



Holocaust Memorial Day

27th January 2021

PowerPoint Guidance

This PowerPoint may raise questions and points you want clarified and things you want to talk about and discuss. This is a normal reaction to this topic and it is important to discuss it with your teachers or someone at home.

Take notes on your thoughts and feelings. Lots of people find talking about the Holocaust and genocide very emotive or difficult and taking notes will give you the opportunity to reflect on what you learn about.

You can use the [reflective notes page](#).

Holocaust Memorial Day is marked each year on the 27th of January.

It aims to remember the genocide of millions of Jews and other groups of people who were killed by the Nazis during the Second World War.

Holocaust Memorial Day also acknowledges the genocide in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur.

The 27th of January is the date that the concentration camp Auschwitz-Birkenau was liberated, therefore is a symbolic date for Holocaust Memorial Day as it reflects the hope that dark times do come to an end.

Each year a different theme is chosen as a way to honour the day. The theme of Holocaust Memorial Day 2021 is [Be the Light in the Darkness.](#)

What Is the Holocaust?

The Holocaust is the name given to the genocide of Jews, gypsies, people with disabilities and other groups of people in the Second World War. It comes from the Greek word *holokauston*, which means sacrifice by fire.

The Holocaust began in April 1933 when the Nazi party ordered the boycotting of all Jewish businesses in Germany.

Adolf Hitler was the leader of the Nazi party during the Holocaust. He wanted to make Germany a country where only those who were of the Aryan Race could live. In 1937 Hitler passed Aryanisation policies, which meant Jewish business owners were forced to sell their businesses.

The Holocaust ended in 1945 when the Nazis were defeated by the Allies and the Second World War ended.

In Hebrew the Holocaust is referred to as HaaShoah.

What Is Genocide?

A Polish lawyer named Raphaël Lemkin first used the term genocide in 1944 in his book about the occupation of Germany in the Second World War.

The word genocide is made of the Greek preffix *genos* which means tribe or race and the Latin suffix *cide* which means killing.

Lemkin campaigned for genocide to become an internationally recognised crime and in 1946, the United Nations formally recognised it as a crime under international law.

Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide

Article II

In the present Convention, genocide means any of the following acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, as such:

1. killing members of the group;
2. causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group;
3. deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part;
4. imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group;
5. forcibly transferring children of the group to another group.

Why Is Holocaust Memorial Day Marked?

The Holocaust and genocides across the world are dark times that we must mark in order to reflect and learn lessons from the past.

The theme this year is 'Be the Light in the Dark'. This is an affirmation and a call to action to everyone to be the light in the darkness.

Reflect on the darkness on the past and the light that has brought us to today.

Being the light in the darkness is also about standing up against hatred, prejudice, discrimination and division.

What Is Meant By Darkness?

Darkness can be seen in many forms throughout society, from seemingly small acts to larger crimes, which impact society.

It may include:

hate speech;

online trolling;

fake news;

persecution of
people.

What other kinds of darkness can you think of?

What Is the Light?

Being the light is about:

standing up and fighting for what is right;

finding hope in times of trouble;

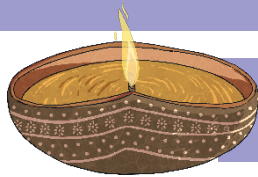
standing up against someone else and
highlighting the truth.

What other ways can we be the light?

How You Can Mark Holocaust Memorial Day

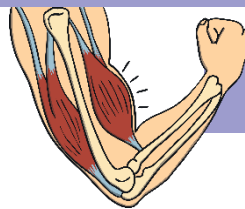
You can mark Holocaust Memorial Day by:

watching the Holocaust Memorial Day Ceremony, which will be available online;



designing a light of hope as a way to remember the day;

holding a moment of reflection;



finding out about heroes of the Holocaust;



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