

I fell in love with Israel, the people, the food, the sea – all of it. I did not really know what to expect but I knew that I would be having one of the best summers of my life.

My time at Michael Hunter & Co was amazing; because of the small size of the firm, I was able to interact with everyone, Partners from all different departments to the legal trainees. I was able to attend a conference at Sheraton alongside Erik, where I was able to learn about international trade relationships between China, USA and Israel. Attending this event was exciting, I was able to meet many different lawyers and got to learn from them about the comparisons and contrasts between the law in Israel and other countries. At the firm I was also able to learn a lot about Israel's developing Trust law and its importance for Israelis living abroad. It was interesting for me to see the collegiate way of working at the law firm where everyone helped everyone and it was very refreshing to see the lack of formality and abundance of friendliness.

After finishing at the law firm, I made my way to Jerusalem where I had the privilege of meeting Judge Vogelmann. We discussed the importance of an independent judiciary, and the key role the Supreme Court Justices play in the legal system in Israel. We both agreed on how the judiciary should be completely separate from politics and how the system in Israel maintains that. I also learned about the busy schedules of Supreme Court judges in Israel because of the intense amount of work load. Following my meeting I was given a detailed tour of the building and explained how each corner of the impressive building had been modelled on different aspects of justice. I was even told that Lady Hale had made a visit just a week prior to me! I have to say that the Supreme Court Building was one of the most beautiful I had ever seen. To end my visit, I walked through the rose gardens alongside the building.

My last experience was with Judge Tal Havkin and I have to say I did not envisage that I would be able to see such an array of cases. I saw bail applications, robbery cases, road traffic accidents, small claims cases and even a small part of one of the most high profile mafia cases which has been going on for a few years in Israel. I had the most wonderful time with Judge Havkin as he translated for me all the aspects of the cases as well as informing me of the procedural aspects of cases. I was also introduced to several different judges in the court and what impressed me the most was the abundance of female judges. Judge Havkin was extremely accommodating and answered any questions I had and I have to say that I enjoyed these two days a lot!

I am not sure how I can put my experience of Israel overall in a few words. I made friends the first day I arrived and seemed to continue accumulating them throughout my visit. I travelled to Haifa, Acco, Rosh Haniqrah, Masada, Ein Gedi, the Dead Sea and Eilat. I learned how to surf and fell in love with the sport. I scuba-dived in the Red Sea and hiked in the Eilat mountains. I even attended a Shabbat dinner with White City Shabbat which I greatly enjoyed. I ate hummus, tahini, sabich, falafel in abundance and wish I could bring the food back with me.

This scholarship allowed me to experience a country which otherwise would not have been so easy for me to do. It allowed me to learn about the Israeli legal system in the most unique way. It allowed me to build friendships that I hope will last a life time. It truly was one of the best experiences of my life. I can only hope that more people around the world get such opportunities to learn, by living and breathing a country.

I miss Israel and always will.

Shanzé Shah





08-6331033  
71-580-08



JERUSALEM

ירושלים

اورشليم

רֹשׁ הַנְּהַרָה  
ROSH-HANIKRA

BEIRUT

بيروت

بيروت



















17.07.2019 18:08

מוזיאון תל אביב























