

TORAH THOUGHTS – FROM SRI LANKA TO SAN DIEGO TO WARSAW

Below are my comments in commemoration of Yom Hashoah, Holocaust Day of Remembrance.

Tonight, on Yom Hashoah, we stand between fear and hope. Unfortunately fear flows freely in the world - the recent events in Sri Lanka and in San Diego serve as tragic reminders that the same cruelty embodied in Hitler still exists. But hope springs from many sources, including from a Passover seder last week in the Warsaw Ghetto.

Hundreds of Polish and Diaspora Jews gathered to celebrate, 76 years to the day after the Jews imprisoned there began a bloody last stand against the Nazis. The Jews held control of the ghetto for nearly a month, and it was the largest single violent act of defiance by Jews during the Holocaust. So even amid evil and chaos, be it during World War II or today, we can still find acts of bravery and compassion – there is still hope.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT – Here is a statement about the San Diego shooting issued by the various organizations of the Conservative/Masorti movement.

<https://www.rabbinicalassembly.org/story/conservativemasorti-movement-appalled-chabad-poway-shooting>