

OUR IMPACT

Overseas Stories:

In Casablanca, Focus on Jewish Education



For Casablanca's Jews, coexistence isn't merely a buzzword or goal — it's a reality as tangible as the young Muslim student sitting one seat over in a high school classroom.

"I enjoyed sharing classes, learning, and growing together with Muslim kids without any political tensions. I

continue to love meeting with my friends, both Muslims and Jews, who enroll their children at our school," said one former student with two children now in the city's JDC-supported Alliance Israelite Universelle (Ittihad) network of Jewish schools. "I often tell the students how lucky they are—and how wonderful it is—to attend a school where they can coexist."

Morocco has a population of about 4,000 to 4,500 Jews, out of a total of 32.5 million people. Most live in Casablanca, home to six schools that teach nearly 600 children.

"Here in Casablanca, we are very proud of the quality of Jewish identity and life enhanced by our schools. Even our 4-year-olds are fluent in Hebrew and prayers," said the parent and former student. "Another source of pride is that nearly 100 percent of our students graduate each year."

For JDC, investing in Jewish schools in Morocco accomplishes two goals: it provides a sense of security for local parents that their children will grow up with a Jewish educational foundation, and it is critical in raising the next generation of engaged leaders and securing the future of Moroccan Jewry.

