



Yad Labanim Public Library Hod Hasharon



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Yad Labanim - Center of life

- An excerpt from Beit Yad LaBanim's foundational charter, written by a bereaved father, representative of the families: *"We do not want this house to be a place of sadness and seclusion only during the days of remembrance. We want this house to be filled with life and activity. Young people's voices will be heard throughout. Everyone can come here and take part in all the different kinds of cultural activities: concerts, plays, evenings filled with singing and readings. We want to feel within it the pulse of life that the fallen commanded us. Within it, young and old will learn about continuity, the past, present and future. Within it the nations heritage and history will be exposed, People will come to its openings to become familiar with and to honor the memory of those who have sacrificed their lives for us."*
- Since the site was opened on the 3rd of October, 1993 it became a public and social center of life. The library is brimming with life every single day. Besides its role as a library it operates in additional social realms as well. The site holds numerous social events and activities, such as: a gallery for various exhibitions, lectures and story reading hours for children.
- Beit Yad LaBanim has become a center for students and teachers, as widespread educational activities take place within it and through it. It sets an example for the many people who come to recognize and learn about the undertakings of Yad LaBanim.



Planning & Design - Memorial Room

On the Eastern wall there are shelves for “Yizkor” books and the books of the fallen. In addition, there is a single drawer for each of the fallen soldiers in which biographical information, letters, pictures and everything that was written about them by their families and others. On this wall you can also find the albums of the fallen. Every soldier has a card which includes their photo, life story and biographical information.

In front of the wall stands a table, almost as an alter, covered with glass. One corner of the table is covered in brass, symbolizing the break. On the wall, there is an audio – visual exhibit for visitors.



Planning & Design - Memorial Room

- The top edge of each stone slab is broken and covered in brass. The fracture represents the broken family, society, and the nation of the fallen soldiers.
- On the right side of the stone slabs there is a memorial candle positioned in the center of a grindstone of which a part is missing, in remembrance of the part of the Jewish nation that was murdered in the holocaust.
- On the right wall M. Tabankin's poem is carved. The poem describes our boys as beautiful impressive trees : the olive tree, the poplar the oak and the palm tree.
- Every one of the trees that our soldiers were compared to, had been part of the landscape of Hod HaSharon at various times. The characterization of the olive tree that was mainly planted here, because you can find in our neighborhood an ancient oil press house and the palm tree that decorates the streets of Hod HaSharon.
- On the left wall of the memorial room there is an embalmed tree named Aravah Bocheya (the crying willow) and next to it is written "For these I cry" from the Book of Lamentations.



Planning & Design - Memorial Room

- The pillars in the entranceway lead to the memorial room. At the front there is a wall of long chiseled rocks like waves. This wall represents the Western Wall in Jerusalem, a surviving remnant of the Jewish nation's political and spiritual independence. Adjacent to this wall stand sooty columns with various geometric carvings on them, hinting to the results of every war: singeing, burning, penetrating bullets and tank chains. On some of the columns brass is beaten in - the color of the bullet and the bomb shell.
- Thus, this entrance integrates a monument which symbolizes the idea of new and old together at the same time.
- The memorial room can be entered from either side of the designed wall. In the memorial auditorium, which was designed in the shape of a cone with four sides, each side constitutes a certain delineation and symbolism. On the western side stand seven stone slabs, on which are carved the names of the fallen soldiers from Hod-HaSharo in the order of the wars.



Planning & Design - Entrance

- Those who enter the building do not get the notion of being small as one would get when entering an enormous building, The entrance of the building creates a feeling of closeness and acceptance. A large glass door opens on to a marble tiled floor porch with seven pillars on each side, which add holiness to the site, similar to a Temple, like Solomon's Temple.
- The transparent ceiling allows daylight to filter in and for the viewing of stars at night. Daylight also streams in from large windows which overlook the park. There is an additional entranceway and a path filled with plants and trees which do not cut off visitors to the building from the external world. The two rooms of the hall are used for various cultural events, including art exhibits.
- The right side of the entrance leads to a large library, including a second floor which is used for offices and work rooms.



Planning & Design

- In the Northern section stands a monument built from natural rock, as a fiery flame to the heart of heavens. In the center of the monument is a void, symbolizing the void within every bereaved family which cannot be filled.
- A beautiful garden with blossoming plants has been planted around the monument in order to ease the sorrowful feelings. Beside the monument are two benches formed out of natural rock which attract visitors, children and adults alike, to climb three stairs and visit this sacred place.



Planning & Design

- The building was planned by architect Liat Prize, who was in direct contact with representatives of the bereaved families, who played a role in counselling. The artistic design of the inside of the building was planned by the artist Itzik Shmueli.
- Beit Yad LaBanim was designed thoughtfully and symbolically, as seen in every single part of the building.
- Its entryway creates a welcoming feeling. Both sides of the entrance walls open wide like a funnel and four paved paths lead to it. Between the paved paths, 12 plots of grass represent the tribes of Israel.



History

- The need to found a memorial site and a room dedicated to those who fell in Israeli wars emerged with the foundation of the state to honor The memory of those who sacrificed their lives both before and after the War of Independence.
- The War of Independence and the wars that have followed, placed before the local councils of the moshavim which made up Hod Ha-Sharon, the challenge of remembrance of the fallen.
- In the beginning monuments were constructed in the central public parks and memorial rooms in schools.
- In February 1992, the committee of bereaved families asked of the mayor to consider the need for the construction of a memorial site.
In September 1992 the corner stone of Beit Yad LaBanim and the city library were founded.
- On the 3rd of October, 1993, the site was opened.
- The location was carefully chosen and is found in the center of the settlement of the 13 families who immigrated to Israel and inhabited Ramatayim in 1925.



In honor of the memory of the late

Yitzchak Kadmon

teacher and educator

chairman of Yad Labanim

Hod Hasharon branch

Mayor Introduction

Dear guests,

The existence of the State of Israel and its security has been achieved by pain and agony. Time is unable to ease the pain of the bereaved families. However, we must realize that without these painful losses we would not have a secured life in our country.

We are committed to commemorate our loved ones, to honor them and to cherish their heritage. At the same time we have to pursue peace for the sake of the coming generations. The passing away of our loved ones left our hearts very painful. Their will is to continue living full life. We are committed to follow this will.

The community of Hod-Hasharon commemorates the fallen by carrying out ceremonies and social events here, at Yad-Labanim House, a symbol of heroism and sacrifice.

This touching commemoration is an expression of our town citizens to preserve the fallen heroic heritage.

As a civilian and a warrior, a bereaved brother myself and a Mayor, I am proud of these activities and of our community which implements the values of contribution, brotherhood and loyalty to our homeland.

We, the citizens Hod-Hasharon, will forever keep the memory of the fallen and continue embracing and supporting the families.

I would like to thank Yossi Shany, the chairman of Yad-Labanim Hod-Hasharon branch and the committee members: Muki Eyal, Yehuda Shwartzmann and Shlomi Hayun for their fruitful activities, cooperation and contribution for these important and respectful commemoration activities.



Yours,
Hay Adiv
Mayor

Chairman Introduction

Dear guests,

Yad-Labanim is the only representative organization to commemorate the fallen in Israel's wars, and pass on their heritage. The bereaved parents, sisters and brothers take part in this organization.

We see the great importance of commemorating the fallen in the common national remembrance.

Yad-Labanim House was founded to fulfill this important need.

The heritage and remembrance of every fallen son, daughter, father, brother and sister is engraved in this house forever.

The personal pain of every bereaved family is shared with the other bereaved families.

The commemoration and heritage of the fallen are represented here by different contents and symbols.

Izhak Kadmon, the late former chairman of Yad-Labanim Hod-Hasharon branch initiated this booklet in which detailed explanations are given about the house and its symbols.

Along with commemorating and preserving the heritage of the fallen, this house expresses life's continuity by supporting the bereaved families and being a public cultural center.

Best regards,
Yossi Shany
Chairman of Yad-Labanim
Hod-Hasharon branch