

MAKEPOVERTYHISTORY JEWISH COALITION

mphjc2005@gmail.com

WHITEBANDWEEK 9-18 DECEMBER 2005

World trade negotiations in December will affect the lives of millions of people in poverty - for better or worse.

Everyone has the right to feed their families, make a decent living and protect their environment. But the rich and powerful are pursuing trade policies that put profits before the needs of people and the planet. To end poverty and protect the environment we need Trade Justice not free trade.

During this week we all need to *'put the spotlight on trade justice'* reminding world leaders that we are still watching and waiting for them to make poverty history.

As the UK delegation leave for the World Trade Organisation ministerial conference, **MAKEPOVERTYHISTORY** and the Trade Justice Movement will present the Prime Minister with all the Votes for Trade Justice collected by thousands of campaigners over the last 2 years. We want to ensure he has no doubt of the public expectation for the UK government to work for trade justice at the World Trade Organisation.

On Global White Band Day (10 December), people all over the world as part of the Global Call for Action on Poverty (GCAP) will be displaying the symbol of the white band.

And finally, at the WTO meeting itself in Hong Kong from 13th to 18th December ministers will be deciding whether they will turn their fine words into tangible action to help the poor.

Find out more: www.makepovertyhistory.org



LIGHTACANDLE

*"If I am not for myself, who is for me?
If I am only for myself, what am I?
and If not now, when?"* Hillel

Now is the time to show your solidarity with those people who desperately need change in international trade agreements.

On Friday Dec 9th unite with the **JEWISH COALITION** and other Jewish activists by lighting an extra Shabbat candle. Use this opportunity to talk with your family and friends about why you think trade justice is important.



צדק צדק תרדף
JUSTICE, JUSTICE SHALL YOU PURSUE



IDEASFORCHANUKA 26DEC-2JAN

Chanuka is a time for celebrations and giving gifts. You can make a difference to the lives of the world's poorest people through your shopping basket.

How about buying fairly traded chocolate, nuts and raisins for your dreidel games.

Make your Chanuka extra sweet by using fairly traded honey or sugar in your cooking.

Make someone extra happy by giving them a *Fair Deal Trading* football or basket ball.

Give a *Good Gift* that really counts Surprise your family and friends with the gift of sight for a young child in Sierra Leone or a duck for peace. For more information, visit www.goodgifts.org.

For more information on fair trade products see www.fairtrade.org.uk.

SPOTLIGHTONTRADEJUSTICE

Create a display in your synagogue, school, Hillel, club or home.

Step 1: Download and print out the poster from www.makepovertyhistory.org/comingup/index.shtml

Step 2: Put out some relevant items and information. These are some ideas – more are on the MAKEPOVERTYHISTORY website.

- A bowl of British sugar which, thanks to unfair subsidies, is distorting the international market and keeping sugar prices low for developing farmers.
- A bowl of rice – for developing countries like Ghana and Haiti, trade liberalisation has meant the end of their own agriculture industries. local farmers can't compete with imports.
- A glass of water to indicate that this source of life is under threat of being privatised in developing countries.
- An item of sportswear which could be made by workers in horrific conditions in factories round the world.

Step 3: Encourage discussion, debate and active engagement with these important issues.

TEXTSFORJUSTICE

Justice in Trade.

If you sell anything to your neighbour or buy anything from your neighbour, you shall not wrong one another. (Leviticus 25:14)

Honesty

Maimonides teaches: It is forbidden to cheat people in buying and selling, or to deceive them. (Mishneh Torah, Hilchot Mechirah 18:1)

Fairness

You shall have true scales, true weights, true dry and liquid measures. (Leviticus 19:36)

Don't abuse your greater knowledge or power

You shall ... not put a stumbling block before the blind. (Leviticus 19:14).

For many more texts, readings and background material see the MPH Jewish Coalition education pack at www.eljc.org/mph.