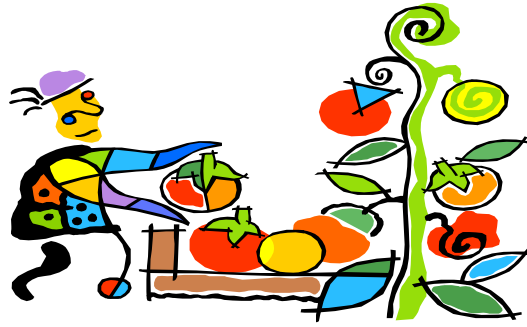


צדק צדק תרדף
JUSTICE, JUSTICE SHALL YOU PURSUE
Deuteronomy

MAKEPOVERTYHISTORY JEWISH COALITION

SUKKOT EDUCATION PACK



FAIRTRADE FRUIT FOR THE SUCCA



At Succot 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 Succot let us take a step, add to the consumer demand and buy some fairly-traded fruit.

Why not hang some fairtrade fruit in the Succah?

These fruits are available
at many branches of the Co-op, Tesco, Waitrose and Sainsburys

Apples
Avocados
Bananas
Citrus
Grapes
Mangoes
Pears
Pineapples,
Coconuts



Some MAKEPOVERTYHISTORY JEWISH COALITION reflections for your Sukkah –

'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.'



It is hiddur 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.

A special suggestion to bring MAKEPOVERTYHISTORY into your Sukkah

You might like to observe the injunction to care for the needy when rejoicing on Sukkot by inviting seven MAKEPOVERTYHISTORY JEWISH COALITION ushpizin 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 are on the next pages and you could hang them up in your Sukkah.

Why not make posters of your own reflections to hang in the Sukkah.

We wish you all Chag Sameach!

3.

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



Names: Unknown
Ages: 9 and 9
Country: Uganda

- ▶ We don't have the names of these two young students 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.

Rebuilding lives after the Tsunami



Name: Murugaperumal
Age: Not known
Region: Tamil Nadu, India

- ▶ This is a picture of Murugaperumal the Secretary of Sevalaya, Tzedek's partner organisation in Tamil Nadu. (He is in the centre of the photo lighting the fire.)
- ▶ Tzedek has been working with Sevalaya for over twelve years but all of our resources were stretched to the limit when the Indian Ocean tsunami struck and the district where Sevalaya works was one of the most severely affected - over 6,000 people lost their lives and over 100,000 people had to move to temporary camps.

After the efforts to help in the immediate crisis, the focus changed to rebuilding (literally) the lives of the people most affected. Tzedek and Sevalaya built several brick kilns which have a double benefit – providing bricks to help rebuild houses in the area, and providing employment for those, particularly fisherman whose work was severely disrupted by the tsunami. The photo shows them firing up the first kiln.

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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.

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“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

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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.

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Deuteronomy

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.

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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 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 like 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.

In the months leading up to the G8 summit the **MAKEPOVERTYHISTORY** Jewish Coalition (MPHJC) was busy making sure that there was a Jewish presence within the main campaign and helping people to take part in the rally in Edinburgh. This campaign has astounded everyone with the passion, energy and solidarity shown between individuals and organisations.

Unfortunately the G8 was not as successful as we had hoped and more action is urgently needed if there is any chance of making real change in our lifetimes. For a full response to the G8 communiqué visit www.makepovertyhistory.org.

The Call to Action continues...

In the second half of this year of action the MPHJC has chosen to focus on the issue of trade justice. The communiqué talks about letting African countries set their own trade policies. Yet at the World Trade Organisation (WTO) they continue to force open developing country markets. G8 leaders decided not to set a date for ending the export subsidies that 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 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.

What we have asked for is action not words.

What can you do?

Make your voice heard

- Look at the “Take Action” page of the Trade Justice Movement website for links to various letter-writing campaigns (www.tjm.org.uk)
- Show your concern for trade justice by voting online (www.actionaid.org.uk)
- Make changes in your community or organisation
- Make sure people have signed up to the **MAKEPOVERTYHISTORY** campaign
- Talk isn’t enough - support trade justice through ethical buying and even ‘convert’ your group (www.fairtrade.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.
- (www.mafrikatikkun.org.za, www.tzedek.org.uk, www.worldjewishaid.org.uk)

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. Please contact the MPHJC (mphjc2005@gmail.com) for any assistance with educational programmes.
- Buy and wear a campaign kippa for only £5 and support the Argentinean Jewish Community; better still buy kippot for your whole family! Contact mphjc2005@gmail.com for more info.
- Continue to wear your white band and tell people why you are still wearing it

Upcoming Dates:

18-25 October

2 November

10 December

Succot – MPHJC will be suggesting programmes

Mass Lobby of Parliament calling for trade justice

White Band Day III during the World Trade Organisation Talks