

Tikun detailed Report of activities

1. For the period between 2011-2012

Tikun has launched a wide range of activities, aimed to bring a new concept and vision of the social and cultural life in the Israeli society. The main aim is to find an appropriate way to intertwine Jewish values with the needs of modernity and life in a Jewish sovereign society, to make Judaism relevant once again.

At the beginning of the summer of 2011, in an outburst of protest among Israelis mostly from middle class, thousands of young people took it to the streets, planted tents everywhere and spoke genuinely about the issues that made their life in Israel too hard. There was a sense of hope for something else, beyond the nitty gritty daily problems of rents or cost of products.

One of the most famous groups was located on Rothschild Boulevard in Tel Aviv, the stronghold of the secular and individualism Israel, yet it was there that we managed to establish a first strong, emotional and moving contact, based on shared values. On the occasion of the yartzeit of Dr. Meir Buzaglo's father, a spontaneous yet vibrant encounter between members of "Tikun" – including singer and writer Kobi Oz took place, at which we all sang Piyutim and opened our hearts to the need to include Jewish language and values in our struggle. There was an intense feeling that not only ears but hearts were opened and attentive.

In Jerusalem, we opened and ran for almost three months, a "Sukkat Tikun" amidst a tent camp inhabited by single parented families, mostly from Mizrahi origin, who suffer from poverty, unemployment and cannot afford decent housing – thus most of them wandering from one rented place to another, using familial short term solutions or simply squatting in public parks. Twice and sometimes even thrice a week, during these months of protest, we organized there gatherings that included Jewish music, spiritual talks and open debates on the issues at stake – regarding the urgent need to repair the Israeli society according to the vision of "Tikun".

Since July 2012, we have launched a series of conferences, gatherings and panels in various places, and participated in conferences organized by other NGO's, all focused one way or another, on the revival of Jewish values as needed in the Israeli society today. Please find here a list of the activities we held during the year 2012.

- A meeting and Bible texts learning at the Musrara neighborhood.
- A Tikun Shavuot learning in cooperation with "Beit Hillel" at the HU
- Panel and debate over the foreign workers status in Israel, in view of the Tora values at Beit Avi Chai (on July 25) participants were Tikun's Chairman, Dr. Meir Buzaglo, deputy mayor (United Tora Judaism) Itzhak Pindrus, Prof. Rahel Elior of the HU. This event was organized in cooperation with Beit Midrash "Elul"
- Lecture by Dr. Meir Buzaglo at the opening of the academic year at the Mandel Institute.
- Tikun was invited to participate (two meetings so far) on a series of meetings on the Mizrahi voice and it's representation in civil rights organizations in Israel. This is a project led by "Shaharit" organization, with ACRI, in which participate additional groups committed to Jewish values and pluralism. At the closing meeting held on July 13, Tikun's input was highly appreciated by the organizers, and was invited to continue its participation in the process planned for next year.

- Oneg Shabat in Jerusalem – Tikun participated in the planning and the organization of three “Oneg Shabat” programs in Jerusalem. Aiming to enhance a large participation of communities in the city to share a real day of rest, beyond the separation between religious and non-observant. (Debates in synagogues, walking visits of neighborhoods and encounters with various congregations.)
- Students in Kiryat Shmona and the Tel-Hai college – encounter with the students with Dr. Buzaglo and participation of Uri Heitner, member of Tikun movement.
- Lecture by Dr. Buzaglo at the Van Leer institute on the weekly Tora portion, presenting Tikun’s principles on Shabbat, freedom and struggle against slavery.
- “Bar-Da’at” – an innovative program launched by the municipality of Jerusalem and the Jewish renewal organizations, in which issues of Judaism were presented to customers in bars across the city. Peggy Cidor, Tikun’s executive and student at the Elul Beit Midrash, presented a lecture on Women, Water and Tora.
- Conference on Jewish renewal within the Israel Association for Community Centers – Dr. Yaakov Maoz, member of the executive of Tikun, spoke as a high rank of the association and about the Tikun principles.
- Rabbis conference on social issues and commitment – organized by the Morasha association. Yehuda Maimaran, member of the executive of Tikun, spoke on behalf of the movement about the need for spiritual leaders to lead social involvement and improvement.
- Opening of the first student’s cell of Tikun at the HU campus on Mt. Scopus. Omri DuNour, member of Tikun, leads the cell. Had 2 meetings with students, planning series of events in the campus and in the city, with the cooperation of additional youth organizations.
- Encounters between thinkers and students on a weekly basis, opened by Dr. Buzaglo and followed by a growing number of students and youth in city center Jerusalem. This program goes on into 2013.
- On September, Tikun held a gathering with young Yeshiva students at the Yedidiah community in Jerusalem, to encourage them to stand against the violence and racism acts perpetrated in the Israeli society, allegedly on behalf of Judaism. Rabbi Yehuda Gilad, head of the Maaleh Gilboa yeshiva, Dr. Buzaglo and rabbi Shmuel Papenheim (from the Toldot Aharon community) participated and cantor Dudi Menachem closed with some Piyutim for Rosh Hashana.
- On December 16, Tikun held a large launching conference at the Yad Ben-Zvi auditorium, of the movement. Some 200 participants, from across the country and all the wide range of streams – from Haredi (including from the Toldot Aharon hassidut) to left wing social activists, religious, traditionalists, Mizrahis and Ashkenazi, Jewish, Moslems and Christians. Following the very inspiring evening, a large article was published in one of the leading daily newspapers in the country, besides a few other stories published elsewhere. As a result of the launching conference, many attendees asked to join the movement.

2. For 2013 (8 events, between January and July)

- On January 31st. (2013) Tikun held a major event in Jerusalem, to present it’s basic positions on issues of Jewish solidarity and standing for the weakest individuals in our society. An evening of joined efforts – for fund-raising and a large panel on the rightful way to support and protect mentally ill in the society brought together some

of the top music performers of Israel and the leading figures in Jewish social activism – including rabbi Benny Lau, Yechiel Sharshavski from the ministry of health, Dr. Meir Buzaglo, Professor Haviva Pedaya from the Ben Gurion University (and active member of Tikun,) moderated by Bambi Cheleg, chief editor of the review “Eretz Acheret.” Over 200 participated and raised also funds for “Hazon” an innovative institution for empowering mentally ill women in Jerusalem.

- On February 8, Tikun has been invited to close the annual conference on the Hebrew language under the patronage of the Prime Minister. The panel, led by Dr. Meir Buzaglo, with the participation of Dr. Orna Baziz (from Tikun), a specialist in Hebrew teaching among Arab population, and professor Andre Haydu, composer and Israel Prize awardee, on the connection between the various Jewish languages and the Hebrew, across the centuries. Musician Yair Harel, member of Tikun, and singer Merav Ben-David, closed the event with a special performance of Haydu’s last work.

- Between February and June, the Young Adult programs of Tikun have become steady, with bi-weekly conferences held in the Nahlaot neighborhood “salon Shabazi” center. The series of talks featured top range lecturers (Dr. Buzaglo, prof. Shweid, Dr. Elisabeth Goldwyn and more) which attract around 50-70 students and young adults each time.

- In April, Tikun participated at the third encounter organized by “Shaharit” and ACRI to deepen the dialogue and understanding between Sephardi and Ashkenazi Israelis over the issues of Human and Civil rights. This meeting took place at the headquarters of the “El-Hamayan” education stream of the Shas movement.

- On May 20, Tikun executive board held a study day on the major issues of the movement agenda. We met the head of the legal advisory clinic at the Tel Aviv University, who is working with us on the issue of preserving the right of the Israelis citizens not to work on Shabbat. We heard a detailed lecture on all the aspects of the current law and on the ways Tikun should and could promote that issue on the Israeli public discourse, including the use of the court appeal.

-On May 21-22 Tikun held its first community Shabbat in Sderot, the southern city which suffered from the missiles attacks from the Gaza strip. Over 50 persons participated in the gathering, which was a combination of study and encounter with the local residents and the flavor of a merited genuine and friendly Shabbat atmosphere. The participants pay for a part of the expenses, and Tikun subsidizes the rest of the cost, using the sum that remained from the first grant of the Matanel Foundation, in order to ensure the largest participation possible

On July 2, Dr. Meir Buzaglo and Peggy Cidor attended the Annual Local Government conference held in Tel Aviv. At the conference, opened by minister of treasury Yair Lapid and minister of education, Shay Piron, Tikun member and mayor of Yerucham, Michael Bitton, as well as prof. Yossi Yonah from the Ben Gurion university, participated at one of the panel, dedicated to the issue of reassessment of the boundaries of the regional and local councils, for a more equal tax property income.

Last, but not least – on Tishe’a Be’Av (July 15) Tikun will present the special program for that day at the Ginot Ha’ir (largest) Community Center in Jerusalem, with a reading of the Eicha Megillah, a panel on the theme of “siege” and studying groups into the night. More than 400 participated.

Parallely to these activities, Tikun has launched its website (December 2012) and it's Facebook (April 2013.) Statues, articles and essays written by Tikun's members have reached a wide audience, and have gained us thousands of visits (likes) and attention both to our Site and our Facebook.