

THE MUSEUM OF HEROISM AND JUSTICE



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Commemorating the Jewish Triumph of the Spirit

OTC | Studio Schneider

Cover Picture: From the orphanage in the Marysin section of Ghetto Łódź,
Yad Vashem Archive

Background pictures: Programa 1 Design Studio



“Young Germans are being constantly schooled in the superiority of the German race, the glory of warfare and of the human composition of other races, along with a hatred of foreign peoples.” Julien Bryan

The Museum of Heroism and Justice in Nuremberg will be the first of its kind in Europe. Visitors will experience a deep and meaningful journey exposing them to true stories about spirit and faith, holding on to Jewish tradition and values and the never-ending struggle to sustain the image of man. It will reveal, through the display of artifacts and images how the Jewish community and individuals clung to their humanity and morality whilst under the constant threat and deprived conditions of Hitler's plan for the Final Solution.

The unique perspective of the museum will afford visitors of all ages a journey of discovery into the wellsprings of the spirit and the powers of the soul. It will allow for a deeper understanding of the struggle between the world of faith and ideas, values, morals and Jewish Identity imbued from the pre-war era, versus the total and encompassing reality of death, destruction and evil.

Why Nuremberg?

- Nuremberg is forever synonymous with the Nazi rallies which were held annually from 1927 to 1938, and the infamous Nuremberg Racial Laws which legislated restrictions on the basic rights of German Jews.
- Many of Nuremberg's Jews were affluent merchants, industrialists, bankers and professionals.
- Riots against Jews continued and intensified after the Nazi success in the 1930 elections.
- In Nuremberg, assaults on the Jewish community after the Nazi rise to power were worse than in other German cities.

Our Goals

- To highlight the historic Jewish foundation of morals, ethics and culture.
- To teach the principle of inner-coping and faith during the Holocaust.
- To serve as an example for moral values.
- To bring acclaim to the courage and bravery of the people who performed acts of loving kindness in the face of extinction.
- To arouse public awareness about justice and responsibility.
- To teach the importance of helping others and being a part of a community.

A Living Legacy

The Museum of Heroism and Justice will have great moral and human significance. It will become a beacon that encourages the visitor to shine a light on his own soul and ask questions that lead to enlightenment and betterment.

The first stage of the project will depict the personal stories of the Jewish people- in the lagers, the ghettos, the extermination camps- **and their capacity to create points of light amidst the very darkest of nights.** This will be the foundation of an intense and moving museum experience.

Acts of mutual kindness, the fierce determination to cling to Jewish tradition and law, the abundance of art, theatre and music performed under the direst of conditions- all of these highlight the great emotional and spiritual strength of what, by all rights and logic, should have been a depleted and destroyed people.

The second stage of the project will concentrate on presenting the strength of the Jewish people as they seek justice. Its location in Nuremberg is appropriate and significant as the city which paved Hitler's path to power, was the site of his crowning as Fuhrer, was the birthplace of the Nuremberg laws and later, the Nuremberg trials.



Yad Vashem Archives

How does HOPE triumph over reality?

By clinging to the belief that better days would arrive and with them the ability to immigrate to Palestine.

Zionist activity was a great part of Jewish life in the ghetto. Many Jews risked life and limb to attend meetings of Zionist youth groups.

The Nuremberg Museum of Heroism and Justice will be housed in an existing building that will be converted to a 1,000m² exhibit in the city that represents the rise and fall of Nazism more than any other.

How does the SPIRIT nourish itself?

Jews in the camps and the ghettos, under conditions of severe deprivation and ongoing horror, still clung to the traditions and laws of their faith. Even when a transgression of law was vital to their survival, such as the consumption of leavened bread on Passover, the spiritual leadership nurtured the spirit of the people by transforming the act into one of elevation, not degradation.

The museum will have a sophisticated multi-media display of recovered texts, responsa and even facsimiles of recalled prayers.



Special prayer to be said prior to the consumption of leavened bread on Passover. Composed by Rabbi Issachar Bernard Davis, Bergen Belsen, 1944.

The Ghetto Fighters' House Archives

In a country where one out of twenty young males identifies with the neo-Nazi, the need for such a museum is glaring. One of the major exhibits of stage two will deal with the apprehension and judgment of Adolf Eichmann. The entire project will change the perspective of the visitor from viewing the Jew as a lowly, unworthy sub-human to a being capable of reaching the highest moral and spiritual capacity.

The question for them was not how to buy another hour of time, but what would be the quality of that hour.

Leveraging Spiritual Pursuits

As he makes his way through the museum, the visitor will be greeted with stark contrasts between blankets of darkness and strong points of light bursting through. He will be confronted with moral dilemmas that will cause him to search his own heart and soul for answers. The journey the visitor will make is much more than taking steps through a designated path but a voyage to a higher spiritual plane. Through the exhibits, the visitor will have a chance to struggle with existential questions about himself, his creator, and all of society.

The museum will emphasize the spiritual, emotional and cultural narratives as a way to gain insight into the ability of man to cope in the face of evil. The use of light and shadow, as an expression of this, will be a recurring theme- one that begins at the entrance to the museum and is maintained throughout.

The visitor will play an active role, designed to draw him in so that he goes from observer to participant. The early part of the journey takes place in a shadowy environment, while as the visitor progresses the surroundings are illuminated by more and more points of light. The early shadows lead to confusion and dismay; while the visitor gains more insight into the triumph of the spirit, his journey becomes clearer and lighter.

At the end of the journey, the visitor will undergo a group dynamic intended to intensify and clarify the experience while still leaving room for further discussion and introspection.

The museum will make use of personal journals and diaries, amongst them the famous 'Oneg Shabbat', as a way to give voice to those long gone and let them tell their own story of triumph over darkness.

"... this year Hanukkah was celebrated everywhere with great enthusiasm. Hundreds of parties and children's plays were held all over Warsaw [...] in the yards prominent people from the community were honored by lighting the first candle. Hanukkah candles were seen glowing from every window. In Shinana Street I heard a speech given by Isaac Giterman - 'Hanukkah is the holiday when the day begins to conquer the night, but the day is still trapped by the frost. Purim is the time when the day struggles out of the frost and triumphs over the night. Pesach is the spring, when the good overcomes the evil'."

From Emanuel Ringelblum's diary during the war years in the Warsaw Ghetto

The Museum of Faith and Justice will depict the points of light- the expressions of higher values, whether through faith, culture or education- that shone brightly through the bleakness and bone chilling cold of the Jews' grim reality. Despite the unspeakable horror and the unimaginable becoming all too true, the downtrodden Jew clung to his faith, stayed resolute in his determination to help his fellow man and invested greatly in nurturing the children's hearts and souls.



Yad Vashem Archives

How does a CHILD transcend the horror?

Children's education has always been one of the most important values of Jewish life. The wartime curriculum nourished the children's minds and fed their souls with hope for a better future.

People Behind the Project



Yossi Peled is Chairman of the International Charity Foundation for Hope and Memory and a former Minister and Member of the Israeli Knesset. Born in Belgium, Yossi was raised by a Christian family during the Holocaust, while his father and other family members were murdered at Auschwitz.

Minister Peled is a retired Major General in the Israel Defense Forces where he developed a distinguished career as an officer in every war faced by Israel since the Six Day War in 1967.

Peled is an internationally renowned expert in the fields of security, counterterrorism and intelligence and has served as security advisor to several countries. Minister Peled is a successful businessman who has served on the executive boards of some of Israel's largest companies including Tadiran and Israel Petrochemical Enterprises; He has served on several important public commissions amongst them as responsible for determining Israel's communication policies and Chairman of the Absorption Committee on South Lebanese refugees.



Rabbi Avraham Krieger is the president of Shem Olam Educational & Research Institute for the Holocaust and founder, one of Israel's leading educational institutions in the area of documentation, research and Holocaust education. 35,000 youth a year from Israel and abroad undergo seminars and training at Shem Olam.

Rabbi Krieger is a graduate of Kerem BeYavne Yeshiva, where he studied for twelve years and received his rabbinic ordination. Rabbi Krieger taught in the nationally renowned boys' high school of Kfar HaRoeh for more than 15 years and has a PhD in Jewish History from Haifa University.

Rabbi Krieger is internationally acclaimed as an expert in the realm of the contemporary traditional Jewish world as well as that of the Holocaust. His research, documentation and published works are widely read in Israel and around the world.



Raquel Orenztajn is the Research Director for the International Charity Foundation of Hope and Memory. Raquel has a M.A. from the Institute for Contemporary Jewry at the Hebrew University and has earned a B.A. in the History of the Jewish People, also from the Hebrew University. Raquel is a respected and well known lecturer on Holocaust, Jewish History and Jewish Identity and has a particular interest and expertise in interacting with world-wide youth in the field of Holocaust Studies.

Raquel has previously held the position of Researcher at Yad Vashem and had great input into the new historical museum there. She is fluent in Hebrew, English, Spanish and Portuguese. Raquel is currently Coordinator of Educational Projects at Yad Vashem, the Jewish Agency and Levinsky College.



The Museum of Heroism and Justice will become a must see for all those who are interested in a fresh and inspiring perspective on the Holocaust. Through the depictions of a people coping by delving into their deepest spiritual and emotional reserves, we will provide both young and old with a life affirming and life changing experience.

Join us in building the Museum of Heroism and Justice and help reverse anti Semitic trends in Germany and throughout Europe.

Become a partner and a beacon of light.
*Donor naming recognition is available and welcome
for all parts of the project.*