



International Committee  
FOR THE PRESERVATION OF  
**HAR HAZEITIM**  
הוועד הבינלאומי להגנת הר הזיתים

The history of the  
Jewish People lies here...  
and so does its future.



THE PRESERVATION OF HAR HAZEITIM IS IN OUR HANDS!



## About Har Hazeitim

**H**ar Hazeitim is also known as Har Hazeisim (Ashkenazic pronunciation) or the Mt. of Olives. It is a mountain ridge in eastern Jerusalem and is the oldest surviving Jewish cemetery in the world, dating back over 3,000 years. It is the resting place for more than 150,000 Jews.

The kedusha of Har Hazeitim dates back to the Bet Hamikdash when Har Hazeitim served its twin mountain, the Har Habayit. Jews have been buried on Har Hazeitim since Biblical times, which houses the tombs of the most prominent Jewish citizens of antiquity through modern day.

## The Problem — A History of Neglect and Abuse

In May 2010, State Controller Micha Lindenstrauss issued a stinging report on the neglect and abuse of the neglect and abuse of Judaism's holiest site. He blamed successive Israeli governments for neglecting the cemetery.

### A SAD STATE:

- The cemetery remained largely neglected;
- It became the dumping grounds for contractors, a highway for residents, a passageway for donkeys, a soccer field for Arab youths, a major marketplace for drugs and contraband, and a path for Arab school children to and from school.
- The virtual neglect of Har Hazeitim emboldened the local Arab population to use it as an extension of their neighboring villages;
- Vandals routinely desecrated graves and defiled tombstones;
- Mourners and worshippers and Jewish vehicles were frequently stoned;
- Laws and penalties concerning cemetery vandalism and rock throwing have largely gone unenforced;
- Har Hazeitim is not fully fenced in to ward off vandals;
- Proper flood lighting and other needed services such as amenity stations and adequate shaded areas for visitors and mourners are sorely needed.



Desecrated graves



From L to R: Malcolm Hoenlein (Executive Vice Chairman, Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations), Abe Lubinsky, Congressman Elliot Engel, Congressman Jerrold Nadler and Menachem Lubinsky.

The Israeli government constructed 20,000 tombstones on top of the remains of graves destroyed by Jordanians (1948-1967). Slabs of the destroyed graves are on many graves.



## The International Committee for the Preservation of Har Hazeitim (ICPHH)

In 2010, the International Committee of the Preservation of Har Hazeitim (ICPHH) was established by a cross section of lay leaders and heads of organizations.

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- The construction of 20,000 tombstones over destroyed graves;
- 172 cameras were installed in addition to a 24/7 Command Center (more are needed on the approaching roads);
- A police substation was established in March 2012.
- A series of new fences were installed. More are needed;
- The ICPHH has been working tirelessly to promote legislation mandating stiff sentences for rock throwers and those who commit vandalism on Har Hazeitim
- Raising public awareness about the serious issues confronting Har Hazeitim has been a formidable achievement of the ICPHH.
- The Israeli government and local authorities have achieved relative safety since working with the ICPHH.

Gilad Erdan, Israel's Minister for International Security with Menachem Lubinsky and Malcolm Hoenlein.



The cleaning up of graves on Har Hazeitim



One of the 172 surveillance cameras on Har Hazeitim



Police substation on Har Hazeitim



Some of the new fencing on Har Hazeitim





Proposed Visitors Education Center

We've taken back Har Hazeitim!  
Now we must keep it!

## ICPHH Program

- Beef up security forces
- Finish the construction of the fences, gates and walls
- Restore 23,000 graves (from Jordanian occupation)
- Construction of Visitors Education Center and shul
- Development of many new infrastructure and beautification projects
- Create a transport hub
- Education program on the significance of Har Hazeitim

## Education Program

- Development of curriculum
- Educational tours (students, families and self guided )
- Visitors Education Center (computer research, lecture series, live stream courses and kollel)
- Website and Social Media
- Wikizeitim

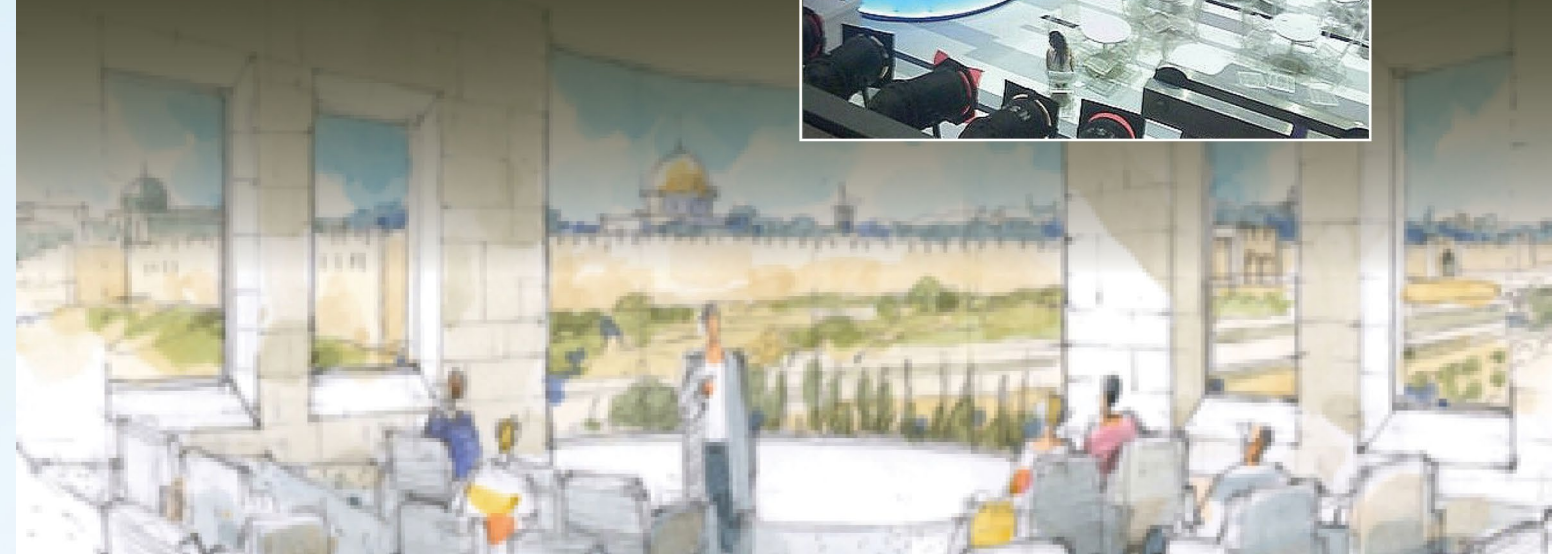
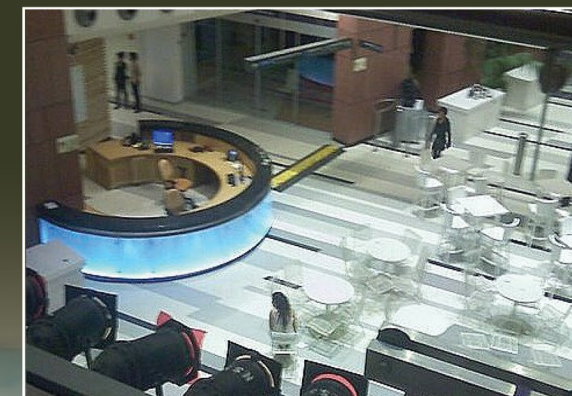
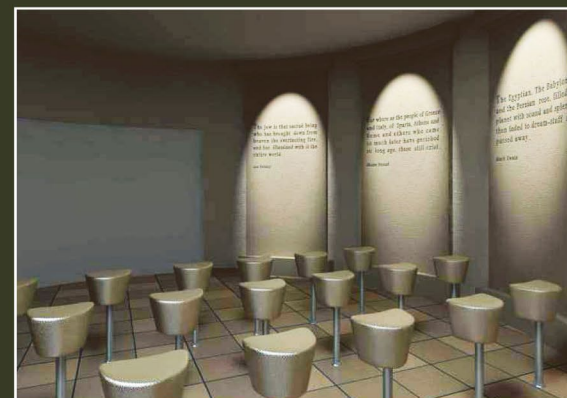
## We Need Your Support!

While significant progress has been made in the last few years, much more is needed. To do so, the **ICPHH** has embarked on a **major campaign** (including the construction of the Visitors Education Center, restoration of graves and beautification project) to remedy the unresolved issues. To restore the cemetery to its deserved status as the international historic Jewish cemetery of the Jewish people requires private sector funding.

Your **TAX DEDUCTIBLE** contribution will count in many ways. As we move forward with improvements in security, cemetery restoration and beautification, as well as raising the world's consciousness about Har Hazeitim, we need you to become an active supporter.

**Your voice makes a difference!**

Plans for the Visitors Education Center to be built by the Israeli Government, Municipality of Jerusalem and ICPHH





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The International Committee for the Preservation of Har Hazeisim (ICPHH) is a registered tax exempt 501 (c) 3 organization. Its governing structure includes a Board of Directors and Executive Committee as well as committees in Israel, Canada, and Europe. Tax exempt status is also available in Israel and the United Kingdom.