

magshimon

The Hagshama Department

The World Zionist Organization

From the Head and from the Heart

"Political Zionism does not exist solely to remove Jews from places where they are suffering; it must also do its utmost so as not to replace one type of hardship with another ... it does not regard itself as a smuggler of human cargo"

(Herzl: Zionist Congress, 4/6/1897, Before the People and the World, page 61).



The creation of the State of Israel is the most significant event in the entire history of the Jewish people - it is the **realization** of the Zionist dream. Those who fulfilled the Zionist vision did so by creating a democratic state for the Jewish people and all of its citizens, as stated in the Declaration of Independence.

But Herzl and the founders of political Zionism also had a vision of the society and the image of that state: dreaming of an exemplary society, social justice, equality, value and respect for human life and peace. I believe that we are becoming distant from that dream. A dark and heavy cloud threatens the Zionist creation. Solidarity and morale are weakening, distress is increasing, and we have become a people dominated by

norms and behaviors that contradict Zionism and Judaism.

The Zionist General Council is currently meeting and its agenda includes the completion of the constitution of the World Zionist Organization. It will establish, primarily, the movement's foundation for the next generation. Now is the time to realize the vision the founders of Zionism had for the State of Israel.

The movement of national liberation of the Jewish people, Zionism, must transform itself into a movement focused on society and youth. It must redirect itself onto a new path, in order to consolidate a National Home where young people want to live, and which will be attractive to numerous *olim*. Without that, no program or revision of the Constitution will be relevant.

Haim Hayet, Head of the Hagshama Department

THE VOICE OF THE YOUNG

The Australian culture being rich in art, theatre, night clubs, restaurants and drinks down at the local pub, all keep the young, Jewish Australian adults busy. Despite such distractions, they have an inherent need to remain connected to their Jewish roots. Yet for most, this need is more an abstract feeling than a concrete action. Only a minority of young adults actually take on active roles within the Jewish community, leaving the majority caught in between wanting to be connected, and refusing to participate in what are often negatively labelled as "Jewish events".

The Hagshama Department in Melbourne realized the need for a diverse range of events and programs in order to stimulate this unaffiliated group. The reason being, that the more varied the activities, the wider appeal they will have in reaching individuals with different interests. The young Jewish adults in Australia pride themselves on being socially aware and active

when it comes to humanitarian issues and the like. Hagshama Melbourne is attempting to hone in on their need to be connected by incorporating these broader interests and relating them back to Jewish identity and Israel.

The challenge still lies ahead of us. Yet, I am optimistic. The necessity to provide people with a possible channel to deepen their connection to the Jewish people and to Israel is essential. Whilst this channel may not be used by everyone at the same time people will connect and then detach themselves and then reconnect when they are ready to. Hopefully we will see a rise in the number of people who see the value, both to themselves and to the community, of being involved and remaining involved.

**Lynne Gaddie
Hagshama Coordinator, Melbourne, Australia**

Congratulations to our USA representative Shachar Yanai and his partner Miri on the birth of baby Amalia and to Hagshama's Educational Director, Erella Goren and her partner Ran, upon the birth of Yahli.

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Hagshama Around the World . Hagshama Arou

AUSTRALIA

MELBOURNE

Hitchhiker's Guide to the Roadmap

On August 24th, the *Hagshama* Department together with the State Zionist Council, AUJS, Young UIA and the youth movements held a brunch with guest speaker **Prof. Eytan Gilboa**, distinguished Israel advocate and lecturer. Prof. Gilboa spoke about the emergence, attempted application and inevitable complications facing the roadmap. Students delved into the actual clauses of the agreement to better understand what the Road Map is all about in order to better defend Israel against anti-Israel rhetoric on campus.

AUJS Leadership Program

On September 8th, the *Hagshama* Department ran a session as part of the Australian Union of Jewish Students' annual leadership program. The topic: "Being Active on Campus", revolved around the central idea of what it actually means to be active on campus. The session focused on the idea of building conceptual frameworks in order to make the actions of students on campus more effective. Through the use of various case studies in a workshop based environment, students discussed ways in which they could become even more pro-active on campus, beyond the usual methods of defending Israel. Dialogue between Arab and Jewish students was suggested along with the need to have an organized plan of action for the year.

Jews in the Goldfish Bowl: How We're Portrayed in the Media

The *Hagshama* Department, together with the MIR group (young adult Russian Community), held a Shabbat dinner with **Danny Katz**, author and "The Age" columnist, and **Irena Bukshtaber**, TV show "Big Brother" star. Speaking to more than 150 people the audience was entertained by both their funny antics and their experiences originating from being Jewish and under the limelight.

The events in Melbourne were organized by *Hagshama* Coordinator **Lynne Gaddie**.

SYDNEY

"Relentless" Screening

In early August, thirty young adults attended the screening of the film "Relentless", made about the search for peace in the Middle East, by Media Watchdog, followed by a panel discussion with the film's director **Brian K. Spector**. This event was co-hosted with Schism, and organized by Sydney's *Hagshama* coordinator **Ariel Jankelson**.

Hebrew Café

Informal *ulpan*, or 'Hebrew Café', has been an integral part of *Hagshama* activities in NSW over the past couple of years. August saw its reintroduction and produced a great amount of interest. The first meeting, held in Bondi, was run by coordinator **Deb Itzkowic** and *shaliach* **Ronen Krausz**. The response and interest generated was solid and there is certainly demand to continue this endeavour.

Our deepest condolences to Sydney Coordinator, Deb Itzkowic who mourns the passing away of her mother.

SOUTH AFRICA

JOHANNESBURG

Kicking the End of the Season

Sunday September 7th saw end of season celebrations for the twenty two soccer teams which bravely gave body and soul every Sunday afternoon for the past five months in the quest to obtain the coveted *Hagshama* Soccer League First and Second Division trophies. **Doron Kline**, National *Aliyah Shaliach*, handed out prizes and urged the league participants to take the feeling of playing on the soccer field, and to transform it into becoming players rather than mere spectators, on the only real field that we know of... our national homeland of Israel.

A New Burst of Energy

Barbeques, *Shabbat*, wine, sea, air and leadership, were the buzz words at a leadership training seminar held in Durban over the weekend of 8-10 August. Run in conjunction with *Hagshama* and a crack team of educators from "Amitim", the Zionist Seminar team from the Jewish Agency, and the *Aliyah* Department of South Africa, the seminar hosted the Durban branch of the South African Union of Jewish Students and the Young Adults Division of Durban. The educational program included a discussion by participants about their connection to the state of Israel, a session relating Jewish identity to the Law of Return and Declaration of Independence, and an update on the current Israeli political scene, as well as leadership and *hasbara* skills.

"Efshar Ledaber Ivrit"?

Hungry for Hebrew? *Hagshama* provides the perfect solution! Sunday evening August 24th, saw the launch of the internationally popular *Café Ivrit* in Johannesburg. Catering to the young-adult population's desire for an opportunity to improve their level of Hebrew, the program is facilitated by fluent Hebrew speakers, and caters to all levels of Hebrew speaking ability. All you need is a love of our national language, and a desire to do something different with your Sunday evenings!

The events in Johannesburg were facilitated by *Hagshama* coordinator, **Anthony Marcow**.



Hagshama activists in Durban seminar, August 2003.

CAPETOWN

Absolute Jewish Jazz

The rain-covered Camps Bay beach area came alive with the soothing sounds of Jazz, on the 4th of August. An audience of one hundred and fifty people, all coming to enjoy the musical talents of **Russell Nurwitch** and his band. This event was

ound the World . Hagshama Around the World

unparalleled, with people from all over the young adult spectrum attending, thanks to the collaborative efforts of **Hagshama**, SAUJS (South African Union of Jewish Students) and YAD (Young Adults Division). The diversity of people present certainly added color to the event. Thanks are extended to all involved, especially to the *Hagshama* volunteers who helped to operate the evening.

"Behind Closed Walls, an Inside View"

On September 1st, twenty young adults gathered to listen to the fascinating **Dr. Meron Medzini**, a professor of Political Science from the Tel Aviv University and an expert on the Middle East. He served as the Director of the Israeli Government Press Office under three different Prime Ministers. His talk, which centered on the topic "The Government and The Press", was very informative, interesting and insightful. Dr. Medzini's talk was followed by comments and questions from the audience and by a panel, put together by the *madrichim* of the Zionist Seminar of the Jewish Agency.

The events in Cape Town were organized by *Hagshama* coordinator **Lihl Vanderveken**.

NORTH AMERICA



On September 17th, USD/Hagshama, the Aliyah Center, and New England Regional Hillel organized a Boat Cruise around the Boston Harbor for Jewish undergraduates and Israel program returnees.

Two New Regional Offices

USD/Hagshama is proud to announce the opening of two new regional offices: one in **Atlanta, Georgia (USA)** and another in **Toronto (Canada)**. USD/Hagshama has been an integral part of the Jewish Campus Israel Connection in North America for many years, by bringing Israel to campuses with creative campaigns, lectures and activities such as Media Flash "birthright-israel trip" and YZL (Young Zionist Leadership) seminars. The office in Atlanta will cover universities in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee. Many of the universities in this region have significant Jewish populations, which makes the southeast an ideal home for a new USD/Hagshama regional office, directed by **Timna Zaray-Mizrahi**. USD/Hagshama office in Toronto joined JAFI's Israel Program Center with the aim of providing additional resources and opportunities to Canadian Jewish students, so that they can cultivate a meaningful, personal connection with Israel. **Iris Ashkenazy** has been appointed Regional Coordinator of both organizations.

HUNGARY

First Regional Hagshama Seminar at Szentendre

Fifty-five young adults participated in the first regional leadership seminar on the weekend before *Rosh Hashana* at Szentendre.



The participants from Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Romania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Slovenia, Serbia and Hungary had a chance to get to know each other and build up the infrastructure for a regional network. **Dr. Sharonah Fredericko**, guest speaker from Israel, led lectures about anti-Semitism and anti-Zionism in Eastern Europe. This enriching seminar, organized by *Hagshama's* **Linda Lantai**, opens new horizons for the Department's work in the Central-East European region. Among the guests at the seminar were: **Haim Hayet**, Head of the *Hagshama* Department, **Malka Festinger**, Director of the European Desk and JAFI's representatives: **Tova Pinto**, Central-East Europe Director and Education and *Aliyah shlichim*. **Zoltai Gusztav**, Head of the Hungarian Jewish Community and **Asaf Ichilevich**, from the Israeli Embassy also participated. The seminar was supported by the Jewish Agency for Israel in Hungary and the JDC.

ISRAEL

Young Zionist Leadership (YZL)



YZL Group in Israel

Thirty students attended this year's North American Young Zionist Leadership program organized by USD/Hagshama, co-sponsored by the *Aliyah* Department of the Jewish Agency and *Oranım* Educational Initiatives. The students, all Israel program alumni, took part in an extensive leadership training that prepared them to become effective activists and recruiters for Israel programs on campus.

The students heard lectures by experts in Israeli politics, society and culture, they were acquainted with different long-term programs offered by the Israel Program Center, and received a full day of professional leadership skill-building in *Kibbutz Tuval*. The training ended with a competition in which the students came-up with the best program idea to implement once returning to their campus. The happy winners got a free trip to YZL Miami which will take place on January 30th, 2004.

USA - Media Flash "birthright-israel trip"

This past August, *Hagshama* held its popular "Taglit - birthright israel trip" that focused on media and journalism. Students gained an informed perspective about Israel and the Middle East from



people with a variety of opinions and backgrounds. Media Flash offered young adults aged 18-26 an in-depth perspective of Israeli and international media through interaction with senior Israeli and foreign journalists.

This ten-day trip was packed with many activities including hiking and rafting, enjoying the Israeli night life and visiting Israel's cultural and historical sites. The two USD/Hagshama representatives who staffed the trip were **Shira Landau** from the New York area and **Lili Aram** from the Northeast region.

GIPSE (Global Israel Professionals for Student Encounters)



Hagshama Coordinators in Israel with Hagshama Director General
left to right: Roni, Lili, Lynne, Anthony, Linda, Lihi.

The notion of a global Jewish community really sank in for five Hagshama Representatives after attending the first annual Jewish Agency initiated conference, GIPSE in July. The conference held primarily in Jerusalem, included Jewish professionals working with University students from around the world. In addition to the global contacts they made, Hagshama representatives spent two days with the Hagshama Dept. team under the direction of **Linda Futterman**. Those present were **Lih Vanderveken** from Cape Town, **Anthony Marcow** from Johannesburg, **Lynne Gaddie** from Melbourne, **Roni Ben-David** from San Francisco, **Lili Aram** from Boston. They were joined by Hagshama's new appointee in Paris, **Ilai Rowner**. They helped each other tackle common problems and discussed their visions for Hagshama in their respective regions.

Leadership Training Seminar

In August, the traditional LTS North training program for student leaders and activists took place, with the participation of fourteen young people from Venezuela, Mexico, and Argentina. The varied and intensive program included lectures on current events and Israeli society, youth leadership, student and community activism, and project development. In addition, the young adults participated in workshops and tours throughout the country.

JOINT PROJECTS

(Organized by Hagshama's Educational Team: Erella Goren, Andy Faur and Vered Samuel)

French Student Organization AJGE

In August, thirty young adults took part in a ten-day program organized by Hagshama, with the support of JAFI's Education Department. The participants, who study in Parisian universities (Grandes Ecoles), enjoyed a rich and varied program, which included lectures, workshops, and tours. The feedback was extremely positive and all the participants committed themselves to be "ambassadors for Israel."

Taglit from Spain

In August, seventy young people from Madrid, Barcelona, Melilla, Malaga, Ceuta, and Seville took part in "Taglit - birthright israel trip", organized by Hagshama and Oranim Educational Initiatives. The students traveled throughout the country on an intense educational program. The sizable number of participants was remarkable, particularly since they came from communities in which there are no ongoing Israel oriented educational programs.

Bogrim of Betar Australia in Israel

Within the joint framework of *tnuot magshimot*, the Australia *Tagar* movement completed a project in which some twenty young *bogrim* participated in a ten-day intense and interesting program in Israel, this past July. This project was implemented in collaboration with JAFI, UIA, the Zionist Federation of Australia, JNF and the Hagshama Department. The young adults, who came from all over Australia, attended lectures and seminars, and toured the length and breadth of the country.

Habonim Dror Seminar

Hagshama supported a pre-Chazon seminar for *Habonim Dror Mazkirut* members from both England and Holland. Eleven participants spent five days shaping the direction in which they want to lead their movement for the coming year. They participated in a day long seminar at *Givat Haviva*, as well as visiting various *Habonim Dror olim* and urban *kibbutzim*.

Keeping in Touch with the Dutch

In September, Hagshama and JAFI's Education Dept. hosted a group of fifteen *hasbara* activists from CIJO, in Israel, for an intensive seminar focused on developing and extending their *hasbara* skills. The seminar was a resounding success, with all participants returning to Holland equipped with more knowledge and skills to aid them in their goals. Participants are active members of CIDI Jongeren Organisatie (CIJO), the youth arm of the Center for Information and Distribution on Israel.

www.hagshama.org.il

Just A Click Away From Israel

What is Zionism? Who are *hachaverim shel Natasha*? What does the Bible say about witchcraft? What is happening in Israel today? What kind of student activities does my university have to offer? 100,000 people a month find answers to these questions in English and Spanish on the Hagshama website, in addition to resources on a variety of programs in Israel. This excellent site is managed by Hagshama's Communications Director **Adrian Kohan**, assisted by **Lisa Richlen**.