Bones of Jews murdered in Sobibor to be buried

Polish authorities allow Israeli association to collect remains of Jews scattered at Nazi death camp and surrounding woods in order to give them a real grave and tombstone.

Noah Klieger

As a result of the decades that have passed since then and the bad weather conditions in the area, many human bones lie exposed on the earth. Occasionally, attempts have been made to deal with the issue, but the Polish authorities have refused to allow it for different reasons.

Now, the agreement and required cooperation have been obtained, and students from different universities have volunteered to help gather the bones.

Daniels brought an anthropologist from Poland to the area, as well as the Chief Rabbi of Poland Michael Schudrich. Representatives of the Chief Rabbinate, the ZAKA emergency organization and students are arriving from Israel these days to join the operation.

Next month, after the Jewish holidays, once the bone gathering is complete, an official ceremony will be held in Sobibor in the presence of hundreds of dignitaries from Poland and Israel, including the chief rabbis, Knesset members, IDF representatives, Holocaust survivors, high school students and delegations from the United States and Europe. A similar ceremony will take place in Jerusalem later on.

It has not been decided yet whether the bones will be buried in Israel or in Poland.

The ceremonies will also mark the 71st anniversary of the revolt of 600 prisoners held in the camp for different jobs, of whom only 60 to 80 survived. The rest were slaughtered by the Germans and their Ukrainian aides.