



Teaching the Legacy

*The Yad Vashem eNewsletter
for Holocaust Educators*



Executive Summary

Students and educators around the world are showing a growing interest in learning and teaching about the Holocaust, both to commemorate the victims and to impart its significance to a new generation. As part of this increased awareness many countries have nominated a formal Holocaust Remembrance Day, and are now in need of relevant pedagogical guidance and practical assistance in developing education programs.

In its efforts to reach a global community of educators, Yad Vashem's International School for Holocaust Studies is utilizing remote means of communication to distribute materials and guidance. "Teaching the Legacy: the Holocaust education eNewsletter" is a vital quarterly resource for educators in their ongoing challenge of addressing the subject of the Holocaust in and out of the classroom. It is currently distributed to interested recipients in Hebrew and English, and in the two years since its inception, its distribution list has grown to over 5,000 educators.

Yad Vashem is pleased to offer opportunities to sponsor "Teaching the Legacy". To sponsor the eNewsletter for one year in one language requires a donation of \$10,600. Your generous sponsorship will be recognized with a dedication in all issues of the eNewsletter in the supported year.



The International School for Holocaust Studies

The International School for Holocaust Studies is the only school of its kind in the world and the staff is firmly committed to Holocaust education. It is our mission to enrich the knowledge of educators from around the world as well as to provide them with pedagogical guidelines and age-appropriate tools on how to teach this difficult subject matter.

Our interdisciplinary approach to Holocaust education allows educators to gain a broader understanding of what happened during this period. This educational philosophy has been developed over the past decade using the pedagogical and historical skills of the Yad Vashem team.

In recent years we have witnessed a growing interest among teachers in Israel and abroad to educate and commemorate the Holocaust. Many countries have formally instituted Holocaust remembrance days and educational programs, thus increasing the need for accurate, relevant lesson plans and pedagogical guidance.

The International School for Holocaust Studies currently runs intensive training programs for thousands of teachers every year at the Yad Vashem campus, as well as follow-up seminars in their local communities.

Key to ensuring the long term success of these programs is Yad Vashem's ability to create a mechanism for ongoing professional development of its network of educators and local partners. The quarterly e-Newsletter, now in its second year, is just such a mechanism.

Teaching the Legacy – the e-Newsletter for Holocaust Educators

Our research and experience has left us with no doubt that the educational process of the 21st century cannot be restricted to the physical classroom, but must be expanded to include the virtual environment.

The quarterly eNewsletter is a vital, dynamic resource for educators in their ongoing challenge of addressing the subject of the Holocaust in and out of the classroom. It provides a range of quality educational materials for teaching about the Holocaust in a number of languages (our expertise guarantees both their historical accuracy and pedagogical appropriateness), and it also helps maintain an ongoing network of educators from around the world, with a particular focus on Europe. The teaching materials distributed also include materials developed by Yad Vashem's graduate educators (with the approval of the School's experts), thus creating a dynamic relationship within the network.

The e-Newsletter is currently published in Hebrew and English and contains the following elements in each edition:

- **Main article** – this usually thematically connects many other elements contained within
- **Lesson plan** – this is a practical guide for teaching a specific topic, with age-guidelines, suggested materials, links to relevant wider information/research, and other relevant tips
- **Ceremony guidelines** – the ceremony guidelines are offered twice a year: on International Holocaust Remembrance Day (January 27th) and Yom HaShoah (usually



around late April). All readings, photographs, and necessary materials for conducting the ceremony are provided

- **New on the Virtual School** – the Virtual School is a dynamic constantly changing resource, and the eNewsletter guides educators to new resources made available in recent months
- **News from the International School for Holocaust Studies** – the School conducts several activities that may be of interest to its audience of educators. This is also the place where future training programs are advertised to educators.
- **Book Critique** – New Holocaust related publications are reviewed in-depth by one of Yad Vashem's experts in the relevant area, and recommendations are made as appropriate
- **New Yad Vashem Publications** – this section contains a synopsis of any new Yad Vashem research publications, memoirs, or educational books. It also has a link to Yad Vashem's online store where the book can be purchased.
- **What's New at Yad Vashem** – this section points educators to new events, resources, and initiatives being conducted by other departments at Yad Vashem.

Latest eNewsletter – English Edition

The content (within the framework mentioned above) for each language group reflects the unique history and connection that this group has to the Holocaust. Therefore this publication is not merely translated to each of the aforementioned languages, but is fully adapted to the needs of its intended recipients. Dedicated writers and editors (fully fluent in the relevant language) work on each edition.



The eNewsletter is currently distributed to over 5,000 teachers, informal educators, Jewish Community Centers, and Education Ministries around the world. However, these figures do not represent the full potential of the eNewsletter; it is believed that at least twice these number would be interested in subscribing. A distribution list of this size would need to be managed by an automated tool; purchase of which is included in this proposal.

Sponsorship of the eNewsletter

Yad Vashem is currently seeking sponsors of its “Teaching the Legacy” eNewsletter. A donation of \$10,600 will allow the International School for Holocaust Studies at Yad Vashem to publish the quarterly eNewsletter in either English or Hebrew for one year.

Recognition

The generous sponsor of the eNewsletter will be recognized with a dedication on the eNewsletter for all supported editions.