits and Commemorative Events

- Some 800,000 people visited Yad Vashem in 2009.
- 52,700 visitors toured Yad Vashem on more than 3,250 guided tours, led by Yad Vashem's professionally trained staff. Among them were 639 visits by world leaders, dignitaries and official visitors.
- The Commemoration and Public Relations Division held 85 events, including the Holocaust Remembrance Day ceremonies, and more than 200 memorial services in conjunction with Holocaust survivor and next-generation organizations.



Internet Activity

- More than 10 million visits from some 220 countries and territories were recorded visiting the Yad Vashem website.
- A website in Spanish was launched in January 2009 with more than 360,500 visits.
- A YouTube channel was launched in Spanish, joining the English, Hebrew and Arabic channels. Over 2 million video views were recorded on the channels during the year.
- For the fourth year running, the Yad Vashem website won the "People and Computers" WebiAward in the Special Category for outstanding websites.