

Tuesday, June 2nd
The Galilee
Written by Alyssa Miller

This morning we started out by going to an overlook in Haifa. While we were there, we looked out over the Mediterranean, and learned a bit about the area. There was a nationwide drill while we were there, and we saw the procedure for moving into the shelters (though we did not go ourselves). From Mt. Carmel, we looked down over Haifa and spoke about Elijah and Baal. It was interesting to see where the story took place, after studying the story last year in Mikra.

We then walked to the Bahai Gardens and looked down over some of the 19 terraces with beautiful flowers and plants. We learned about the Bahai faith, and its place among the world's religions. Next we went to Tefen, an industrial park, for lunch and a tour of their art as industry museum. We participated in a simulation of an assembly line, and manufactured products (small plastic puzzles) that we were able to take home with us.

This afternoon, we went to Shorashim, where we learned about the Arab-Israeli community in the Galilee. We spoke with a Jewish representative of the program that they run bringing the Jewish and Arab communities into communication with one another, for an understanding of the situation and a more detailed look into the minorities living in Israel. We then went to a local Arab school and spoke with 12 of their students about what it is like for them to be a minority in a Jewish state and juxtaposed that to us being a minority in the U.S.

We came back to the hostel, had dinner, and just took it easy for the night. We'll be up before 6am tomorrow for a "short tiyul" (a 1-3 hour hike), followed by the afternoon in Tzfat and an evening boat ride on the kineret.