



REMEMBERING THE VICTIMS OF THE HOLOCAUST

Bringing Green Back to the Forest Dedicated in Their Name

On August 15th, 2021, and for the next three days, KKL-JNF firefighters and other emergency personnel fought to extinguish mass blazes that swept through the forests in the hills surrounding Jerusalem, devastation which has not been seen in Israel for over a decade.

KKL-JNF forests, including the Martyrs' Forest, suffered shocking damage to the trees, vegetation, wildlife, and unique flora of 606 hectares, a third of the forest's trees, were consumed by the flames.

It will take decades to recover what has been lost.



Ya'ar HaKedoshim, The Martyr's Forest, was planted in the Jerusalem Hills to commemorate the six million Jews who were murdered in the Holocaust. The idea to commemorate them through a forest was put forward immediately after the end of World War II by Holocaust survivors who reached Israel and turned to KKL-JNF with requests to plant trees in memory of their loved ones who perished and their extinct communities.

The forest hosts monuments in memory of the Jewish communities that perished in Europe, divided into plots according to the countries that were occupied by the Nazis. The number of trees in each area is meant to be as the number of victims from that country.

In addition, monuments in the forest commemorate the Righteous Among the Nations who saved

Jews during the Holocaust, the Jewish fighters in the ghettos, the 1.5 million children who perished

during the Holocaust, and the donors who made the projects possible.

THE THREE MAIN SITES IN THE FOREST ARE:



The Scroll of Fire Monument

An 8-meter-high bronze statue at the top of a hill peak, designed in the form of two cylinders symbolizing the "Shoah" and "Resurrection" in Israel, a monument to those who perished in the Holocaust, donated by KKL Germany.



The Bnei Brith Cave

A cave off the Nahal Keslon channel that serves as a commemorative site for communities annihilated during the Holocaust, donated by JNF-USA.



Yad Anne Frank

A site near the Bnei Brith Cave with commemorative columns and excerpts from Anne Frank's diary. A sculpture by the artist Pete Cohen simulates a room with a chair on which a person can sit as if imprisoned in a cell and from which he can observe a chestnut tree, like the one described in Frank's diary. JNF Holland donated the Monument.

KKL-JNF friends worldwide contributed to the development and wellbeing of these important living monuments to the victims, including recreational parks and picnic areas. These monuments, immersed in nature, are unique and properly commemorate the victims of the Holocaust by making Israel green again.

KKL-JNF invites you to support its operations to rehabilitate these age-old forests and green lands lost in the mega-fire, which will take decades to restore to their former glory.

Help KKL-JNF restore green to the Jerusalem Hills and honor the victims of the Holocaust on this upcoming Yom HaShoah, Israel's National Holocaust Remembrance Day.



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