



YAD VASHEM – HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL

The Holocaust Memorial Center in West Jerusalem honors the 6 million Jews who perished under Hitler between 1933 and 1945. Its library of 50 million documents is the world's largest Holocaust archive and safeguards the memory of the victims and the events of the Holocaust by documenting accurately one of the darkest chapters in the history of humanity.

In 1961, Yad Vashem inaugurated the Hall of Remembrance (Ohel Jiskor), the first Holocaust commemoration. Engraved on the mosaic floor are the names of 22 of the most infamous Nazi extermination camps sites. The Eternal Flame, burning from a base fashioned like a broken bronze goblet, continuously illuminates the Hall, its smoke exiting the building through an opening at the highest point of the ceiling. Before it stands a stone crypt containing the ashes of Holocaust victims, brought to Israel from the extermination camps.

The story of the Holocaust is one of darkness and despair that palpably demonstrates the depths of depravity to which humans can sink. But Yad Vashem also beautifully commemorates the actions of non-Jews who took great risks to help Jews during the Holocaust at The Righteous Among the Nations memorial.

These Righteous protected their Jewish neighbors at a time when hostility and indifference prevailed. Their spirit is an inspirational reminder of the human capacity for love and hope even in the most brutal circumstances.

