



David Akovs tale på Auschwitz-dagen

Taler

David Akov
Ambassadør i Danmark

Dato

27. januar 2024

Sted

Dronningesalen på Det Kongelige
Bibliotek i København

Omstændigheder

Manuskriptet er versaleret af taler

1 THE LAST MONTHS HAVE BEEN A TIME OF GREAT ANGUISH TO
THE JEWISH PEOPLE AND TO ISRAEL. SINCE THE LAST
AUSCHWITZ DAY, IT SEEMS THAT THE WORLD HAS REGRESSED
MANY DECADES, TO DARK TIMES. EXPRESSIONS AND ACTS OF
5 WHICH WE HOPED WERE ERASED FROM HISTORY FOREVER,
ARE SURFACING IN MANY PARTS OF THE WORLD.

THE OCT. 7 MURDEROUS ATTACKS ON ISRAEL CREATED AN
ERUPTION OF UNPRECEDENTED ANTISEMITISM THAT LEAVES
10 US SAD AND CONFUSED.

WE ASK OURSELVES: IS IT POSSIBLE THAT THE LESSONS OF THE
HOLOCAUST AND THE DECADES LEADING TO IT HAVE NOT
BEEN LEARNED?

15 THIS NEW SITUATION SHOULD ONLY STRENGTHEN OUR
RESOLVE TO COMMEMORATE AND TEACH THE LESSONS OF
HISTORY SO THEY DO NOT REPEAT.

20 JANUARY 27, THE INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST
REMEMBERENCE DAY, KNOWN AS AUSCHWITZ DAY, WAS
DECIDED UPON AS A COMMEMORATION DAY BECAUSE OF THE
UNDERSTANDING THAT THE HOLOCAUST WAS A TERRIBLE,
SINGULAR EVENT OF ORCHESTRATED ANNIHILATION AND
25 GENOCIDE (A TERM, THAT WAS ESTABLISHED IN THE SHADOW
OF THE HOLOCAUST AND IS UNFORTUNATELY COMPROMISED
AND CYNICALLY MANIPULATED THESE DAYS).

THE TOTALITY OF ANNIHILATION AND GENOCIDE DURING
THE HOLOCAUST IS EMBODIED IN TWO HISTORICAL
EXAMPLES, ONE GLOBAL, AND THE OTHER CONCERNING AN
35 INDIVIDUAL.

SOME YEARS AGO I VISITED THE MUSEUM AT THE SITE OF THE
WANNSEE CONFERENCE NEAR BERLIN, THE SPECIFIC
LOCATION WHERE THE NAZI "FINAL SOLUTION" FOR THE JEWS
40 WAS DECIDED UPON, IN JANUARY 20TH, 1942.

AMONG THE MANY DOCUMENTS PRESENTED THERE WAS A
DOCUMENT, VERY BUREAUCRATIC IN NATURE, PREPARED FOR
THE DISCUSSION, LISTING ALL THE JEWISH COMMUNITIES
45 AROUND THE WORLD AND THEIR POPULATIONS.

IT WAS NOT ONLY COMMUNITIES IN EUROPE, BUT ALSO IN THE
U.S, CANADA AND ALL THE WAY TO ARGENTINA, CHILE AND
OTHER COUNTRIES. THIS SIMPLE DOCUMENT WAS THE
50 ESSENCE OF THE GLOBAL NAZI PLAN TO ANNIHILATE JEWS
EVERYWHERE! A TOTAL GENOCIDE.

I REMEMBER WATCHING THAT DOCUMENT AND RIGHT NEXT
TO IT, A PHOTOGRAPH THAT CONNECTED ME TO MY OWN
55 ROOTS. IT SHOWED A LARGE CROWD OF DESPERATE JEWS IN
FRONT OF THE OFFICE OF THE JEWISH AGENCY IN VIENNA IN
1939, PEOPLE HOPING TO GET AN ENTRANCE CERTIFICATE TO
BRITISH CONTROLLED "ERETZ ISRAEL". MY GRANDPARENTS
WERE AMONG THAT CROWD. THEY WERE PART OF THE LUCKY
60 FEW WHO RECEIVED SUCH A CERTIFICATE WHICH PROBABLY
SAVED THEIR LIVES AND ALLOWED ME TO STAND HERE
TODAY.

THE TRAGIC STORY OF DANIEL RACHAMIM, FROM THE GREEK
65 ISLAND OF LEROS, TELLS OF AN INDIVIDUAL FROM A SMALL
REMOTE ISLAND HUNDREDS OF KILOMETERS FROM THE

70 GREEK MAINLAND. HE WAS THE ONLY JEWISH PERSON ON
THAT ISLAND. STILL, THE NAZIS SENT A SPECIAL SHIP ALL THE
WAY TO LEROS TO ARREST HIM AND SEND HIM TO A
CONCENTRATION CAMP WHERE HE WAS MURDERED.

75 THE MEANING IN HEBREW OF HIS LAST NAME, RACHAMIM,
MEANS COMPASSION OR PITY. UNFORTUNATELY, HE DID NOT
RECEIVE ANY COMPASSION, NOR PITY. THAT WAS THE NATURE
OF THE NAZI TOTAL ANNIHILATION PLAN.

80 RECENTLY, WE COMMEMORATED THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE SAVING OF MOST OF THE DANISH JEWS IN 1943. THE
DANISH PEOPLE, WHO HELPED THESE JEWS ESCAPE TO SWEDEN,
CHOSE TO DO THE RIGHT THING. THE JEWISH PEOPLE WILL
FOREVER BE GREATFUL FOR THIS HEROIC RESCUE.

85 I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO THANK THE GOVERNMENT OF
DENMARK FOR ADDRESSING THE URGENT ISSUE OF RISING
ANTISEMITISM IN THE LAST MONTHS, IN THE MOST ACTIVE
AND SERIOUS MANNER, FOCUSING ON EDUCATIONAL AND
SECURITY RELATED ASPECTS.

90 IF WE DO NOT UPROOT THE FIRST SIGNS OF HATRED AND
ANTISEMITISM, WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ERADICATE THEM
WHEN THEY BECOME A FULL-BLOWN DANGER.

95 THE WORDS "NEVER AGAIN" SHOULD NOT BE ONLY VOICED
BUT SHOULD BE A CALL TO ACTION, HERE IN DENMARK AND
ALL OVER THE WORLD

THANK YOU.

100

Kilde

Manuskript modtaget fra taler

Kildetype

Digitalt manuskript

105

Tags

Mindetale

Relateret

Henri Goldsteins tale til Auschwitz-dagen
27. januar 2024

110

Mette Frederiksens tale på Auschwitz-dagen
27. januar 2024

URI

<https://www.dansketaler.dk/tale/david-akovs-tale-til-auschwitz-dag>

115

120

125

130

135

140