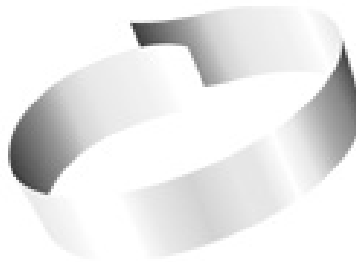


צדק צדק תרדף  
JUSTICE, JUSTICE SHALL YOU PURSUE  
Deuteronomy 16:20

# MAKEPOVERTYHISTORY JEWISH COALITION

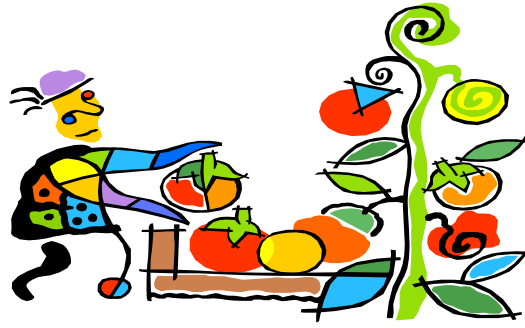
  
**STAND UP  
AGAINST POVERTY**



GLOBAL MONTH OF ACTION  
14 SEPTEMBER 2006 –  
17 OCTOBER 2006

**SUKKOT EDUCATION PACK 5767**





## IDEAS TO USE IN YOUR COMMUNITY, YOUTH GROUP, SCHOOL OR HOME

### **U** Invite seven 'virtual' guests or *ushpizin* into your Sukkah

You might like to observe the mitzvah to care for the needy when rejoicing on Sukkot by inviting seven **MAKEPOVERTYHISTORY JEWISH COALITION** *ushpizin* – guests - into your Sukkah.

It is traditional to welcome Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, Aaron, Joseph and David into the Sukkah, as *ushpizin*, honoured guests, who sit at our tables and share wisdom with us. Each night we read their stories and think about their lives and their covenant with God.

This year we would like to suggest that you also invite seven guests, *ushpizin*, from the developing world into your Sukkah. These stories of real people can teach us so much about how our world works and also about what we can do to make it a more just and peaceful place. ***Their stories and pictures are in the second half of this pack*** – for extra weather-proofing you can laminate them before hanging them in your Sukkah.

A **MAKEPOVERTYHISTORY JEWISH COALITION** reflection for your Sukkah – to say after the traditional blessings.

***'Blessed are those who give to the poor. Better still are those who lend to them. And those who take them into partnership and share their profits with them are best of all.'***

### **V** Use fair-trade fruit to decorate your Sukkah and eat during the festival.



At Sukkot we build shelters to remind ourselves of our dependence on nature, on the harvest. Buying fairly traded fruit directly benefits small producers in developing countries who depend on consumers like us to sell the fruits of their harvest.

This Sukkot let us help those producers by buying fairly-traded fruit to eat.

It is *hiddur mitzvah* – enhancement of the mitzvah - to decorate the Sukkah with fruit. If we are careful of our use of this beautiful food by hanging the fruit in nets, it will stay fresh for use after Sukkot.



These fruits are available  
at many branches of the Co-op, M&S, Tesco, Waitrose and Sainsburys – look for the  
Fairtrade mark and check for other fruits and retailers on the Fairtrade Foundation  
web-site - [www.fairtrade.org.uk](http://www.fairtrade.org.uk) .

**Apples**  
**Avocados**  
**Bananas**  
**Citrus**  
**Grapes**  
**Mangoes**  
**Pears**  
**Pineapples**  
**Coconuts**



## **W Turn your synagogue into a Fairtrade Synagogue.**

The Fairtrade Synagogue Campaign was launched in Fairtrade fortnight in March 2005 and over thirty synagogues have now received certification. Just get on-line to download the application form and synagogue action guide from [http://www.fairtrade.org.uk/get\\_involved\\_faiths.htm](http://www.fairtrade.org.uk/get_involved_faiths.htm).

There are three simple commitments to make. a) Use fairtrade tea and coffee at synagogue meetings and events. b) Make an effort to use other fairtrade produce whenever possible. c) Mark fair-trade fortnight (every March) in some way. When these commitments have been approved by your synagogue Council or Board, you will receive a fair-trade synagogue certificate for display.

The new United Synagogue Kashrut guide includes a page dedicated to Kosher fair trade goods. You can also get a Fairtrade speaker, have a Fairtrade Fair, have a Fairtrade football match (with a Fairtrade Football), get your cheder involved.

## **X Stand Up Against Poverty; join the international month of action – 15 September to 17 October 2006.**

In 2005 the **MAKEPOVERTYHISTORY** campaign astounded the world with the passion, energy and solidarity shown between individuals and organisations.

Whilst the official **MAKEPOVERTYHISTORY** campaign ended at the end of 2005, the issues are by no means resolved and organisations are continuing to campaign hard around the issue of trade, aid and debt. The MPH Jewish Coalition has chosen to continue to focus on these important issues. The headlines may say that debt has been reduced for many countries but instead the richer countries are imposing crippling economic conditions on the poorer countries. Export subsidies which help farmers in rich countries have still not been outlawed and destroy livelihoods of poor countries around the world. By forcing free trade on poor countries, dumping agricultural products and not regulating multinational companies they have chosen not to take the necessary decisions to make poverty history.

The challenge of debt cancellation and trade justice remains. The G8 governments urgently need to act to make sure that trade can help poor people rather than keep them in poverty.



## Stand Up Against Poverty – make your voice heard

- Take part in the **Stand Up Against Poverty Month of Action** from 15th September to 17th October. Download the online action kit from <http://www.bond.org.uk/campaign/toolkit/index.htm> with ideas and background.
  - **'Stand up and be heard'** by wearing your white band, or even better why not wrap your Sukkah or a group of children in a white band and send photos to [re@wjr.org.uk](mailto:re@wjr.org.uk).
  - **'Stand up and be a record breaker'** – from Sunday October 15<sup>th</sup> 11am until Monday October 16<sup>th</sup> 11am you can be part of a global attempt to set an official Guinness World Record for the biggest number of people ever to Stand Up Against Poverty. People all over the world will be taking part and it is simple to get involved. See the action kit for more info on how to record your 'stand up against poverty'. Do it on Monday morning after Simchat Torah and take a photo and send it to [re@wjr.org.uk](mailto:re@wjr.org.uk).
  - **'Stand up and demand action'** by sending letters to Alistair Darling, Hilary Benn and your local MP.
- Join the **'My Friend Needs a Teacher'** Campaign. Last year over a million 'buddies' were posted to Gleneagles to the G8 summit to remind world leaders that all children need access to education. This year send our world leaders a 'teacher' to remind them that we need to provide enough money to pay and train teachers. Log onto [www.sendmyfriend.org](http://www.sendmyfriend.org). A great activity for younger children.
- Join the Trade Justice Movement's **'Stop EPAs'** campaign – Economic Partnership Agreements are threatening to destroy the livelihoods of many people in the Afro-Caribbean Pacific Region by denying them preferential access to European Markets [www.tjm.org.uk](http://www.tjm.org.uk)
- Join the Jubilee Debt Campaign in their **'Cut the Strings'** campaign which aims to stop the IMF and World Bank from attaching unfair conditions to debt relief. There is a very easy to read report on the campaign <http://www.jubileedebtcampaign.org.uk/stringsreport>. The UK is leading the way on this with the Secretary for International Development, Hilary Benn, just recently withholding £50 million of funding to the World Bank until conditions are dropped. However there is still much that needs to be done. Put plenty of Cut the Strings postcards out over this month and keep sending them in to Hilary Benn. You can order postcards and resources from Jubilee Debt Campaign, email - [info@jubileedebtcampaign.org.uk](mailto:info@jubileedebtcampaign.org.uk)
- Many organisations that are members of the MPHJC are already running projects for some of the world's poorest people – find out how you can help with their work.
  - **Tzedek-Jewish Action for a Just World** - [www.tzedek.org.uk](http://www.tzedek.org.uk).
  - **World Jewish Aid** - [www.worldjewishaid.org.uk](http://www.worldjewishaid.org.uk).
  - **Ma'afrika Tikkun** - [www.maafrikatikkun.org.za](http://www.maafrikatikkun.org.za).

## Stand Up Against Poverty - Raise awareness of the issues

- Educate yourself and help others learn more about the issues by organising educational sessions. To download a free copy of the MPHJC educational resource visit [www.eljc.org/mph](http://www.eljc.org/mph). Please contact the MPHJC ([re@wjr.org.uk](mailto:re@wjr.org.uk)) for any assistance with educational programmes.
- Buy and wear a campaign kippa for only £5 and support the Argentinian Jewish Community; better still buy kippot for your whole family or your simcha! Contact [re@wjr.org.uk](mailto:re@wjr.org.uk) for more info.
- Continue to wear your white band and tell people why you are still wearing it.





## Upcoming Dates:

15th September  
– 17th October

Stand Up Against Poverty Global Month of Action - [www.whiteband.org](http://www.whiteband.org)

15th-16th October

Stand up Against Poverty to break a world record – see above.

23rd October  
- 21 November

Jewish Social Action Month (JSAM) across the world during the month of Cheshvan. See [www.cheshvan.org](http://www.cheshvan.org) for more info.

12th November

JSAM 'Super Sunday' of Social Action. Events include World Jewish Relief Packathon, JCORE clothing collection for refugees, Liberal Judaism Conference on Social Action @ the Montagu Centre, Fair Trade Chanukah fair @ Westminster Synagogue.

The day will be concluding with a Fairtrade party hosted by the **MAKEPOVERTYHISTORY JEWISH COALITION**.



***We wish you all, “Chag Sameach!”***



**MAKEPOVERTYHISTORY JEWISH COALITION**

**צדק צדק תרדף**  
**JUSTICE, JUSTICE SHALL YOU PURSUE**  
Deuteronomy 16:20

**Providing the best start in life for those who had nothing...**



**Names: Unknown**  
**Ages: 9 and 9**  
**Country: Uganda**

- These two young students are at the Kamuli Parents Primary School which Tzedek has been supporting since 2001.
- Uganda was one of the few countries to see tangible benefits from debt relief following the Jubilee 2000 campaign which led to a rapid increase in availability of free elementary education – but still there were gaps which we've helped to fill.

**In 1999; the women of the Ebukya Women's Co-operative set up a school in rented premises. This was funded by their income generating activities and staffed by volunteers. In 2001 Tzedek helped them to build a proper school building and we have now funded a second block of classrooms. The school currently employs ten full time teaching staff and two non-teaching staff. Last year 382 pupils between the ages of 5 and 16 were registered at the school. This year, the school will be educating pupils over sixteen for the first time, and will be greatly increasing its capacity for vocational training both for those over and those under 16. Specialist vocational training staff have been taken on and it is anticipated that the new classroom block funded by Tzedek will be largely used for vocational activities.**



## Her first word was “gun”... A young victim of Darfur



**Name: Dorothy**  
**Age: 3 years old**  
**Region: Darfur, south Sudan**

- Dorothy was on her way to her nursery school in her local village when an armed gunman took her away from her father.
- She fled and followed others to El Genina refugee camp. The camp lies in an arid area of Sudan's western Darfur.
- She is dependent on aid agencies for her food and nutrition.
- She likes dancing, football and playing with her friends.
- Her dream is to see her father once again and to one day become a dancer.

**The civil war in Darfur was a conflict fuelled by poverty. Sadly millions of children become the innocent victims of warfare, especially in Africa. Tens of thousands die every year, many more are orphaned. Some go on to become child-soldiers fighting for 'causes' they don't understand. The "lucky ones" survive but suffer desperate hunger. Dorothy will probably never see her father again.**



**MAKEPOVERTYHISTORY JEWISH COALITION**

**צדק צדק תרדף**  
**JUSTICE, JUSTICE SHALL YOU PURSUE**  
Deuteronomy 16:20

**Sewing the seeds for a brighter future...**



**Name: Mama Ree**  
**Age: 70**  
**Country: Ghana**

- She's been making batik cloth for many years and is considered one of the leading batik artists in Ghana.
- **Mama Ree** is the trainer for the Fearless Tzedek-supported batik project in Elmina, Ghana.
- So far, four women from Elmina have spent one month with her, with funding provided by Tzedek, learning her advanced batik techniques.

**They bring the new skills acquired at her workshop in Tema back to Elmina where they are teaching other women what they have learned from Mama Ree. Mama Ree shares her experience and knowledge freely to help young women gain skills they can use to improve their lives and support their families. Through Tzedek's partner organisation Fearless Planet the batik products are marketed both locally in Ghana and through NGO's in the USA with a fair price paid to the producers. The revenues produced from the sale of these products is used for community development programs, including low-interest business loans for women, literacy classes, library materials, and computer training for women, children and at-risk youth, among other programmes.**



**MAKEPOVERTYHISTORY JEWISH COALITION**

**צדק צדק תרדף**  
**JUSTICE, JUSTICE SHALL YOU PURSUE**  
Deuteronomy 16:20

**All he wants for his birthday is a pair of shoes**



**Name: Rankesh**  
**Age: 6 years old**  
**Region: A village in Nepal**

- Rankesh works in the maize fields with his mother and father and has no shoes.
- He is probably a lot fitter than you and me as he lives in an area where there is no pollution and he walks great distances to visit his friends in other villages.
- He would like to work in the city as a translator when he grows up, so he needs a good education.
- He has just been able to begin learning due to a programme called Rural Education and Development Project (READ) funded by the UK Jewish community via World Jewish Aid.

**Civil unrest, fuelled by poverty and ethnic discrimination, has escalated in Nepal over the past two years. The economy has been devastated and democratic reforms have been revoked. Education in rural villages has suffered, partly because children have to help in the fields and partly because of threats of violence.**



**MAKEPOVERTYHISTORY JEWISH COALITION**

**צדק צדק תרדף**  
**JUSTICE, JUSTICE SHALL YOU PURSUE**  
Deuteronomy 16:20

**Buying Fairtrade improves quality of life for growers in developing world**



**"Growing bananas is our livelihood. It is our way of life. If you have grown up into a farming family it becomes your life. You know it from a child... You get satisfaction to see the plant grow and to reap the harvest."**

**"As long as I am selling in Fairtrade I can earn enough to support my life. It is a vicious circle when you are not selling the Fairtrade bananas. The Fairtrade banana gives you a little better income - EC\$19.88 per box instead of EC\$16 - and it has helped supplement the bills...it is better than what you would get if you were selling ordinary bananas".**

**Name:** Denise  
**Age:** 35  
**City:** St Vincent, Windward Islands  
**Occupation:** Banana Farmer  
**Children:** One

**Daily Life for Denise:**

- Life as a banana farmer is tough and one challenge follows the next.
- In August, Denise lost almost one third of her crop because of a "blow down" (hurricane).
- Everything has to be replanted, and it will take 6-8 months to see the results and harvest.
- The day starts at 7a.m. sometimes and lasts until 1 p.m. except on Monday, shipping day.
- Denise has three banana plots (1,5 acre; 1 acre; and  $\frac{3}{4}$  acre) located around 3 miles from her home and the plots are within 1-2 miles of each other.
- In the morning she either hitches a ride or takes a van to her field. She divides her time between the three plots.



## MAKEPOVERTYHISTORY JEWISH COALITION

צדק צדק תרדף  
JUSTICE, JUSTICE SHALL YOU PURSUE  
Deuteronomy 16:20

### Crying for Argentina – A tale of riches to rags. MPH Jewish Coalition lends a hand.



**“My worst nightmare came true in the economic crisis. It’s so hard to make ends meet these days but I would like to thank the Make Poverty History Jewish Coalition and the UK Jewish Community who are buying the Kippot that we made from the bottom of my heart. Your support has really helped me and my work colleagues to look to the future with some hope. We are also proud to be helping your campaign to end world poverty. Kol Hakavod!”**

**Name: Patricia**  
**Age: 49**  
**City: Buenos Aires, Argentina**

- Less than four years ago, she was a professional translator specializing in scientific and technical papers.
- Patricia lost all her clients - American & Japanese laboratories, shipping firms and oil companies - when the 2001 meltdown of the Argentine economy killed her business.
- The economic crisis has shattered her dreams. After months of job searching without results, she just about gave up.
- Patricia now sews clothing, buys fabrics and works at home. She also sells Jewish handicrafts at community gatherings.
- From having lived a comfortable lifestyle she and her two daughters have had to adapt to a new life of poverty.
- Since September 2002, after her life savings were wiped out when the Argentine Peso devalued, Patricia has been receiving food vouchers from World Jewish Relief which she uses to feed her sick mother & daughters
- After a bitterly contested divorce, Patricia managed to pay off all of her debts and continue renting the same three-room flat in downtown Buenos Aires where she now lives with her sickly mother & her two daughters.
- Patricia is now earns a living making high-quality Judaica items like Kippot, Talitim, and ornaments. Life is hard. but slowly improving.



**MPHJC have sold over 1,000 kippot to the UK Jewish community. These are made in Argentina by Patricia and her colleagues who run a company called OMANEL. MPHJC has donated all profits to them so as to grant them a fair wage. We believe that by doing this, we are following the Jewish principles of fair-trade.**



## Decisions of International Financial Organisations can impact on day to day life

Photo: Christian Aid/Martin Gordon



**'I feel really sad when I look at the land and see that there is so much potential...Those that are in the shade (should be) fed by those in the sun... Farmers need to be promoted and supported.'**

**Name: Samba Diop Kane**  
**Age: Unknown**  
**Country: Senegal**

- I am Samba Diop Kane. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has stopped my government from supporting me'.
- The Senegalese government used to support rice farmers with subsidised fertiliser to increase their yields. The IMF placed conditions on its loans to Senegal and this meant support for farmers was withdrawn. Without it, Samba can no longer afford to grow a good crop, and cannot compete with cheap imports.

**Samba, and seven other representatives from around the world, were featured in the recent event – 'The Beat Goes On' – hosted by Christian Aid and supported by the MPH Jewish Coalition as well as other faith-based organisations. The event reminded the government that until the International Monetary Fund and World Bank are reformed the poorest communities will continue to suffer. For more information about the campaign and the other representatives visit <http://www.pressureworks.org/tradejustice/basics/players/index.html> .**

