

THE TRIBE WEEKLY

PARASHAT MIKEITZ

15-16 DECEMBER | 4 TEVET

Poland and the Privilege of Being Jewish



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Tribe Learn2Lead Poland
Trip 2023

Before going to Poland, I knew what it meant to be Jewish. I knew it was important to me. But I never understood why. I was brought up to observe Judaism traditionally. We have always celebrated most of the festivals and I also learnt about the Torah stories and miracles in a weekly cheder class. But I could never understand why being Jewish is a privilege. I know people who say that they don't see how being Jewish can make you a better, or happier, person. I now strongly disagree. Being Jewish is a value I hold above almost everything else. For me personally, it is the single most important aspect of

my identity. I never would have expected to go through such a life-changing experience at only seventeen years old. I found it life changing because it has given me a feeling of connection with Jews around the world.

Going on the Poland Learn2Lead experience with Tribe deepened both my understanding and my appreciation for Judaism. The trip also helped to strengthen my feeling of responsibility to ensure the continuation of the Jewish people. My experience has made me value the religious freedom that I have, compared with the six million Jewish people who had their freedom taken away.

One of the most meaningful moments was in the Majdanek concentration camp when I saw thousands of shoes. Each shoe represented a life. A story. A person. A person who was never given the

chance to finish his or her story. Some were hardly even able to begin one. Every shoe was different. There were heels, boots, red shoes, blue shoes, work shoes, tiny shoes. Tiny shoes that belonged to children. I learnt many things over the inspiring five days, but above all, I learnt to be grateful. I am especially grateful to Tribe for this impactful opportunity. I struggled with the ongoing thought of knowing that there was nothing I could do, I had no control over the horrific situation. I could not bring back the lives that were taken. Although we all may feel powerless, I have found that we actually have more power than we realise. We have the power to never forget. I will never forget what happened, I will never forget my incredible experience with Tribe in Poland, but above all, I will never forget the importance of being Jewish.

Find the Goblet!

Yosef (Joseph) hides a goblet in the sack of his youngest brother Binyamin (Benjamin), causing absolute havoc! Can you find the way to the goblet?

