קשר רב דורי – חמסין במצדה – סיפורו של חנן אדלשטיין (באנגלית)

By: Hanan Edelstein  
Country of Birth: Israel

An annual trip in the heavy heat:

Hello, my name is Hanan Edelstein. I was born in Haifa on March 14, 1955. I'm named after my grandmother, Hannah.  
In 1967, when I was 12, my classmates and I traveled to Masada. We arrived at Masada with a truck. (This truck is like an open bus).  
That day was very hot, but nevertheless decided to hold the trip. There was no cable car yet, so we had to go up and down on foot. The entire class includes the teachers and accompanying parents who climbed the top of Masada. When we got to the top, one of the children fainted and we were all very scared.   
At the time there was no awareness of drinking lots of water during days like these and my class was not equipped with enough water. Everyone was very thirsty because we ran out of water, and that student just did not drink enough water.   
At the top of the cliff there was only one tap, from which very hot water came out. Nevertheless, in order to continue the trip, we all forced ourselves to drink from this water. After we went up, we went down the Snake Path, which led us to the other side of the mountain. The truck was waiting for us on the slopes.   
When we entered the truck we heard a message on the radio: "For all those traveling in and around Masada: Due to the heat in the area it is absolutely forbidden to go up to Masada." We all understood how serious it was that we had the trip. It could have ended in disaster.