

OZ DAVIDIAN

SAVES 120 PEOPLE



THE COURAGE TO REPEATEDLY
ENTER THE LINE OF FIRE TO SAVE
PEOPLE THAT HE DOESN'T KNOW

INFORMATION FOR THE TEAM

This is a story about a person who rescued wounded people and people who were hiding from the area of the Nova party in his own vehicle. Thousands of young people and adults were at the party, which was held in an open area near Gaza. When the party-goers realized they were under attack, they fled far and wide, with many of them hiding in the surrounding woods. Oz, as a local, knew the area well and went to rescue people from the party. With much courage, he saved about 120 people. Oz's heroism, together with courage, is adhering to a goal. He repeatedly drove into the line of fire in order to save people he didn't know.

SUITABLE FOR EVERYONE

On Friday afternoon, 6.10.23, a big party began in the area of Kibbutz Re'im near the border with Gaza. Thousands of boys, girls, adults, and families were at the party. At the party, apart from the main stage where everyone danced, there were also stations for food, art, body painting and rest areas. On the morning of 7.10, rockets started falling in the area, and the people at the party who were afraid of the rockets quickly drove home. On the way, there were many terrorists, and people ran away and hid in all sorts of places- in the fields and the surrounding forests. The people who had run away waited quietly for a long time, waiting for people who would rescue them and take them home.

ADDITIONAL INFO FOR ADULTS

The State of Israel, which was suddenly under attack in a number of places, was not prepared for the attack, and the army was unable to come to the rescue of the party-goers. Many of them lay in hiding for several hours, some of whom were wounded. During this time, the terrorists roamed the forests, looking for those who were hiding. Many of those hiding sent messages to their family members, sharing their location so their family could see where they were. The families who received these calls for help were helpless and looked for people who could save their children and bring them back to safety. One of the people who saved party-goers from this nightmare was Oz.

OZ SAVES LIVES



1.

“Who are you?” asked the frightened girl from among the bushes. She had hid for hours with a few other people and repeated, “Who are you? A soldier? A member of the Shin Bet?”

“I’m from a nearby moshav,” replied Oz, wiping sweat from his forehead with his hand, “take my phone, tell your parents you’re fine.”

Minutes later, in the van driving to safety towards Moshav Maslul, the youngsters eased the tension with non-stop chatter, unable to believe their good fortune. Oz listened to their conversation and smiled: “Avraham, get out, the terrorists yelled at us, because that is what they think we are all called!” The girl laughed and continued, “I almost got out,” and everyone began to laugh with her. Oz took a look at them in the mirror, and marveled at their vibrancy and liveliness.

“Goodbye to you all, I’m going to get more people,” he said as he dropped them off at home.

2.

As Oz drove alone, without the sound of their laughter that instilled confidence in him and a sense of togetherness, he continued on his way. He was very familiar with this road, one that had now become dangerous. Until recently, he and his father had a farm in these fields, but after his father had died, Oz was too sad to return. So he sold the farm.



3.

In the distance he noticed armed figures on the road. He thought to himself, great, the army is starting to arrive. Slowing the car down as he approached them, he asked, “Are there any injured?” In Arabic they replied, “There are dead people,” and in an instant he understood that these were terrorists. Immediately they also understood that he was Jewish! He quickly put his foot on the gas, hearing bursts of shots behind him. He safely escaped, and continued to the fields that he knew so well, to save more people who were hiding.



4.

He no longer had to search the bushes, since his phone number had been passed on to others who were hiding and people were desperately sending him locations to come save them. He made numerous dangerous trips, from the early hours of the morning until late into the night, saving people. On his mission to save more people, he encountered terrorists several times, they shot at him and he managed to dodge them.

5.

Oz Davidian saved one hundred and twenty people, in one small van. Oz, is not a soldier and not a member of the Shin Bet, he is just an ordinary man. He is simply Oz.



DID YOU KNOW?

What does the Hebrew name 'Oz' mean?

Oz means bravery, strength, determination, and courage. The name comes from Tanach,

**“G-d should give courage to His people;
G-d should bless his people with peace.”**

(Psalms 29:11).

Oz really turned out to be a hero full of courage and determination.





Station 2: Oz Davidian saves 120 people - Leading questions for the coordinator

Discussion for children: What is special about what Oz did? (He was a hero and saved other people. He was brave and went to a dangerous place. He helped others while putting himself in danger.)

Is the heroism of a person who finds himself in trouble and saves himself the same as a person who chooses to put himself in danger in order to save others?

A point to think about for children: Should everyone do what Oz did?

For example - If I don't know how to swim and I see someone drowning in a pool, what should I do? Jump into the water? Call for help?

There are many ways to help. Oz also had a large car that could drive through fields. He also knew the roads well. Therefore, he could help people. When we are heroes, we need to also be responsible. We have to know that what we wish to do makes sense according to our abilities. Each one of us has our own special abilities. Oz had abilities that could help many other people, and he wasn't afraid of using them.

Discussion for adults: During the massacre, there were many stories of heroism. Party-goers and soldiers who were caught up in the incident acted in exceptionally heroic ways, protecting friends and people who were nearby. There are also many stories about citizens who went to rescue their own children from the area and public figures (people in the army, political leaders) who understood what was unfolding and traveled to the area in order to help and save people. Unlike them, Oz did not know any of the party-goers and is not a public servant.

Is the heroism of a person who finds himself in trouble and saves himself the same as a person who chooses to put himself in danger in order to save others? Did Oz choose wisely when he decided to enter the danger zone again and again? Doesn't he also have a responsibility toward himself and his family members? Where do we draw the line? Oz was not a soldier on duty. What kind of mental strength does a person need in order to put himself in the line of fire for an entire day in order to save strangers?