

History

Yad B'Yad was birthed at an Israeli and German Pastors meeting in Zichron Yaakov, Israel in 2005 organized by the PHILIPPUS-DIENST. At this meeting David Lazarus, one of the Israeli pastors, had the vision of an Israeli and a German walking *Hand in Hand* through Auschwitz.

The first delegation of Israeli Youth was already on its way by the summer of 2005. That delegation of Israeli and German youth led the way for further groups to follow and to walk through Auschwitz together. Ever since, Yad b'Yad groups have visited different regions of Germany every summer.

In 2008 the program was successfully extended to Young Adults and Students.

In 2009 Yad b'Yad opened the program for Polish Students to join.

Yad b'Yad continues to develop and is reaching out to Europe and Eastern Europe creating strong bonds of friendship for the next generation of Israelis and Europeans.

For reports of past Yad b'Yad programs, please visit the website of PHILIPPUS-DIENST.



How to be involved?

PRAY for this program that it will impact the life of the young people with the love of God. Pray for the staff and participants.

RECRUIT youth in Israel, Germany, Poland...

INVITE Yad b'Yad to your youth group or young adults group.

JOIN a Yad b'Yad delegation as a counselor. Come for leaders training in Israel.

SUPPORT Yad b'Yad financially through donations.

(Note on funding: Each Israeli participant covers the cost of the flight - German families and host congregations cover the cost for week 1 - PHILIPPUS-DIENST covers the cost for Poland trip and other running expenses)

CONTACT IN ISRAEL FOR INFO, DONATIONS, SIGN-UP:

Karen Lüling

ybyexchange@gmail.com

CONTACT IN GERMANY FOR DONATIONS AND INFO:

PHILIPPUS-DIENST e.V.

office@philippus-dienst.de

<http://www.philippus-dienst.de/>

CONTACT IN POLAND FOR INFO AND SIGN-UP:

Ania

"ChSA-IFES Poland"

biuro@chsa.org.pl



Yad B'Yad

Youth and Students Exchange
Israel - Germany - Poland

Vision

“From Memory – Through Friendship – To Shared Future”

“THE ONE WHO DOES NOT REMEMBER HISTORY IS BOUND TO LIVE THROUGH IT AGAIN”

GEORGE SANTORIANA

Yad b'Yad leads Israeli, German and Polish youth to walk hand in hand through Auschwitz and overcome their pain and shame with the love of God.

Yad b'Yad teaches young people to overcome the dark history of the past and create hope for future generations.

Yad b'Yad guides youth on a cultural, social, spiritual and historical journey to God's grace, forgiveness and the power of reconciliation.

Yad b'Yad accomplishes this with:

- ➔ **Learning from the Past** – by *enabling* youth to understand their history.
- ➔ **Redeeming the Present** - by *teaching* intercultural and inter-religious issues of today from a biblical perspective
- ➔ **Building the Future** – by *creating* a secure future through reconciliation



Programs

The Yad B'Yad Youth Program

Yad b'Yad works together with local congregations in Israel and Germany and is open for youth ages 16-18. Up to 12 German and 12 Israeli youth can partake in the twelve day program. Each Israeli youth is hosted by the family of his German partner. This builds trust between the young people and is an important preparation before traveling to Auschwitz.

Yad b'Yad Young Adults and Students Program

This program is similar to the youth program, but the content is designed for 21-33 year olds from Israel, Germany and Poland. The program is coordinated with the local congregations, as well as student and young adult groups. In Germany, participants stay in the homes of the German partners or meeting centers, as appropriate.



What we do...

BEFORE: Yad b'Yad leaders training

Prior to any Yad b'Yad journey, German and Israeli leaders come together for a training program in Israel. Participation in the Israeli Holocaust memorial day, spiritual input by local leaders and discussions on related subjects prepare them for the summer Yad b'Yad program.

First Week: Friendship

The first week runs under the motto "Friendship". Germans and Israelis (and Poles with the student program) experience a multi-faceted program during the first five days. Activities include: the Out-doors, intercultural and inter-religious education, discussion groups about the Holocaust, reconciliation, and prayer. These enhance the bonding between the participants.



Second Week: Overcoming evil with good.

The climax during the second week finds its expression in a two day visit to Auschwitz and Birkenau. We are persuaded that “Memory and Commemoration” must be experienced together. During this time we deal with many difficult questions and emotions. As the youth hold hands and walk together they learn to identify with each other's pain and shame and find hope in God. This difficult but intense experience results in deeper friendships. The shared visit to Auschwitz gives birth to new hope for the future.



AFTER: Visits to Israel

During the German Easter vacation and the Israeli Passover break the German/Polish groups are invited to Israel. They tour the country, visit historical-biblical sites, learn about the Jewish roots of our faith, and experience modern Israeli culture. Friendships are deepened as each one spends time with Israeli families during the Jewish Holidays.