

9 Av 2014

Nighttime bunk discussion

Peulat Tsrif Tisha B'Av discussion questions:

- What is an object that means a lot to you? And why?
- How would you react if you lost or broke it?
- Think of a place/spot that means a lot to you. Where is it? What do you do there? How does it make you feel? Why is it special?
- What would it be like going back to that place and finding it destroyed?
- Different people react to being sad in different ways. How do you express sadness? What makes you sad?
- When was the last time you were sad?
- Why is it important to be sad sometimes?

A quote about sadness that relates to Etz Chayim:

"Sadness gives depth. Happiness gives height. Sadness gives roots. Happiness gives branches. Happiness is like a tree going into the sky, and sadness is like the roots going down into the womb of the earth. Both are needed, and the higher a tree goes, the deeper it goes, simultaneously. The bigger the tree, the bigger will be its roots. In fact, it is always in proportion. That's its balance."

Edah activity:

Tisha B'av

- Send from Nikayon to a large space (BAB?)
- Begin Museum-style activity
 - Pictures and quotations around the room, relevant to 9 of Av, Jerusalem, Jewish people, Israel, Holocaust, etc.
 - Blank paper underneath with area for comments, reflections and opinions
 - Allow Champerim 15 minutes to wander about the room, look at the pictures, write comments and respond to each others' comments
 - Reiterate that the space should be silent.
- Split into X-block groups and go to assigned location
- Sit with group and begin discussion by reflecting on Tisha B'av so far
 - Discuss what 9 Av commemorates
 - *"On the 9th of Av, it was decreed upon our ancestors that they would not be allowed to enter the Land of Israel, the First and Second temples were destroyed, Beitar was captured, The city of Jerusalem was plowed over. From when the month of Av starts, we reduce Joy"*

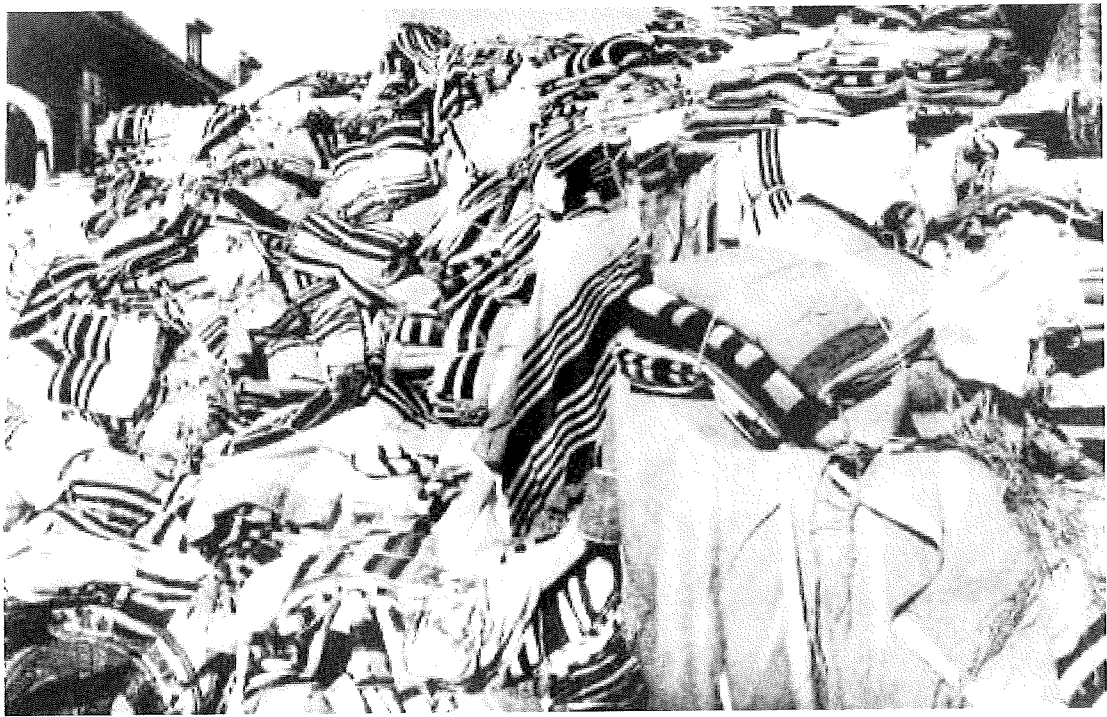
- Think about this and the museum activity and how they connect to us
- Wrap up and segue to card activity by discussing theme of community
- Card activity (30 minutes ish?)
- Come together as an edah and watch the Tribe
- Menucha-ish time
- Lunchish time
- More Menucha
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Spanish Inquisition

Christopher Columbus's diary begins, "In the same month in which their Majesties [Ferdinand and Isabella] issued the edict that all Jews should be driven out of the kingdom and its territories, in the same month they gave me the order to undertake with sufficient men my expedition of discovery to the Indies."

The expulsion that Columbus refers to was so catastrophic an event that ever since, the date 1492 has been almost as important in Jewish history as in American history. On July 30 of that year, the entire Jewish community, some 200,000 people, were expelled from Spain.

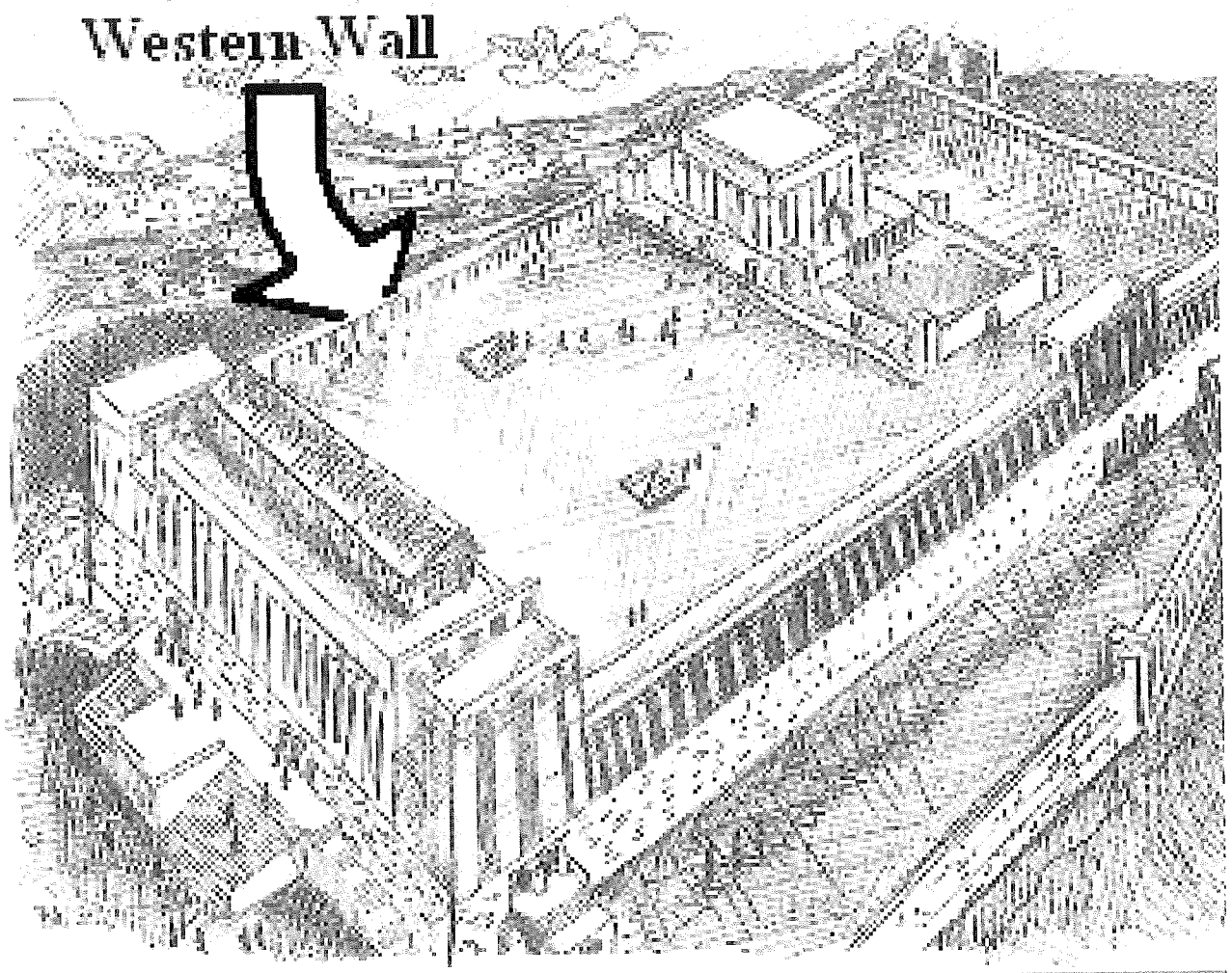




In the 1940s, more than 6 million European Jews were mass-murdered at concentration camps. Pictured above are piles of their personal belongings that were confiscated as Jews entered Auschwitz, one of the death camps.

Masada is an ancient fortification on top of an isolated rock plateau, overlooking the Dead Sea. Herod the Great built palaces for himself on the mountain and fortified Masada between 37 and 31 BCE. According to Josephus, the Siege of Masada by troops of the Roman Empire towards the end of the First Jewish–Roman War ended in the mass suicide of the 960 Jewish rebels and their families hiding there.





What once was



Exhausted Israeli soldiers lean against the Western
Wall

“Suffering makes a people greater, and we have suffered much. We had a message to give the world, but we were overwhelmed, and the message was cut off in the middle. In time there will be millions of us - becoming stronger and stronger - and we will complete the message.”

David Ben-Gurion