



# OLIVE TREE INITIATIVE

## BEYOND SOUND-BITES AND STEREOTYPES

### **CURRICULUM STUDENT TRIP JULY-AUGUST 2012**

Disclaimer: Sensitivity to cultural and religious practice and observance is a strong value of OTI. Any religious sites or events listed on the curriculum are meant for educational purposes only. All participants (students, faculty, staff) are provided opportunities to observe their own religious practices during the trip, including but not limited to prayer service (e.g. Friday prayers); consumption or avoidance of specific foods; observance of Sabbath or Ramadan or other holidays.

#### Wednesday - July 18<sup>th</sup>: **Flight to Philadelphia, drive to Washington DC**

- 8:30 am Leave LAX
- 4:44 pm Arrival in Philadelphia
- 5:30 pm Pick-up from Airport by bus, drive to Washington DC
- 7:00 pm Check in Hotel (Capitol Skyline Hotel, Washington D.C.)

#### Thursday – July 19<sup>th</sup>: **Washington DC**

- 9:00 am Brunch
- 11:00 am MEETING with *Zvika Krieger* at S. Daniel Abraham Center for Middle East Peace
- 12:45 am MEETING with *Dr. Wesley Reisser* (Middle East Expert; Geographer) at US State Department
- 2pm MEETING with *Officers David Caudill and Christopher Hattayer* (Israel-Palestinian Affairs Office) at US State Department
- 3:30 Coffee Break
- 4:30 pm GROUND RULES, REFLECTION and TEAM-BUILDING
- FREE EVENING

#### Friday– July 20<sup>st</sup>: **Washington DC**

- 8:30 am Short breakfast meeting and Taxi drive to USIP
- 10:00 am MEETING with US Institute of Peace with *Jeff Helsing* (Dean of Curriculum, Academy for International Conflict Management and Peacebuilding)
- 11:15 am MEETING with *Haris Tarin* (Muslim Public Affairs Committee) at MPAC office
- 12:30 pm LUNCH
- 2:00 pm TALK with *Jonathan Kessler* (American Israel Public Affairs Committee) at AIPAC office
- 4:00 pm REFLECTION followed by TEAM-BUILDING (Language, Culture, How to ask Questions)

- FREE EVENING

**Saturday - July 21<sup>st</sup>: Washington DC and Flight to Tel Aviv**

- 9:00 am Breakfast
- 10:00 am MIDDLE EAST PREPARATION
- 1:00 pm EXPERT LUNCH with *Allen Kleiswetter* (Middle East Institute, Former Deputy Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs) at Hotel
- 2:30 pm GROUP-BUILDING Exercise
- 5:00 pm Leave to Philadelphia airport from hotel
- 6:30 pm Arrival at Philadelphia airport
- 9:15 pm Depart PHL to Tel Aviv

**Sunday - July 22<sup>nd</sup>: Jerusalem/Bethlehem**

- 3:15 pm Arrival in Ben-Gurion Airport
- 5:30 pm Travel to Bethlehem
- 6:30 pm Check into Nativity Bells Hotel
- 8:00 pm DINNER and Dabke Dancing at Grotto Restaurant with Bethlehem students

**Monday - July 23<sup>rd</sup>: Bethlehem**

- 8:30 am TOUR of Old Town Bethlehem (Church of Nativity, Mosque of Omar)
- 10:00 am MEETING with students and faculty at Bethlehem University
- 11:30 am MEETING with *George Sa'adeh* (Deputy Mayor of Bethlehem)
- 1:00 pm LUNCH and TALK with *Zoughbi Zoughbi* (Director, Wi'am – Palestinian Conflict Resolution Center) at Wi'am Center
- 3:30 pm Tour of Aida Refugee Camp
- 4:30 pm TALK with *Prof. Mazin Qumsiyeh* (Bethlehem University) at Alrowwad Center, Aida Refugee Camp and *Abdelfattah Abusrour* (Alrowwad General Manager) at Alrowwad Center in Aida Refugee Camp
- 6:00 pm REFLECTION at hotel
- 8:00 pm DINNER in Bethlehem with host families

**Tuesday – July 24<sup>th</sup>: Hebron and Jerusalem**

- 7:30 am TRAVEL to Hebron
- 9:00 am Visit Tomb of the Patriarchs
- 11:00 am TALK and TOUR of Jewish Community of Hebron with *David Wilder* (Spokesperson, Jewish Community)
- 11:30 am TALK and TOUR of Hebron City Center with *Walid S. Abu-Alhalaweh* (PR Director, Hebron Rehabilitation Committee)
- 1:00 pm Lunch
- 1:45 pm TRAVEL on Bus to Jerusalem
- 3:00 pm Security check-in Knesset
- 3:30 pm Talk With *Mark Regev* (Spokesperson for Prime Minister)
- 5:00 pm TALK with MK *Dr. Einat Wilf* (Independence Party)
- 7:00 pm DINNER in Jerusalem
- 8:30 pm REFLECTION at hotel

**Wednesday - July 25<sup>th</sup>: Bi'lin, Qalqilia, Ariel and Haifa**

- 7:30 am Leave Bethlehem
- 9:00 am MEETING with *Iyad Burnat* (Chairman, Bi'lin Popular Committee Against the War & Settlements)
- 11:00 am Leaving for Qalqilya
- 12:30 pm TOUR with *Nedal Jaloud* (Public Relations Officer, Qalqilya Municipality)
- 1:45 pm Leaving for Ariel
- 2:30 pm Visit with *Yehuda* (CEO of Toilet Factory, Ariel Industrial Park and Abed (Palestinian worker in park) in Ariel
- 3:30 pm LUNCH and INTRODUCTION with *Avi Zimmerman* (Director, American Friends of Ariel) followed by TOUR of Ariel
- 4:30 pm VISIT of IDF outpost near Ariel, TALK with IDF commander and soldiers
- 5:30 pm TALK with *Rabbi Itzik* (Gush Katif Evacuee)
- 6:30 pm Leave for Haifa (Reflection on the Bus)
- 8:00 pm Arrival in Haifa - DINNER
- 9:00 pm Check in German Colony Hotel
- FREE Evening

#### Thursday- July 26<sup>th</sup>: Jenin and Haifa

- 9:00 am TRAVEL to Jenin
- 10:30 am TALK with *Mohammad Sayyed* (Popular Committee of Service – Jenin Camp) at Jenin refugee camp
- 11:00 am TALK with *Mohammad Sbiehat* (Fatah Higher Council member, Jenin)
- 12:00 noon TOUR of refugee camp
- 1:30 pm MEETING with Women Cooperative and TALK by *Ifat Abu-Zahra* (director) who lost her son Imad Subhi Abu-Zahra (journalist) in an IDF incursion into Jenin
- 3:00 pm Travel to Haifa
- 4:00 pm MEETING with *Rotem Klein* and other *Havatsalot students* (an IDF project at Haifa University for elite students who obtain a degree in Middle Eastern Studies and/or a professional degree)
- 5:30 pm Reflection at Hotel
- FREE EVENING

#### Friday - July 27<sup>th</sup>: Haifa and Nablus

- 9:00 am Bahai Garden Visit
- 10:30 am MEETING with *Professor Sammy Smooha* (Professor of Sociology, Haifa University)
- 12:30 pm LUNCH and TALK at Maxim restaurant in Haifa, a joint Arab-Israeli owned with frequent guest that helped to rebuild the restaurant.
- 1:45 pm Leave for cemetery
- 2:00 pm TOUR of terror victim burial site (near Haifa) with *Ron Kehrmann*, whose daughter died in a suicide attack on a bus in Haifa
- OPTIONAL 3:00 pm Depart for visit of Nablus with Old City TOUR
- 6:30 pm Depart for Haifa (reflection on Bus)
- 7:30 pm – DINNER in Haifa
- FREE EVENING – Optional Sabbath Celebration

#### Saturday - July 28<sup>th</sup>: Tour of Golan and Nazareth

- **OPTIONAL**
- 9:00 am Depart for TOUR of Galilee and Golan with Colonel (ret.) *Ron Schatzberg*
  - 12:00 LUNCH at Majdal Shams (Druze village in Golan)
- 5:30 pm Depart for Nazareth (Students who stayed in Haifa will be shuttled to Nazareth via taxi)
- 6:30 pm Arrival in Nazareth and Check-in Hotel
- 7:00 pm TALK with *Mohammad Darwashe* (The Abraham Fund Initiative) at Hotel
- 8:30 pm Dinner with *Afifi Family* of Nazareth
- 9:00 pm (optional) Night tour of Nazareth and nightlife experience with Nazareth University students

#### Sunday - July 29<sup>th</sup>: Upper Galilee and Nazareth

- 9:00 am Leave for Christian Sites in the Galilee
- 12:00 noon VISIT and meet with students at College of the Kinneret (with lunch), TALKS by *Dr. Jacob Ashkenazi* (The David Bornblum Chair in Land of Israel Studies) and *Dr. Haim Aviram* (Dean of Social Sciences)
- 2:00 Visit of Peace Room in the Kinneret (Israeli-Jordanian Peace Treaty Signed)
- 4:00 pm Reflection at hotel
- FREE AFTERNOON/EVENING (option sightseeing tour of Nazareth)

#### Monday - July 30<sup>th</sup>: Tel Aviv/Jaffa

- 8:00 am Leave for Tel Aviv
- 10:00 am Check-in SeaNet Hotel, Tel Aviv
- 11:00 am TALK with *Dr. Yossi Beilin* (former MK and Israeli justice minister) at Hotel
- 1:00 pm Meeting with *Yarden Leal* (Director, Development and External Relations Department, Peres Center for Peace) at Peres Center in Jaffa
- 2:30 pm LUNCH
- 4:00 pm TALK with *Gilead Sher* (former Chief of Staff, Israeli Negotiator) at Hotel
- 6:00 pm TALK with *Uzi Rabi* (Moshe Dayan Center)
- 8:00 pm DINNER with Tel Aviv students
- Optional – experience Tel Aviv nightlife

#### Tuesday - July 31<sup>st</sup>: Gaza/Sderot and Tel Aviv

----- Program was changed because of security situation in South Israel -----

- 9:30 am TALK with *Noam Bedein* (Director, Sderot Media Center) at Hotel
- 11:00 am MEETING/TOUR with *Ifat Morad* (Director of Development, NATAL Trauma Center) at the NATAL center in Tel Aviv
- FREE AFTERNOON (relaxing, beach opportunity)
- 5:30pm Talk with *Eran Shayshon* (Reut Institute) at Hotel
- 7:00 pm DINNER in Jaffa with *Dahlia Scheindlin* (Public Opinion Analyst)

#### Wednesday - August 1<sup>st</sup>: Jerusalem/East-Jerusalem

- 8:00 am Leave for Jerusalem
- 9:00 am Welfare Organization Tour of Jerusalem – Restoration Projects
- 1:00 pm Lunch and check-in at Lutheran Guesthouse
- 1:30 pm TALK with *Yehuda HaKohen* (Alternative Action Director)

- 3:00 pm STRATEGIC TOUR with *Col. Danny Tirza* (Architect of the barrier between Israel and the West Bank)
- 5:30 pm TOUR with B'Tselem of barrier and East-Jerusalem and TALK by *Daniel Sherman* (International Relations Director) and *Kareem Issa Jubran* (Fieldwork Director)
- 8:30 pm DINNER and Reflection at Guesthouse

Thursday - August 2<sup>nd</sup>: **Ramallah**

- 7:30 am TRAVEL to Ramallah
- 9:00 am TALK with *Dr. Rana Khatib* (Director of Research and Planning) and *Mohammed Naja* (Director, Administration) at Welfare Organization in Ramallah with Internet Link conversation with Welfare Organization employee in Gaza
- 11:30 am VISIT Rawabi Development with presentation by *Nisreen Shahin*
- 1:30 pm TALK with *Hannan Ashrawi* (PLO Executive and Camp David Negotiator)
- 3:00 pm LATE LUNCH
- 4:00 pm TALK with *Husam Zomlot* (Exec. Deputy Commissioner, Fatah Commission for International Relations)
- 5:00 pm TOUR and VISIT of Moevenpick Hotel in Ramallah with *Shirren Dabbah* (Senior Sales Manager).
- 7:00 pm TOUR of Ramallah (downtown)
- 8:00 pm DINNER and nightlife experience
- 10:00 pm Leave for Jerusalem (reflection on bus)

Friday - August 3<sup>rd</sup>: **Jerusalem**

- 8:00 am Leave for Yad Vashem
- 8:30 am Tour of Yad Vashem – Holocaust Memorial
- 12:00 noon LUNCH
- 1:00 pm Leave for Mount Scopus- Hebrew University
- 1:30 pm MEETING with *Professor Menachem Hofnung* on History of Borders with students at Hebrew University
- 3:30 pm TALK with *Ruben Steward* (Access Coordinator, UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs) at OCHA offices in Jerusalem
- 4:45 pm Return to Lutheran Guesthouse
- 5:30 pm TOUR of Jewish Quarter and Kotel with *Yehoshua Looks* (Shabbat of a Lifetime)
- 7:00 pm Shabbat Dinner with Shabbat of a Lifetime

Saturday - August 4<sup>th</sup>: **Jerusalem – Dead Sea**

- 8:00 am Optional Morning tour of the Church of the Holy Sepulcher
- 10:00 am – 5 pm Optional Dead Sea visit (including Ein Gedi)

Sunday - August 5<sup>th</sup>: **Jerusalem**

- 9:00 am Gaza Briefing with *Neta Amar-Shiff* (Diakonia) and Gaza guest *Osama Damo* (Save the Children)
- 10:30 am - Visit to “On The Seam” Museum
- 10:30 am MEETING with *Rami Elchanan* and *Mazem Faraj* from the Parents Circle Families Forum
- FREE AFTERNOON

- 5:00 pm FINAL OTI REFLECTION in the garden of the Lutheran Guesthouse
- 6:30 pm Goodbye Dinner (after Sabbath ends)
- 7:30 pm Drive to Tel Aviv Airport
- 11:30 pm Leave for US