Introduction

For more than half a century, Yad Vashem has dedicated itself to transmitting Holocaust remembrance worldwide. Guided by its commitment to Holocaust education, commemoration, documentation and research, Yad Vashem has inspired millions of people around the world to learn about the Holocaust and its universal legacy. The advent of advanced communication tools, the fast pace of information exchange in the modern digital age and new and emerging technologies continue to offer additional vistas for global access. Yad Vashem has embraced these tools, using them to reach out to people from every walk of life, and inspiring them to join its mission: keeping the memory and legacy of the Shoah alive and relevant for generations to come.

Above all Yad Vashem is a place of hope. There is more life here than anywhere else, for, while it commemorates the past, it also inspires the future.

Molly Sharfman, Intern at the International School
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From the Chairman of the Directorate

Dear Friends,

The Holocaust was the systematic effort of the Nazis to murder every Jew, everywhere. Over time it has become apparent that the Holocaust is nonetheless a key universal component of mankind’s legacy. Thus, it must be integrated into the personal and collective consciousnesses of men and women everywhere.

During 2009, Yad Vashem witnessed how this watershed realization has gained momentum in various influential quarters around the world, particularly in Europe. We have grounds to partially ascribe this welcome development to our own consistent and comprehensive efforts to instill meaningful Holocaust awareness. Yet we must also note a concurrent and alarming increase in the frequency of antisemitic incidents.

And, we cannot ignore the dangers inherent in subtler phenomena, such as revisionist and relativist narratives of Holocaust history, which in 2009 gained dubious legitimacy in certain circles. Some of these narratives aim to equate all forms of modern totalitarianism, and thus treat Nazism as just one more evil of our tormented era. In the face of such perilous distortions, we call upon all nations and cultures to grapple with their specific historic narratives, but not through crude equations that trivialize the distinctiveness of the essence of the Holocaust and its implications.

We must equip tomorrow’s leaders, decision-makers and citizens with the information and insight required to pinpoint and reject misleading pseudo-history of the Holocaust era. Over the past year, Yad Vashem acted vigorously to address this need, through the worldwide scope of our International School for Holocaust Studies. The School devises and implements innovative means of reaching and teaching hundreds of thousands of pupils and educators. 2009 saw a record number of participants in our educational seminars from around the world, a huge increase in visitors to yadvashem.org, and greatly expanded online networks for educators across the globe. Joining other educational breakthroughs as a Spanish Internet portal, a dedicated Facebook page and increased use of our YouTube channels, 2009 saw a burgeoning use of the newest technologies in furthering Holocaust education and awareness.

At the same time, tangible progress was made this past year in the construction of the School’s International Seminars wing, which is rapidly going up on the Mount of Remembrance, and will upon completion enable Yad Vashem to better meet the growing demand for superior Holocaust education.

Such education must be founded upon a critical mass of incontrovertible and accessible documentation. During 2009, we found new, effective ways to technologically leverage the unsurpassed repository of the 130 million pages in our Archives into commonly available means of Holocaust-related knowledge and awareness. Leveraging technology has enabled us to make further strides this year in the realization of a core Yad Vashem mission: the ongoing discovery and recording of names and other personal data of Holocaust victims. We are encouraged by the demonstrated effectiveness of our worldwide Names Recovery Project and the systematic digitization of our archival materials, which annually yield hundreds of thousands of previously unrecorded victims’ names – this year reaching nearly four million names.

In the field of Holocaust research, 2009 saw the publication of our monumental opus, The Yad Vashem Encyclopedia of the Ghettos During the Holocaust. This definitive and essential two-volume work is the culmination of years of scholarly labor and thought.

Our campus continues to serve as a uniquely meaningful venue for commemorative events that focus world attention upon our work and message. For the millions who visit our Jerusalem campus, and the millions more exposed to the Shoah through our online resources and traveling exhibitions, Yad Vashem is a powerful source of information, remembrance and inspiration. With your help, we can continue the vital task of transmitting meaningful Holocaust remembrance worldwide.

Avner Shalev
Chairman of the Yad Vashem Directorate
From the Chairman of the Council

Dear Friends,

Over the past year, I have had the privilege to represent Yad Vashem in numerous forums both in Israel and abroad. During my encounters with policy makers, opinion shapers, government leaders, educators and the public at large I was struck again and again by the centrality of Holocaust remembrance today.

As a survivor of the Holocaust, I do not take it for granted that people are still talking about the Shoah and seeking to understand this most cataclysmic of events. Indeed, we are constantly reminded that there are many who would like us to forget that the Holocaust happened - either out of malice, or through ignorance of the relevance it still has on society today. The voice of the survivors takes on ever-greater importance, as they are the eyewitnesses to the single most important event in modern Jewish history, and a seminal event in the history of human civilization. And so we continue to grapple with the repercussions and underlying meaning of the Shoah and its legacy.

The Torah commands us to “Remember what Amalek has done to you… do not forget.” We are instructed not only not to forget what our most sinister enemy has wrought on the Jewish people, but actively to remember. Remembering the symbolic Amalek throughout Jewish history is a positive commandment that commits us as Jews not simply to remember for the past’s sake, but to see its continued relevance to our lives throughout the generations.

Even as we began to rebuild, we each mourned individually – for lost families, friends, mentors, rabbis and communities. Even for ourselves. But how do we mourn a lost world? How do we commemorate a third of a nation that was wiped out? How do we pay tribute to the immense loss we as a Jewish people suffered? And how do we ensure that their legacy lives on? That such events cannot happen in the future?

This tremendous task requires an enormous effort. An effort that includes top research, meaningful educational initiatives and innovative exhibitions. A broad, comprehensive and interdisciplinary effort that brings the individual voices together in a diverse but united communal expression of remembrance and tribute.

As I view and experience its activities around the world, I know that Yad Vashem pursues and secures Holocaust remembrance with single minded dedication and energy. Its persistent efforts to reach new audiences and new generations, to make the memory of the Holocaust and the lessons we can learn relevant to society today, are a blessing for the Jewish people and the whole of humanity.

Rabbi Israel Meir Lau
Chairman of the Yad Vashem Council
Highlights of
Yad Vashem’s Activities in 2009

Holocaust Education - The International School

- 280,000 students from Israel and abroad, soldiers and officers of the IDF and other Israeli security forces participate in seminars and programs of the International School for Holocaust Studies
- 75 seminars held at Yad Vashem for more than 1,650 educators from abroad
- 1,300 educators from abroad participate in 59 teacher-training days at the International School
- International School staff active in some 60 different countries around the globe
- 122 seminars held at Yad Vashem for more than 3,200 Israeli educators
- 12,600 Israeli educators attend 442 teacher-training days at Yad Vashem and throughout Israel
- 900 educators from across Israel participate in the Third National Teachers’ Conference
- New online portal in Russian and an extensive range of educational material made available online in 22 different languages
- 28 educational units published in Spanish, German, Hungarian, Russian, English and Hebrew
- 1.2 million visits recorded to Yad Vashem’s “Virtual School”

Research and Publications

- International Institute for Holocaust Research holds 23 international research workshops and symposia for Holocaust scholars
- 24 fellowships and awards granted to scholars from Israel and abroad
- 35 new books published by Yad Vashem, including memoirs, research studies and an encyclopedia

Art works and Artifacts

- 509 artifacts added to Yad Vashem’s Artifacts Collection, now totaling 22,900 pieces
- 284 works of art added to Yad Vashem’s Art Collection, now totaling 12,360 pieces
- Major exhibition displayed at the Exhibitions Pavilion
- Traveling exhibitions showed in 39 locations worldwide

Righteous Among the Nations

- 457 individuals recognized as Righteous Among the Nations. As of the end of 2009, more than 23,200 individuals have received the honor.
Visits and Commemorative Events

- 800,000 people visit the Mount of Remembrance
- 639 world leaders, dignitaries and official visitors tour Yad Vashem
- 85 events and 200 memorial services held across the campus

Internet Activity

- 10 million visits recorded on the Yad Vashem website from some 220 countries and territories worldwide
- New website in Spanish receives more than 360,500 visits
- YouTube channels in Spanish, English, Hebrew and Arabic record 2 million video views

Documentation, Photographs, Names, Testimonies and Films

- 4.5 million pages of documentation added to the Yad Vashem Archives bring the total number to some 130 million pages
- Over 600,000 names records digitized from archival documents gathered from Hungary, the Former Soviet Union and other sources
- Yad Vashem’s Central Database of Shoah Victims’ Names reaches 3.8 million names
- 10,000 photographs added to the Photo Archive, and 4,200 to the Hall of Names. The Archives now comprise more than 385,000 images.
- 1,000 new Holocaust survivor testimonies filmed. The Archives now hold 101,000 video, audio and written testimonies.
- 32,500 public inquiries answered by the Reference and Information Services Unit: 27,000 written and 8,500 from visitors to the Library and Archives Reading Room
- 3,800 book titles added to the Library collection, which now numbers over 123,000 publications.
- 500 new films added to the Visual Center Library Catalogue. The Center now holds 6,100 Holocaust-related films, 3,800 of them available for immediate viewing.
- 100 groups of students, teachers and film directors visit and attend varied activities and programs of the Visual Center
Education
Education

The International School for Holocaust Studies has more than three decades of experience teaching students and educators how to grapple with the difficult issues raised by the Shoah. Last year, the School engaged in innovative formal and informal educational initiatives worldwide, connecting a wealth of learners of different cultures, languages and religions.

During 2009, more than 280,000 students and soldiers from Israel and abroad participated in the International School’s pioneering educational programs. Educators from abroad took part in 75 tailor-made long-term seminars, and Israeli teachers attended 122 training courses.
In November 2009, a groundbreaking seminar brought 18 Moroccan educators together for an intensive weeklong period of study at Yad Vashem. The delegation included social activists and opinion shapers from within the Berber community, an ethnic majority in Morocco. Hosted by the International School for Holocaust Studies, they explored diverse topics such as the rise of antisemitism, pre-war Jewish life in Europe and North Africa, anti-Jewish Nazi policy, and confronting Holocaust denial. In addition, participants learned how to access and utilize the extensive resources available on the Yad Vashem website. The group gained not only the essential tools for teaching about the Holocaust in Morocco, but also joined the supportive educational network of the International School.

Yad Vashem is an heroic institution in the field of human rights... because it imparts a universal message to the whole of humanity. When you are at Yad Vashem you realize that dialogue between peoples of all races, religions and sects is the only solution.

Participant in Moroccan Educators’ Seminar
German Police Officers Study the Holocaust

“We arrived in Riga at 21:50. The train was kept at the station for one-and-a-half hours without heat... The temperature outside was -12°C... I myself found a place to sleep in the guesthouse.”

These words close a detailed report about the deportation of 1,007 German Jews from the Düsseldorf area to Riga in December 1941. Police officer Paul Salitter, who was in charge of escorting this transport, wrote the report after handing over the Jews to the guards of the Riga ghetto. Salitter’s police station in Düsseldorf still exists, and the officers working there today are well aware of their colleague who served 75 years ago. In April 2009, Captain Klaus Döncke, who devotes a large portion of his job as a police officer to studying the archival documents still stored in the cellar of the police headquarters, accompanied a group of police officers for the second time to an educational seminar run by the International School for Holocaust Studies.

During the course of the seminar, Döncke handed over a rare historical document to the Yad Vashem Archives: the personal file of Officer Salitter. The double page shows a carefully filled-in form, documenting the career of a simple policeman who climbed the Nazi hierarchy – seemingly without ever doubting the moral rectitude of the institutions and organizations in which he was served.
Professors Bring Shoah Studies Curriculum to US Campuses

The first “Echoes and Reflections” Professors’ Study Tour took place in January 2009, with 19 professors from across the United States coming to Yad Vashem to study the Holocaust and identify meaningful ways to bring the multimedia Holocaust educational curriculum “Echoes and Reflections” to college students. Participants met with historians and pedagogical experts from Yad Vashem and studied a range of topics, including pre-war Europe and the Jews of Poland, Jewish leadership during the Holocaust, the Final Solution, Holocaust literature and art, and the complexity and responsibility of teaching the Holocaust to students today. The prestigious group of professors who participated in the program will now work to bring the curriculum to their college campuses, with a special focus on preparing trainee educators to teach the Holocaust once they enter the classroom.

New Opportunities for Australian Educators

While more than 250 educators from Australia have attended seminars at Yad Vashem since the 1980s, the opportunity is now being expanded and enhanced through the new Gandel Holocaust Studies Program for Holocaust Educators, a long-term professional program aimed at training a cadre of Australian teachers to become experts in Holocaust instruction. The program, which works in close partnership with Australian non-government organizations and universities, included a seminar in April 2009 tailored for principals of Catholic schools in Melbourne and Sydney. In 2010, it will provide further seminars in Israel and Australia, as well as an Internet platform for discussion and to provide methodological guidance to foster professional exchange and provide educators with practical teaching tools that will fit into the guidelines of the Australian national teaching curriculum.

This seminar exceeded not only my expectations but my dreams also. An awesome and life changing experience. I made ongoing connections, both professionally and personally. I feel spiritually and intellectually enriched.

Participant in seminar for Australian educators
Cornerstone Laid for New International Seminars Wing

In January 2009, diplomats from more than 30 countries converged at Yad Vashem to attend the cornerstone-laying ceremony for the new International Seminars Wing of the International School for Holocaust Studies. During the year, the International School held 75 long-term seminars at Yad Vashem for over 1,650 educators from abroad, and participated in close to 60 seminars and conferences around the world. With over 50,000 square feet of added space, the new Wing is being built to meet the ever-growing interest in the Holocaust, and the increasing requests by educators to come to Yad Vashem and confront the challenges they face in Holocaust education.

Special Programs Focus on Arab Communities

Understanding the impact of the Holocaust on the Jewish people is intrinsic to Israeli society and a critical topic for humanity worldwide. As such, Yad Vashem has initiated several outreach programs for raising Holocaust awareness within the Arab community. In 2009, the International School held tailor-made workshops for Arab students, hosted a first-time visit by a group of Palestinian youth to the Holocaust History Museum, and provided special guided tours of an unique traveling exhibition in Arabic on display in Ramle, depicting Muslim Albanians who saved almost all the Jews living within their borders during the Shoah.
It is important that Arab students visit Yad Vashem to be exposed to the scale of the tragedy.

Ali Haider, co-director of Sikkuy, a leading NPO advocating greater equality between Israel's Jewish and Arab citizens

Taking Holocaust Education to the Periphery

During 2009, the successful program “From Crisis to Hope” connected more than 700 students from the Arab sector to the topic of the Holocaust. The program, ongoing since 2007, targets youth at vocational schools run by the Israeli Ministry of Trade and Industry. Most of the students are from areas located in the periphery of Israel and are unable to attend regular schools as a result of social, emotional and learning disabilities. The young people toured the Holocaust History Museum and commemorative sites at Yad Vashem, prepared for a journey to Poland, studied about the impact of the Holocaust on the Jewish people, and learned about its resonance for future generations.
Keeping the Topic Relevant for the Next Generations

Ensuring that Holocaust education remains relevant for younger generations presents an ever-increasing educational challenge, especially since many young people today sense little personal connection to the Holocaust. Among the International School’s unique programs are those developed specifically to address the importance of Holocaust remembrance and education during the next decade of the 21st century.

Generating dialogue about the Holocaust is one of the objectives of the interdisciplinary initiative, “Signposts: Students Shaping Memory.” After attending specially designed workshops, advanced graphic design students create a series of thought-provoking postcards based on Holocaust remembrance. The postcards, displayed at the International School and on the Yad Vashem website, touch on a variety of topics and express the creative world of the students.

A series of innovative posters on display at the International School also serves as a basis for a meaningful dialogue and educational experience with all those who study at the International School, including school children, university students and educators. The posters, designed by college students taking part in a unique program, “A Meeting of the Worlds,” visually express their personal responses to the Holocaust. The depictions, displayed for an entire year in the corridors of the International School, provide thought provoking material for all visitors entering the building.
The conference proved that the study of the Holocaust is not the exclusive province of history or literature teachers, but the legacy of all teachers and citizens of Israel.

Assistant School Principal Henya Finkelstein
Graduate Spotlight

In 2004, long-time history and English teacher Joachim Wiesner from Bregenz, Austria came to Yad Vashem to attend an educational seminar. There he met Holocaust survivor Naftali Fuerst, who had survived Buchenwald and immigrated to Israel in 1949. The two became good friends. For the next five years, the lives of Wiesner and Fuerst became intertwined. Wiesner invited Fuerst to give testimony to students and teachers in several cities throughout Austria, and together they attended a ceremony marking the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Buchenwald. Wiesner also designed and developed a pedagogical resource produced with the cooperation of the International School, “Telling Naftali Fuerst’s Story: A Survivor from Buchenwald,” that won a European Design Award earlier this year. Wiesner’s initiative, creativity and dedication are prime examples of the achievements of the International School’s graduates.

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Faith During the Holocaust: New Textbooks Address the History of Religious Jewry During the Shoah

2009 saw the launch of a series of educational textbooks about religious life during the Holocaust. Years Wherewith We Have Seen Evil tells the story of Jews who maintained their observance of Jewish laws and customs during the Shoah, expressing the values and experiences of the religious and ultra-Orthodox Jewish communities, while maintaining accurate academic historiography.

The series’ rich materials are culled from varied sources, including archival documents, rabbinic texts, Jewish religious decisions and survivors’ memoirs. The four volumes cover a wide range of different topics – German Orthodox Jewry Under Nazi Rule, the Ghetto Period, Rescue during the Holocaust, and the Final Solution – from various historical, ethical and halachic viewpoints.

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We have a sacred duty to tell and to remember.
Rabbi Raphael Auerbach, at opening of seminar for ultra-Orthodox educators at Yad Vashem
The Virtual School

Yad Vashem’s Virtual School successfully bridges language and cultural barriers by making educational materials readily available online in 22 different languages. With some 1.2 million visits during 2009 from around the world, a wealth of pedagogical tools – courses, lesson plans, curricula, survivor testimonies, films and more – are immediately accessible to educators, students and opinion makers.

Integrating Literature, the Arts and Holocaust Education

A new series of lesson plans developed during 2009 combine literature, poetry and the arts to assist educators in motivating students and providing a deeper understanding of the Holocaust. One of the plans, “Seven Poems, Seven Paintings,” consists of moving texts and original artwork created especially for the unit. Each poem, together with its corresponding painting, facilitates a varied approach to the subject matter, and enables pupils to be engaged on different levels. Such interdisciplinary resources create alternative routes by which diverse audiences can employ a range of learning skills to deal with the materials presented.

Russian Portal to Yad Vashem Website

A new educational mini-site in Russian is now available on Yad Vashem’s Virtual School. The site’s pedagogical materials provide Russian-speaking educators and students around the world with educational information appropriate for students of all ages. An online course, photographs, lexicon entries and the interactive environment “Children in the Ghetto” are all part of the innovative site. The portal includes both historical and educational materials, with an emphasis on the events of the Holocaust in the Former Soviet Union.

Thank you for your interesting, fascinating, erudite and thought-provoking course. I am the daughter of a survivor, and I shared the entire learning experience with my father, which was in itself extremely moving.

Orit, graduate of Virtual School online course
Remembrance
Throughout the year, hundreds of thousands of visitors come to Yad Vashem to remember and learn about the tragic events of the Holocaust. As the world center for Shoah remembrance, Yad Vashem is committed to providing a meaningful experience for the dignitaries, groups and individuals who come to tour the Museums, memorials and monuments, participate in remembrance ceremonies and commemorate the victims of the Holocaust on the Mount of Remembrance in Jerusalem.

During 2009, in addition to the official Holocaust Remembrance Day ceremonies, 84 special events and more than 200 memorial services took place at Yad Vashem, many in conjunction with Holocaust survivor and next-generation organizations, providing a dynamic commemoration of the Holocaust and of those who suffered by its perpetrators.
Saluting the Jewish Veterans, Partisans and Underground Fighters

On May 10, 2009, some 1,000 veterans, partisan and underground fighters took part in the official state ceremony marking the Allied victory over Nazi Germany. Jewish World War II veterans of the Allied armies, the majority from the Former Soviet Union, attended the ceremony, along with Jewish partisans, wounded soldiers from the war against the Nazis, underground fighters, volunteers from the Yishuv who fought in the British forces and veterans of the Jewish Brigade, as well as ambassadors and military attachés.

Yad Vashem is a testament to the power of truth in the face of denial, the resilience of the human spirit in the face of despair, the triumph of the Jewish People over murder and destruction, and a reminder to all people that the lessons of the Holocaust must never be forgotten.

Hillary Rodham Clinton, March 3, 2009
Bernstein’s “Kaddish” Fills Warsaw Ghetto Square

On June 1, 2009, Yad Vashem hosted an extraordinary outdoor concert in the presence of Israeli President Shimon Peres. Before a vast crowd that included hundreds of Holocaust survivors, the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra performed Leonard Bernstein’s “Kaddish – Symphony No. 3” coupled with the libretto, “A Dialogue with God,” written and narrated by Holocaust survivor Dr. Samuel Pisar. The monumental symphony was first heard in Tel Aviv in 1962, and in 2001, Holocaust survivor and world-renowned peace advocate Samuel Pisar composed an accompanying text for the symphony, the words influenced by his own biography as a survivor of Auschwitz.

...Thus, O great and unique God of Abraham: It is with profound respect to the beliefs of all, and with malice to none, that I bow towards the synagogues, churches and mosques of eternal Jerusalem, and sing for you from Yad Vashem – the hallowed memorial to the innocent martyrs and righteous heroes of the Shoah... Guide us toward reconciliation, tolerance, brotherhood and peace, on our small, divided, fragile planet, our common home. Amen! Amen! Sela!

Holocaust Survivor Samuel Pisar, from the libretto “A Dialogue with God"
Museum Collections and Exhibitions

The Yad Vashem Museum Complex includes the Holocaust History Museum, the Museum of Holocaust Art, the "No Child’s Play" exhibition, the Exhibitions Pavilion and the Synagogue, which displays pieces of Judaica rescued from Europe. The collections, numbering tens of thousands of artifacts and works of art, many regularly on loan to museums worldwide, serve as a primary resource for research and the basis for temporary and traveling exhibitions. A range of multi-faceted exhibitions offer visitors a unique presentation of the annals of the Shoah.

A profoundly moving experience. I am overwhelmed and will have to visit this magnificent memorial several times again to truly be able to absorb it all.
Sharon Berg-Ur, Visitor to the Holocaust History Museum

Wall Painting Under Coercion

In February 2009, almost 70 years after renowned Jewish author and artist Bruno Schulz was brutally murdered by a Nazi, a display of his unique frescoes was opened at Yad Vashem. The paintings, originally created by Schulz for SS officer Felix Landau to decorate the nursery in Landau’s villa, portray an array of familiar fairytale heroes, alongside disguised figures from Schulz’s own life. Despite being forced to paint the room by a brutal slave master, Schulz managed to maintain his distinctive artistic style and trademark inclusion of self-portraits – including a depiction of his father – thus creating a personal memorial to his family and community.

Bruno Schulz’s final works were discovered and brought to Israel. Following an agreement with the Ukrainian government, the frescoes, on long-term loan from the Drohobychyna Museum, Ukraine, are now on permanent display at the Museum of Holocaust Art.
Traveling Exhibitions

During 2009, Yad Vashem’s traveling exhibitions enlightened audiences in more than 39 locations worldwide. With 25 displays available in 11 languages, including Spanish, German, English and Arabic, the exhibitions included: “Besa: A Code of Honor – Muslim Albanians who Rescued Jews during the Holocaust,” displayed at the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, France, the US, Israel and Italy; “Spots of Light: To Be a Woman in the Holocaust,” exhibited in Austria and Australia; “An Arduous Road: Samuel Bak – 60 Years of Creativity,” displayed at the European Parliament in Brussels.

An Unexpected Discovery

The launch of “Spots of Light” at the Jewish Holocaust Center in Melbourne, Australia in the fall brought an unexpected bonus for Yad Vashem’s artifacts collection. Featured in the exhibition is a diary of the late Holocaust survivor Regina Honigman, in which she discusses her experiences in the camp and her longings for freedom and her family. After speaking in tribute to her mother at the opening of the exhibition, Honigman’s daughter Fay Eichenbaum contacted Yad Vashem to tell of a unique collection of some 75 letters and postcards her mother received during the Holocaust, while interned at the Gabersdorf forced labor camp. The correspondences, many of them written in code for fear of reprisals against their recipients, were recently delivered to Yad Vashem.

The exhibition is encompassing in the depth and substance with which it resonates... Human dignity, which is the heart of that for which they fought, echoes powerfully in the exhibition and the catalogue – a significant achievement. A rare formulation.

Michal Govrin, daughter of one of the survivors who appear in the “Spots of Light” exhibition
Yad Vashem Artifacts Collection

Survivors and their families from around the world continue to donate Holocaust-related artifacts to Yad Vashem for preservation and safekeeping. During 2009, Yad Vashem added more than 500 objects of historical and sentimental value to its world-renowned collection, including items originally used on a daily basis, Judaica and jewelry, which miraculously survived. Dedicated to actively collecting, cataloguing and conserving its enormous array of artifacts - 23,000 to date - Yad Vashem is committed to preserving these precious items as an added dimension of Holocaust remembrance.

For everyone there is a story, a family, a life. Yad Vashem commemorates this in an overwhelming and consuming fashion. Thank you for making this place possible.

From the Yad Vashem Visitors' Book

A Tangible Legacy

Following the enactment of the Nuremberg Race Laws in 1935, Heinz Samson was expelled from school at the age of 15, thereby preventing him from completing his studies. In 1939, Heinz, then 19, left his family home in Norden, Germany. With only ten Reichsmarks in his pocket, he made his way to London, where he waited for his family to join him. Sadly, they never arrived. Before leaving home, his parents Heinrich and Paula gave Heinz two treasured mementos: an intricately designed signet ring from his father and a silver pendant in the shape of a book from his mother. These were to be the final tangible legacy Heinz received from his parents. Heinz’s parents were deported to Minsk on November 10, 1942 never to return. His sister Gerda was deported to Auschwitz on October 24, 1942.

After intensive efforts over many years, Samson successfully recovered a few of the family’s personal possessions confiscated from their home in January 1939 by the German authorities. In 2009, Samson gave several of these objects to Yad Vashem for safekeeping, including the sentimental parting gifts he received from his beloved parents.
Reaching Out Online

More than 10 million visits from 220 countries were recorded visiting www.yadvashem.org this year. In 2009, the website was redesigned, giving it a new, more user-friendly interface. The clear navigational structure, along with improved search technology, ensures that Yad Vashem’s vast online resources continue to be easily accessed by the website’s visitors all over the world.

I didn’t know that such a disaster occurred among the Jews, until I read about what the accursed Hitler did... Computers and communication - only they will tell us the truth about the Jewish people and their struggles throughout the generations.

Ahiham Hasham, Morocco, visitor to Yad Vashem website

Connecting to Spanish Speakers Around the World

January 2009 saw the launch of Yad Vashem’s new Spanish website. Over the year, the website increased its popularity among the more than 400 million Spanish speakers around the world wishing to learn about the events of the Holocaust in their native tongue. The comprehensive site includes a wealth of historical information, survivor testimonies, Holocaust-era images, a multimedia exhibit of the “Auschwitz Album” with Spanish narration, extensive material on the Righteous Among the Nations, educational resources, documents, maps, last letters, scholarly articles, artworks and artifacts - and the stories they tell.
New Social Media Forge Strong Communities

The first decade of the 21st century is notable for the creation of new kinds of communities and the forging of personal connections through social networking media on the Internet. During 2009, more than 200 million video views were recorded on the various Yad Vashem YouTube channels – now including one in Spanish – focused on Holocaust remembrance and education. Together with its new Blog and Facebook page, currently numbering more than 5,700 members, Yad Vashem is creating lasting ties with a young and vibrant community committed to Holocaust remembrance.

I visited Yad Vashem two years ago; it is a visit I will never forget. I left my heart in Israel.

Steiner Zappa Hage, visitor to Yad Vashem Facebook Page

Online Exhibitions Inspire and Educate

Currently, 37 online exhibitions in assorted languages, including English, Hebrew and Spanish, provide creative tools for teaching and learning about the various aspects of the Holocaust. Among this year's new online exhibitions were: “A Time to Heal,” focusing on the experience of children who lived in special homes immediately after the war; a multimedia exhibition of “the Auschwitz Album,” the only surviving visual evidence of the process of mass murder at Auschwitz-Birkenau; and “Heartstrings, Music of the Holocaust,” highlighting the Yiddish songs created in the ghettos, camps and partisan camps – testimony to the power of music as a source of comfort and resistance, criticism and entertainment.

Yad Vashem's online exhibitions are nothing short of brilliant.

Leah Hansen, visitor to Yad Vashem Facebook Page
Righteous Among the Nations

In their twilight years, many survivors strive to find closure and pay tribute to those who rescued them during the Holocaust. However, more than 65 years after the events, information is often scarce and memories faded. Yad Vashem’s Department of the Righteous Among the Nations invests enormous efforts in researching each and every case brought before it, exploring its extensive repositories and working with archives, institutions and governments worldwide.

During 2009, 457 individuals were recognized as Righteous Among the Nations, bringing the total number of recognized individuals to more than 23,200.

Rescuers and Rescued: Reconnecting Families

Rachel Sosiewicz Winegust was just eight years old when, following the major roundups of Jews in Paris in July 1942, her mother placed her and her two-year-old sister Josephine in the care of Charles and Raymonde Carpentier. Although they had two children of their own and risked constant danger, the couple lovingly cared for the two girls. Rachel remembered being hidden in a haystack during a German search. After being reunited with their parents, the Winegusts immigrated to Canada in the mid-1950s, and the two families lost touch. Fifty-five years later, the Department of the Righteous Among the Nations managed to locate the rescuers’ daughter and contact was re-established. Rachel’s nephew wrote to Yad Vashem, “We shared a wonderful conversation and had a good cry on the phone.” Charles and Raymonde Carpentier were recognized as Righteous Among the Nations on August 11, 2009.
Celebrating Life: Saving an Entire Universe

The medal of the Righteous Among the Nations bears the quote: "Whoever saves a single life, saves an entire universe" (Mishnah, Sanhedrin 4:5). The significance of this Jewish adage is best demonstrated when survivors' families - with their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren - come together to honor a rescuer. Not only was the life of the survivor ensured, but also that of an entire family that would otherwise not have come into being. Survivors and their children (pictured here, Rabbi Israel Meir Lau, Chairman of the Yad Vashem Council, his family and the daughters of his rescuer) often represent the only remaining living branch of a large extended family, whose members - and posterity - were destroyed forever by the Nazis and their collaborators. A selection of photos showing survivors and their families taken at the Wall of Honor in the Garden of the Righteous Among the Nations is displayed in a special photo gallery on Yad Vashem’s website.
With more than 130 million pages of documentation, Yad Vashem’s Archives, the largest repository of its kind in the world, remain unparalleled in the wealth of information they offer for study and scholarly examination. In 2009 alone, some 4.5 million pages of Holocaust-era documentation gathered by Yad Vashem were added to the Archives.

Much of the original material deposited in the Archives arrives in inferior condition or deteriorates over time. Professional staff at Yad Vashem’s Conservation and Restoration Laboratory diligently restores such documents, photographs and other items of historic value, working with painstaking care to repair and preserve them for future generations.
Original Blueprints of Auschwitz-Birkenau

During 2008, the original architectural plans for the Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp were discovered in an apartment in Berlin. In August 2009, the German newspaper Bild, which purchased the sketches, formally presented the blueprints to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Yad Vashem Chairman Avner Shalev for safekeeping on the Mount of Remembrance in Jerusalem. Some of the 29 documents, all authenticated by experts from Germany’s Federal Archives, bear notes in the margins or signatures by senior Nazis, including SS Head Heinrich Himmler. The original documents will be on display at Yad Vashem during 2010.

Pioneering International Workshop on Holocaust Photography

Yad Vashem experts recently discovered that an original series of photographs acquired by the Archives in its early years did not, as originally thought, document the renovations of the Munich Great Synagogue following the Kristallnacht pogrom, but rather its destruction by the Nazis months before.

Photographs from the Holocaust period play a central role in Holocaust studies, as well as in the commemoration of its victims. However, the use of these photos has always been problematic due to missing data, inaccurate descriptions, forgeries and erroneous interpretations. At the beginning of May 2009, Yad Vashem hosted the first-ever international workshop on the subject of photography and photographs from the Holocaust, aimed at clarifying these problems and promoting cooperation between relevant organizations.

Topics broached at the workshop included the process of investigating photographs and incorporating them into museum exhibitions; the significance of visual remembrance; and the use of photographs in commemoration projects. The challenge of digitizing photographic archives, electronically cataloging them and then making them accessible to the public online – as Yad Vashem did successfully in 2008 – engendered much interest among the expert participants.
Preserving “Peace”

During WWII, many Jewish children were hidden in the St. Georges children’s home located in a former hotel called “La Paix” (Peace) in Chamonix, France. Established before the war by a Christian couple, Juliet and Vidal Verment, much of the home’s wartime staff was also Jewish, including the director, all of whom operated under false identities. A unique photo album, including 92 black-and-white photographs and the children’s drawings, was painstakingly restored recently by Yad Vashem’s Conservation and Restoration Laboratory. The cover, the bindings and the pages between the photos were all treated with enormous care in order to preserve this unique piece of documentation. The entire conservation process was documented and photographed, and the album’s photographs uploaded to Yad Vashem’s online photo archive. The original materials were then returned to special climate-controlled storage areas for safekeeping.
Personal Letters Provide Historical Insight

During WWII, Yugoslavian-born Rabbi Dr. Zvi Asaria-Hermann Helfgott was recruited to the Yugoslav army, but was captured by the Germans and imprisoned in POW camps for four years. Following the defeat of Nazi Germany and his release at the end of the war, Rabbi Dr. Asaria-Hermann Helfgott made his way to the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp, where he took responsibility for the mass burial of Jewish victims there. Subsequently he was appointed as Chief Rabbi for the British zone of occupied Germany, and gained the role of spiritual leader of the survivors.

While incarcerated in the Osnabrueck POW camp, Rabbi Dr. Zvi Asaria-Hermann Helfgott received personal letters and postcards from his friends and family members. Recently several rare wartime letters, marked with different stamps by the German censor, were given to the Yad Vashem Archives. They joined other documents that were part of Rabbi Dr. Asaria-Helfgott's personal archives: an original diary, photo albums, postwar correspondence and other documents. This important first-hand information serves as a vital source of the original documentation necessary for research and commemoration of the victims of the Holocaust.

Personal Testimony as Collective Memory

Listening to the authentic first-hand testimonies of Holocaust survivors enables youth, educators and scholars to connect to the many individual stories that together comprise the broader picture of the Shoah. However, with the survivor generation growing older, many find it physically difficult to travel to professional recording studios. In response to this challenge, Yad Vashem has trained a cadre of interviewers and photographers to go to survivors' residences and record their testimonies there. During 2009, more than 1,000 survivors took advantage of this new service.

The 101,000 oral, written and video testimonies maintained in the Archives play an additional, vital role in Holocaust research, education, commemoration and documentation, allowing these personal recollections to become part of the collective memory of the Jewish people – and the world.

The interview allowed me to unburden myself of the heavy load I have carried for over 60 years. It opened up additional, deep layers of complex, charged emotions.

From a letter written by survivor Aharon Kaplan to Yad Vashem interviewer Nava Gibori
Names Recovery

For more than 50 years, Yad Vashem has actively labored to fulfill its mandate to preserve the memory of the Six Million by collecting their names - an integral representation of a person's identity. To date, the Central Database of Shoah Victims' Names contains some 3.8 million names, providing a lasting memory of each and every Holocaust victim.

Restoring Identities

Marcel Kadenski was born in Paris in 1932 and deported on transport no. 76 from Drancy to Auschwitz, where he was murdered. His name can be found in Yad Vashem's Central Database of Shoah Victims' Names, but until recently there was no accompanying photograph. An historic new agreement signed at the end of May 2009 between Yad Vashem and the Mémorial de la Shoah, the central institution for commemorating French Holocaust victims, allowed Yad Vashem to give a face to Marcel's name. The project encourages the two institutions to jointly gather additional documents regarding the fate of French Jews during the Holocaust, and exchange copies of those amassed by each of them over the past 50 years. As a first step, Yad Vashem received 8,000 photographs of Jews murdered at Auschwitz, among them Marcel Kadenski. The exchange of materials will allow Yad Vashem to restore the identities of some 20 percent of French Jews murdered in the Holocaust.
Connecting Families

Some 64 years after the end of WWII, Naomi Shlomovitz, a Holocaust survivor who lost most of her family in the Shoah, saw a photograph of her father for the first time and discovered cousins she never knew existed. In preparation for a visit to Israel, Naomi’s daughter Penny Glaser logged on to the Yad Vashem website in order to plan their visit. Noticing a link for the Central Database of Shoah Victims’ Names, Penny searched to see if her grandfather, Zisha Katz, had been commemorated there.

The discovery of a Page of Testimony in memory of her grandfather – a well-known actor in The Yiddishe Band of Warsaw (pictured above) – enabled the family to locate their cousin, Gerald Schor, in Israel. As a child living in the US in 1939, Schor had become well acquainted with his cousin when Katz stayed with his family for the summer while performing at the New York Jewish Theater. This discovery led to the family’s union in September 2009, with the participation of dozens of newly found relatives from around the world.

I dreamed all my life of seeing a picture of my father and now, for the first time, I’ve seen it… A miracle has happened and I have found a wonderful family.

Holocaust survivor Naomi Shlomovitz
Visual Center

Since the development of cinema in the early 20th century and the proliferation of video and digital formats at the start of the 21st, film has evolved into the primary medium through which the public learns about the world and formulates their own ideas about historical events, places and people. As a result, films and other visually recorded media have made a tremendous impact on the public’s comprehension of, and perception about, the Holocaust.

The Visual Center, the only one of its kind in the world, serves as a unique repository of Holocaust-related documentation, with more than 6,100 catalogued films - 3,800 available for immediate viewing - and tens of thousands of filmed survivor testimonies.

Films Create Historical Memory

Yad Vashem’s Visual Center played a central role at Isratim, the Israeli Film Festival in Paris in March 2009. The Cinema Le Balzac in Paris was the venue for a gala world premier of original Yad Vashem Museum films as well as the French premier of Adam Resurrected (Paul Schrader, 2008); and in a special presentation, the Visual Center moderated a discussion addressing the power of film to create historical memory. Held in cooperation with the French Committee for Yad Vashem, the events marked the ever-increasing interest in Holocaust-related films and their continued influence on contemporary society.

Viewing films at your amazing Visual Center has been a tremendous help, assisting me in finding potential interviewees for my films about women in the Holocaust.

Film producer and director, Noam Demsky

Photo: Erez Lichtfeld
Human Failure:
Winner of the 2009 Avner Shalev Award

German citizens derived immense economic benefit from the expropriation of Jewish owned assets during WWII. In his film Human Failure, Director Michael Verhoeven attempts to address this issue as well as Germany’s collective amnesia about its past, exposing what he calls “the widespread human failure that encompassed the entire German nation at one time.” Verhoeven’s riveting film poses painful questions about guilt and opportunism during WWII on the part of ordinary Germans. Recipient of the 2009 Avner Shalev Award for Artistic Achievement in a Holocaust-related film at the International Jerusalem Film Festival, Human Failure has now been deposited in the digital film library of the Visual Center.

Library

Yad Vashem’s Library contains the most comprehensive collection of published Holocaust-related material in the world. In 2009, the collection reached over 123,000 titles in 54 languages, and it continues to grow apace. Scholars, students and the general public avail themselves daily of the wealth of material accessible, as well as the services of the highly trained staff of the Reference and Information Services Unit, which last year assisted 8,500 visitors to the Library and Archives Reading Room and answered some 27,000 written inquiries.

“Witness-Historian” Texts Bring Added Dimension to Library Collection

Among the witnesses of the Nazi period, a select group decided to acquire the skills required of professional historians. Many of these “witness-historians” have been able to seamlessly combine perspectives, applying their personal insights to their historical writing without detracting from the high quality of their scholarship. Given their unique contributions to Holocaust research, during 2009 Yad Vashem embarked on a project to gather all the writings by and about one of the most prolific of this group, Prof. Dov Levin, author of some 700 scholarly articles and books. The Dov Levin Collection, like the man and his contemporaries, constitutes a vital link in the bridge between the generation of witness-historians and those who follow them in their scholarly inquiry of the Holocaust.

Yad Vashem is the best place in the world to study.
Antonella Tiburzi, researcher at the Institute for Contemporary History in Rome, Italy
Research
Research

The celebrated International Institute for Holocaust Research is at the forefront of new and innovative areas of study – pushing the boundaries of Holocaust scholarship into areas previously untouched. With scholarly international workshops and symposia throughout the year, as well as world-renowned guest lecturers and research fellows, the Institute is widely recognized as the leader in its field.

In dozens of countries worldwide, the International Institute initiates studies on the Holocaust, cooperates with scholars, universities and institutes, acts in an advisory capacity to researchers and students, responds to current issues and research initiatives and, most importantly, encourages and develops the next generation of Holocaust researchers.
No other place offers this kind of information; none stimulates this type of associative working process, invoking new ideas through its many connections.

Research Fellow Prof. Goetz Aly

Unique Symposium Draws International Scholars

In September 2009, senior scholars from Israel and abroad attended a unique symposium marking 70 years since the outbreak of WWII. The landmark event generated extensive interest and discussion. Pulitzer Prize Winner Prof. Saul Friedlander delivered the keynote speech, addressing the centrality of the "Jewish Question" during WWII. Lectures by other notable scholars covered topics as varied as: understanding the broader context of realpolitik for Poland in 1939; comparing the two peace arrangements following the First and Second World Wars; and exploring ideological causes of the outbreak of WWII. The symposium closed with a special event marking the Hebrew publication of Prof. Friedlander’s book *The Years of Extermination: Nazi Germany and the Jews, 1939-1945* (Yad Vashem and Am Oved).
Real-time Media Reports During WWII

What did the average person during WWII know about what was happening to the Jews of Europe? A scholarly workshop held in July 2009 saw researchers from around the world came together for the first time to examine how the Holocaust was reported in various media during the war, as the events unfolded. This pioneering workshop, conducted by the International Institute for Holocaust Research, included the presentation of original research undertaken specifically for the event. The erudite discussions helped clarify what bystanders knew about the events, and also provided greater insight into the Nazis’ use of the media to manipulate public opinion.

The workshop was a most rewarding ten days that allowed me to meet many distinguished Holocaust scholars in a vibrant atmosphere.

Dr. Colin Shindler, participant in workshop at the International Institute for Holocaust Research
Pope Pius XII: The Current State of Research

The controversial figure of Pope Pius XII was the topic of an important research workshop held by the International Institute in conjunction with the Salesian Theological Institute of Saints Peter and Paul in March 2009. In light of several important books and articles on the topic published over recent years, this meeting of top scholars on the subject presented an opportunity to exchange updated knowledge, share academic opinions and evaluate newly revealed documents and information.

New Online Bibliography Aids Future Research Projects

The new Diana Zborowski Center for the Study of the Aftermath of the Holocaust launched its initial project during 2009: the development of an online bibliography of books and articles dealing with the consequences and implications of the Shoah. Generated in partnership with the Yad Vashem Library, the Bibliographical Guide to the Aftermath of the Shoah includes some 25,000 volumes divided into 25 research topics. Searchable online, the entries serve as the basis for future research projects by the Center as well as by other scholars, students and educators around the world.
The Deportations Project – A Comprehensive Research Initiative

The expulsion of Jews to ghettos and camps was an integral part of the “Final Solution,” employing the latest in modern technology and bureaucratic infrastructure, mass transportation across the railways of Europe and advanced logistical systems. This enormous operation is one of the ongoing research initiatives of the Institute, which is constructing a “Pan-European Deportation Database” that reconstructs all the transports of Jews across Europe carried out by the Nazi regime. Researchers are using a wide range of documents, including official German documentation and personal accounts of survivors, as well as various studies on deportations carried out since 1945. The final digitized database will provide a broad overview of the deportation process and detailed information regarding specific transports and profiles of the victims—all of which will be accessible to scholars and historians, families of Shoah victims, and anyone wishing to broaden their knowledge of the Holocaust.

Publications

Yad Vashem Publications is the world’s foremost publisher of Holocaust-related books, memoirs, diaries, documents and research studies. An integral part of the International Institute for Holocaust Research, Yad Vashem Publications produces dozens of these important resources every year—essential materials for current research and study—promoting Shoah Remembrance and Commemoration.

Russian-language Publications

In 2009, Yad Vashem embarked on the publication of several new titles in Russian. The new Russian-language volume of Yad Vashem Studies contains selected research studies about the Holocaust in the FSU, making current research readily available to Russian-speaking educators, researchers and students. The exceptional album of Holocaust survivors in Israel, We Are Here, was also translated into Russian (from the original Hebrew). Replete with moving texts and stirring pictures, this showcase volume tells the unique story of the survivors and their role in shaping the nature of Israeli society and culture. The publication of these books is part of an ongoing effort to encourage education and commemoration of the Holocaust among Russian speakers, thereby strengthening their Jewish identity.
New Comprehensive Encyclopedia of the Ghettos

Seventy years after the Nazi regime established the first 20th-century Jewish ghetto, Yad Vashem released a monumental new publication: The Yad Vashem Encyclopedia of the Ghettos During the Holocaust. As the first and only comprehensive reference book of its kind, the encyclopedia marks an important milestone in the history of Holocaust research and historiography. The culmination of six years of investigation and writing, the two-volume encyclopedia comprises entries on close to 1,100 ghettos established in German-occupied areas during WWII, including newly discovered ghettos in locations that had been previously surveyed and researched. A collection of over 250 photographs, some in color, bring the texts to life, as does the accompanying DVD of wartime footage of the ghettos and a series of articles addressing the complex existence of the ghettos' residents.

This encyclopedia, through the almost 1,140 entries and the various introductions, presents scholars and laymen for the first time with a comprehensive view of the ghetto phenomenon which was so central to Jewish life during the Holocaust.

Omer Bartov, John P. Birkeland Distinguished Professor of European History
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Adv. Shelly (Shlomo) Malka Eli Zborowski
Linda Olmert Dudi Zilberslag
**Senior Staff**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Avner Shalev</td>
<td>Chairman of the Directorate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nathan Eitan</td>
<td>Director General</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexander Avraham</td>
<td>Director, The Hall of Names</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Director, Commemoration and Public Relations Division</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shaya Ben Yehuda</td>
<td>Managing Director, International Relations Division</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sara Granitza</td>
<td>Deputy Managing Director, International Relations Division</td>
</tr>
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<td>Dr. Tikva Fatal Knaani*</td>
<td>Director, The International Institute for Holocaust Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Bella Guterman**</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Haim Gertner</td>
<td>Director, Archives Division</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nomi Halperin</td>
<td>Deputy Director, Archives Division</td>
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<td>Director, Yad Vashem Publications</td>
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<td>Yehudit Inbar</td>
<td>Director, Museums Division</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yehudit Shendar</td>
<td>Deputy Director and Senior Art Curator, Museums Division</td>
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<td>Deputy Director, Information and Communications Division</td>
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<td>Director, The International School for Holocaust Studies</td>
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<td>Calanit Ben Haim</td>
<td>Deputy Director, The International School for Holocaust Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yaniv Oren</td>
<td>Director, The Israel Society for Yad Vashem</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Iael Nidam-Orvieto</td>
<td>Editor-in-Chief, Yad Vashem Publications</td>
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<tr>
<td>Iris Rosenberg</td>
<td>Spokesperson and Director, Marketing Communications Department</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Robert Rozett</td>
<td>Director, Libraries</td>
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<td>Dr. David Silberklang</td>
<td>Senior Historian, The Research Institute; Editor-in-Chief, Yad Vashem Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Sinai</td>
<td>Director, Human Resources and Administration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Irena Steinfeldt</td>
<td>Director, Righteous Among the Nations Department</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vivian Uri</td>
<td>Director, Visitors’ Center &amp; Tourism Marketing Department</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elisha Weinberger</td>
<td>Chief Financial Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Outgoing</td>
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<td>** Incoming</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prof. David Bankier, z”l</td>
<td>Head of the International Institute for Holocaust Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prof. Dan Michman</td>
<td>Chief Historian</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prof. Yehuda Bauer</td>
<td>Academic Advisor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prof. Israel Gutman</td>
<td>Academic Advisor</td>
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Financial Highlights 2009

Operational Budget, as of December 31, 2009, unaudited

Revenues

Expenditures

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<td>Maintenance &amp; Technological Infrastructure</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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Development Budget

The source of all revenues for Yad Vashem development projects is donations and legacies.

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<tr>
<th>New Projects &amp; Programs*</th>
<th>NIS (000)</th>
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<td>Building and Technological Infrastructure**</td>
<td>43,763</td>
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<td></td>
<td>20,893</td>
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<td>Total</td>
<td>64,656</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Projects and programs in the spheres of Education, Remembrance, Documentation and Research

** Construction of the new International Seminars Wing at the International School for Holocaust Studies, general construction works and development of technological infrastructure

Directors, International Relations Division

Miry Gross, French and Benelux Desk
Petla Hazan, Latin America, Spain and Portugal Desk
Dr. Susanna Kokkonen, Christian Friends of Yad Vashem
David Metzler, English-Speaking and Scandinavia Desk
Arik Rav-On, Switzerland and German-Speaking Countries Desk
Arie Zuckerman, Diaspora Affairs Desk and Special Advisor to the Chairman of the Directorate
Yad Vashem is deeply grateful for the dedicated work and fundraising efforts of its Friends Societies: the activities, events and awareness-raising endeavors of our partners are crucial to our shared mission of spreading Holocaust Remembrance and Education worldwide:

American Society for Yad Vashem
Chairman: Eli Zborowski
500 Fifth Avenue, 42nd Floor
New York, NY 10110-4299
USA
Phone: 212-220-4304 Fax: 212-220-4308
www.yadvashemusa.org

Argentinean Association for Yad Vashem
Contact: Graciela Jinish
Montevideo 919
(1019) Buenos Aires
Argentina

Australian Friends of Yad Vashem
Chairman: Johnny Baker
Jewish Holocaust Centre
13-15 Selywn St
Elsternwick, VIC 3185
Australia
Tel: +61 (430) 028-946
exec@afyv.com.au

British Friends of Yad Vashem
Chairman: Brian Markeson
6 Bloomsbury Square
London WC1A 2LP
United Kingdom
Tel: +44 207 543 5402
Fax: +44 (207) 404 1437
office@yadvashem.org.uk

Canadian Society for Yad Vashem
Chairperson: Fran Sonshine
970 Lawrence Avenue West, Suite 211
Toronto, ON M6A 3B6
Canada
Tel: 416-785-1333 Fax: 416-785-4536
yadvashem@bellnet.ca

Chile Association for Yad Vashem
President: David Feuerstein
Casilla 13672- Correo 21 Santiago
Chile

Costa Rican Association for Yad Vashem
President: Jaime Tischler
Apartado 6000, San Jose
Costa Rica

French Committee for Yad Vashem
Chairman: Paul Schaffer
33 rue Navier, 75017 Paris
Tel: +33-1-47-20-99-57
Fax: +33-1-47-20-95-57
Yadvashem.France@wanadoo.fr

Society of Friends of Yad Vashem in Austria
Chairperson: Günther Schuster
Blütenstr. 18/82
4040 Linz
Austria
Tel/Fax: +43-732-716822
gus@yad-vashem.net

Society of Friends of Yad Vashem in Liechtenstein
Chairperson: Markus Büchel
Josef-Rheinberger-Str. 6
9490 Vaduz
Liechtenstein
Fax: +423-233-4451
e-mail: markus.buechel@supra.net

Brazilian Association for Yad Vashem
President: Jayme Melsohn
R. Cassio da Costa Vidigal, 67 apt. 172
01456-040 Sao Paulo SP
Brazil

Belgian Friends of Yad Vashem
Chairperson: Yvette Blaiberg-Graubart
68 avenue Ducpétiaux, 1060 Bruxelles
Tel: +32-3-233-63-24
jyberg@yahoo.com

Yad Vashem Friends Worldwide
Mexican Association for Yad Vashem
President: Dra. Eva Lijtszain
Asociación Yad Vashem de Mexico
Av. de los Bosques 292-B
Lomas del Chamizal

Friends of Yad Vashem in the Netherlands
Chairperson: Joop Levy
G.V.D.
Veenstraat 78
1077EK Amsterdam
Netherlands

Norwegian Friends of Yad Vashem
Chairman: Herman Kahan
Bogstadveien 8
0355 Oslo, Norway
Tel: +47 22603190 Fax: +47 22461394
post@hekaeiendom.no

Panaman Association for Yad Vashem
President: Dalia Perelis de Gateño
Oficinas de La Garantia
Av 1ra Parque Lefevre
Apt 7347, Zona 5
Panama

Jewish Community of St Petersburg
President: Mark Grubarg
Jewish Community of St Petersburg
Lemontovsky pr. 2,
Saint Petersburg 190121
Russia

Spanish Association for Yad Vashem
President: Isaac Querub Caro
Calle Andorra 22
Madrid
Spain

Swedish Friends of Yad Vashem
Chairman: Tobias Rawet
c/o Föreningen Förintelsens Överlevande
Box 120 91
S-102 23 Stockholm
Sweden

Swiss Friends of Yad Vashem
Acting Chairperson: Dr. Josef Bollag
Unter Altstadt 10
6301 Zug
Switzerland
Tel.: +41-41-7290808
Fax: +41-41-7290809
charlotte.bollag@bollag.ch

Ukrainian Society for Yad Vashem
President: Gennady Bogolubov
Jewish Community in Dnepropetrovsk
Shalom Aleikhem 4
Dnepropetrovsk 49000
Ukraine
Tel: + 380 (562) 342120
fax: + 380 (562) 342137
office@djc.com.ua

Uruguayan Association for Yad Vashem
President: Jacobo Turim
Contact: Rita Vinocur
Canelones 1084-C.P. 11100 Montevideo
Uruguay

Venezuelan Association for Yad Vashem
President: David Yisrael
Edif. Bet Am, Av Jorge Washington
San Bernardo, Caracas 1010
Venezuela
Yad Vashem’s accomplishments would not be possible without the support and commitment of our valued partners. We would like to take this opportunity to thank our many friends who have shared in our vision in 2009 and in previous years, enabling its realization:

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