



اسبوع التسامح المقدسي
שבוע הסובלנות הירושלמי
The Jerusalem Tolerance Week

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2020



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A tradition in numbers

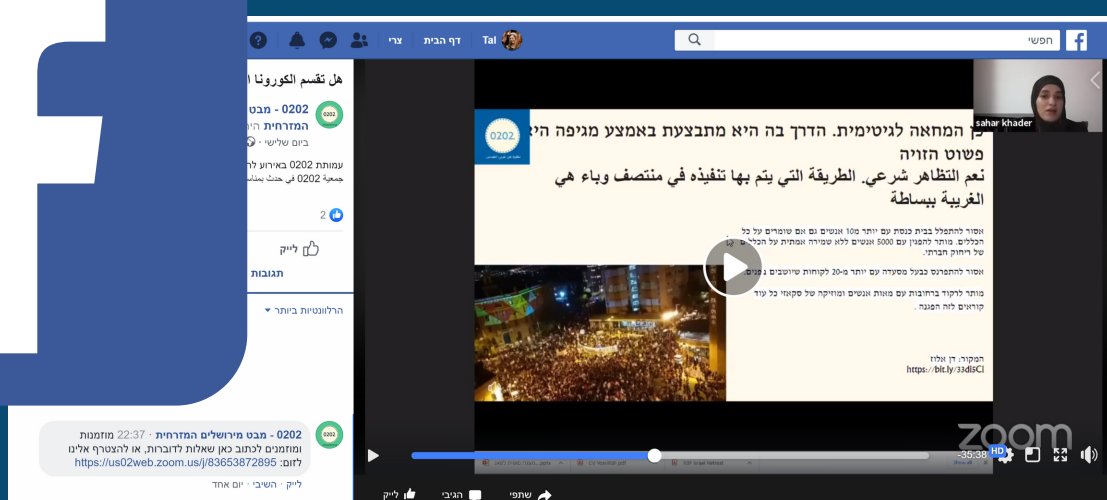
Total:



40 Events



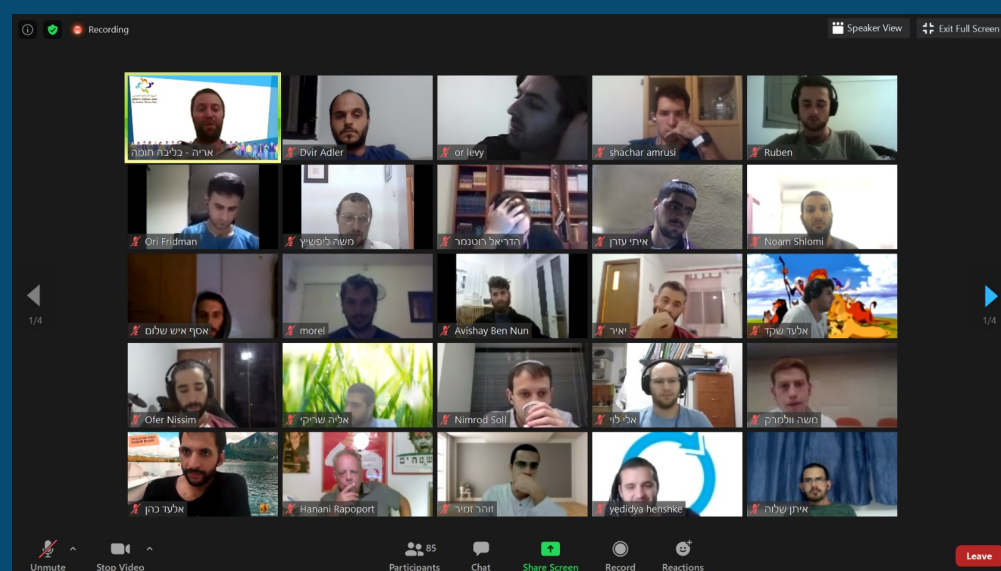
9,000 Participants



Facebook Live:

11 events

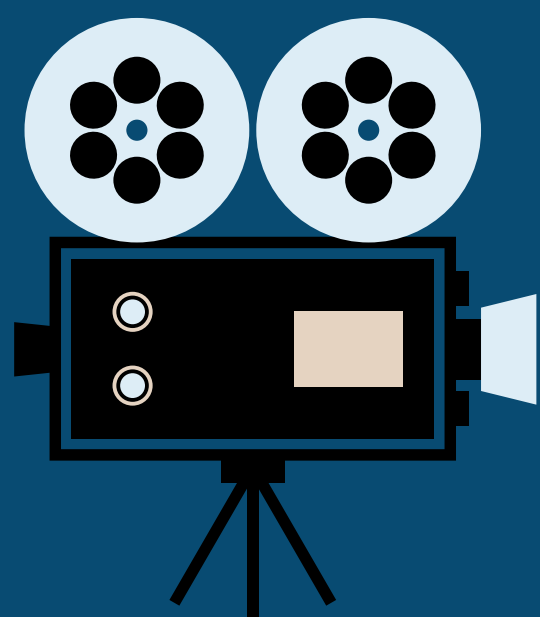
7,090 participants



Zoom Events:

20 events

650 participants



Videos:

1000 video views



In-person:

7 events

160 participants



מרכז الحوار בין الثقافات في القدس
המרכז הבין-תרבותי לירושלים
The Jerusalem Intercultural Center



הקרן לירושלים
مؤسسة صندوق القدس
THE JERUSALEM FOUNDATION



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Tolerance Week 2020 – Summary

As in nearly all special events around the world, Tolerance Week in the shadow of COVID-19 brought with it many new challenges and questions. Should we hold Tolerance Week at all? Will there be events? Are Jerusalem activists ready and willing to produce initiatives and events outside or online? We decided that the effort needed to be made, and we would just have to wait and see what the reactions would be.

We soon discovered that not only was there an impressive response, but that people were happy to take part this week, especially now. The opportunity to raise their heads above the everyday and think about the Jerusalem and Jerusalemites around them was encouraging. Throughout the week there were 40 different events, which together created a special week that, now more than ever, reminded us of the uniqueness of Jerusalem.

During the week, 40 events took place throughout the city and online:

- 20 Zoom events, attended by 650 people.
- 11 events broadcast live on Facebook or YouTube, which were
- watched by 7090 people.
- 7 events that took place in outside, in accordance with
- Ministry of Health guidelines, in which 160 people participated.
- 2 videos that were uploaded online and provided quality
- content during the week, which were watched by about 1000 people.
- A total of 9,000 people took part in the activities of
- Jerusalem Tolerance Week 2020.





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Activities included tours of the Old City and the Katamon neighborhood, talking about the language of tolerance, the Jerusalem LGBT community and an interfaith meeting. We watched videos about the organizations in the Jerusalem Tolerance Coalition and an amazing song by the Jerusalem Youth Choir. We sat around a campfire together, secular and Haredi people. We dreamt and fulfilled dreams in a Social Action Hakathon of young people from East and West Jerusalem, where we sat for hours thinking and planning social initiatives that will affect all parts of the city. We enjoyed a diverse, artistic evening about different aspects of the mask in our lives, and met with neighborhood children in draw on sidewalks with chalk. Toward the end of the week we met to sing and thank the medical teams from all over the city for their hard work over the past several months. There were many more events and meetings that accompanied the week and together created a multicultural image of Jerusalem, which once again shows the beauty of Jerusalem.

There were a number of articles that were published about the events:

Talks - Just start talking! For an article published on the Srugim website

The Jewish–Arab Hackathon for young people from East and West

Jerusalem - for an article in Hebrew published on Ynet, for an article in

English published by Jpost.





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Key insights:

1. Corona: Tolerance Week was quite different than Jerusalemite Day of Diversity with regards to COVID-19. In comparing the two, we saw that there was less energy in November than in May / June: activists had less energy to organize events, and people had much less patience for events on Zoom (which in May / June seemed like a great solution), and today many are suffering from Zoom fatigue.

In addition, many activists were pre-occupied with the economic effects of Covid on their organizations, which affected their ability and availability to organize events and activities. COVID greatly influenced both Jerusalemite Day and Tolerance Week, but in different ways. By November even the activists were tired, and concerned about the economic survival of their organizations. It was important to realize and understand this as we approached the activists and what we expected from this week.

2. Partnerships: In recent months we increased our joint work with the Tolerance Coalition, and also with the Jerusalem Municipality – its Young People's Authority and its Young People at the Center, Young Neighborhoods initiative, the Gvanim project, and more. This was also reflected in Tolerance Week, as we discussed cross-advertising and leveraging of events with all partners. These partnerships make it possible raise awareness among more people and create a more significant impact for tolerance events in the city, strengthening the power of the organizations and activists. One example was the Week of Unconditional love during the summer, which provided an additional platform for tolerance events taking place in the city. Another example was an open call issued by the Young People's Authority for organizations working to advance tolerance. The joint work creates a broader network in Jerusalem, and gives a stronger voice to the work.





3. Types of events: Although most of the events took place online, (like most events nowadays), the events that were able to take place in-person, in accordance with Ministry of Health guidelines, were very significant. They seem to have met a real need for people today to go out and meet others. So, even if there were fewer in-person events that could engage fewer people, the people who did come were very engaged and participated actively. It is important to have small and intimate events during this period, and to emphasize quality and not just quantity.

4. Integrating Regularly held activities: Some of the events that took place were part of regularly held activities (for example - the Meeting Point activity, Kabbalat Shabbat at the Zion community, etc.), and their events during this week focused on tolerance in Jerusalem. Holding 'special' events within the context of regularly-held activities both gives additional exposure on tolerance to these audiences, and also shows that it is possible to bring tolerance into everyday life in a variety of ways, and not only 'artificially' around Tolerance Week.

5. Contact with the activists: The contact with the activists, especially in today's atmosphere of social distancing, was very personal and usually in one-on-one meetings with the Jerusalem Intercultural Center. Not everyone knows each other or the other activities taking place during the week. One point to think about is if to create an activist community, having a meeting before or after the week, with appropriate content, or creating a peer-learning network in other ways, such as by opening a WhatsApp group for activists to share each other's events and send photos. This would enable us to create a feeling of 'the whole is larger than its parts,' and the cumulative power of the events taking place throughout the week.

