

THE LEGACY OF
HOPE

HMD
2010


HOLOCAUST
MEMORIAL DAY

HMD 2010 Campaign Pack

Thank you for ordering the HMD 2010 Campaign Pack. On or around the 27th January 2010, hundreds of groups and thousands of individuals throughout the UK will be coming together to become part of The Legacy of Hope. That legacy begins with you.

HMD events provide an opportunity for our communities: an opportunity to create a safer and better future that we can share. We can do this by looking to the past, understanding how genocide is planted by the seeds of hatred, listening to the voices of survivors and seeing how the lessons learnt apply to us today. We aren't in Nazi occupied Europe, or in Pol Pot's Cambodia, but the dangers of exclusion, racism, prejudice and discrimination are present in our societies today. HMD asks us to pause for a moment, to remember, and it inspires us to make a change in our attitudes, our interactions with one another and in our thoughts towards those who are different from ourselves.

Whether you are organising an HMD event for the first time or this is your annual commemoration, this pack has been produced with you in mind. Suitable for all organisers – from Council Officers to Teachers, and from Youth Group Leaders to Librarians, we want you to participate in Holocaust Memorial Day 2010. If you are an

educator, ensure that you visit our education website <http://education.hmd.org.uk> where you will find a variety of case studies, lesson plans, activities and assemblies suitable for all school ages. On the main HMD site www.hmd.org.uk you will find suitable readings, images, films, presentations and more, for all types of events. Join our mailing list to be kept up to date with new resources.

HMD raises some complex issues. This campaign pack aims to assist you in dealing with these.

We hope that you find the HMD 2010 campaign pack of use in planning your activities – please do not hesitate to contact any of the team if you require any further assistance – remember to let us know how you mark HMD 2010!

Best wishes,

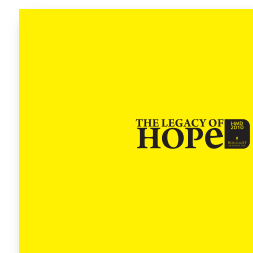
All the team at HMDT



0845 838 1883
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This pack contains:

ABOUT HMD



Suitable for hand out material at your events. You can request additional copies of this booklet free of charge for your HMD 2010 event. Please contact the HMDT office for further information.

YOUR ROLE



This part of the pack is designed for organisers – here we answer questions on commemorating the Day. The team at

HMDT is always here to help and the HMD website www.hmd.org.uk contains a wealth of information for your use. Don't forget that all HMDT resources are free of charge.

POSTERS

Posters – are suitable for display at all HMD events. You can download additional copies from www.hmd.org.uk

HMD 2010: The Legacy of Hope

27th January 2010 – Holocaust Memorial Day – marks the 65th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau. On this day, the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust is challenging everyone across the UK to become part of a Legacy of Hope. HMD 2010 offers an opportunity to listen to the voices from the Holocaust and Nazi persecution and to make their hopes for a safer, inclusive society a reality, today and in the future.

Holocaust survivors have played an immense role in drawing our attention to the lessons of the Holocaust. They speak of pain and loss, of strength and survival, of despair and their wish for a Legacy of Hope. They encourage us to

look within and without, to be sure of our moral compass, to be certain of our choices and to use our voice, whenever we can, to speak out. They have translated difficult experiences to create a future that is free from the dangers of exclusion and persecution. They have passed a message of resilience and hope to the next generation.

Our responsibility is to remember those who were persecuted and murdered, because their lives were wasted. Our challenge is to make the experience and words of the victims and survivors of the Holocaust and subsequent genocides a meaningful part of our future. The aspirations of those who have suffered from the effects of the Holocaust and of genocide around the world,

should inform our lives today. Their words can make us think about our own attitudes, our behaviour, our choices, the way we vote, the way we interact with one another, the way we respect and celebrate the differences between us and the way in which we build a safer future together. It is their example that can inspire us to greater action. We need to ask ourselves what we should be doing today to build a safer, stronger society so that the risk of the building blocks of genocide ever being laid is removed.

As humanitarian activist Hugo Slim says of the voices that speak out of tragedy to our shared sense of humanity “We need to listen, for a change.”

You can read the full theme paper for HMD 2010 on our website www.hmd.org.uk



www.hmd.org.uk

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Charity no: 1109348

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Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) is the international day of remembrance for the victims and survivors of the Holocaust and subsequent genocides. Every year, on 27th January we pause to reflect on what can happen when racism, prejudice and exclusionary behaviour are left unchecked. We remember the victims and honour the survivors of state sponsored hatred in Nazi-occupied Europe, in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur. We take the time to see how the lessons of the past can play a part in our communities today. We also pledge to make a stand – that the atrocities of the past should not happen again and we renew our commitment to tackle hatred and exclusion head on in order to create a safer, better future for us all.

HMD has been commemorated in the UK since 2001. But it is not only a day of remembrance for us in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. In 2005 the United Nations declared 27th January as Holocaust Memorial Day. Annually we join with millions of others around the world to not only remember, but to make the lessons of the past relevant to us today, ensuring that the horrific crimes of the past are neither forgotten nor repeated.

What does HMD cover?

The Holocaust (1933-1945)

The Nazis hated anyone who was 'different', including those who fitted the Aryan concept of normality but had different views or thoughts which did not adhere to Nazi ideology. Their campaign of hatred culminated in the murder of 11 million men, women and children.

They murdered six million Jews in a systematic state-sponsored campaign of persecution and extermination now known as the Holocaust. They persecuted, incarcerated and murdered millions of their nation's own citizens, and those of the countries they invaded, on the basis of skin colour, disability, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religious belief or political affiliation.

In 1933, when the Nazis came to power in Germany, the Jewish population of Europe stood at over nine million. The Nazi campaign to exclude and persecute Jews, and others, as "life unworthy of life" began. By May 1945 close to two out of every three Jews in Europe had been murdered in the Holocaust.

The Nazis created ghettos to isolate Jews and established concentration camps to imprison people targeted on ethnic, racial or political grounds. Between 1942 and 1944 the Nazis



Auschwitz-Birkenau
© Wiener Library

deported millions of people from the territories their regime occupied to extermination camps. At the largest killing centre, Auschwitz-Birkenau, transports of Jews arrived almost daily from across Europe. Approximately 1.3 million men, women and children were murdered here by the time of the liberation of the camp on 27th January 1945.

Although Jews were the primary victims of Nazi racism, others targeted for exclusion, persecution and murder included upwards of 200,000 Roma and Sinti (Gypsies) and almost 250,000 mentally or physically Disabled people. As Nazi tyranny spread across Europe, millions of people were persecuted and murdered. More than 3,000,000 Soviet prisoners of war were murdered or died of starvation, disease, or maltreatment. Jehovah's Witnesses were persecuted for their refusal to renounce their faith and approximately 2,000 Jehovah's Witnesses died under the Nazi regime, 250 of whom were executed for refusing to take part in armed conflict. The Nazis killed tens of thousands of Polish intellectual and religious leaders; deported millions of Polish and Soviet citizens for forced labour and persecuted and incarcerated Gay men and Lesbians.

Millions of lives were lost, or changed beyond recognition. Families, communities and towns were totally wiped out during the Nazi period.



Warsaw Ghetto, Poland
1943 © Yad Vashem



1975-1979 Cambodia

The fate of Cambodia shocked the world when the radical communist Khmer Rouge, under their leader Pol Pot, seized power in 1975 after years of guerrilla warfare. The Khmer Rouge ruthlessly imposed an extremist programme to reconstruct Cambodia (now under its Khmer name Kampuchea) on the communist model of Mao's China – creating “Year Zero”. The population was made to work as labourers in one huge federation of collective farms. The inhabitants of towns and cities were forced to leave. The ill, disabled, old and very young were driven out, regardless of their physical condition. No-one was spared the exodus. People who refused to leave were killed, so were those who did not leave fast enough and those who would not obey orders.

Also targeted were minority groups - victims of the Khmer Rouge's racism. These included ethnic Chinese, Vietnamese and Thai, and also Cambodians with Chinese, Vietnamese or Thai ancestry. Half the Cham Muslim population was murdered, as were 8,000 Christians. Buddhism was eliminated from the country and by 1977 there were no functioning monasteries left in Cambodia.

All political and civil rights were abolished. Children were taken from their parents and placed in separate forced labour camps. Factories, schools and universities were shut down, so were hospitals. Lawyers, doctors, teachers, engineers, scientists and professional people in any field were murdered, together with their extended families. Religion was banned, as were radio sets and music. It was possible for people to be shot simply for knowing a foreign language, wearing glasses, laughing, or crying. One Khmer slogan ran 'To spare you is no profit, to destroy you is no loss.'

Civilian deaths in this period, from executions, disease, exhaustion and starvation, have been estimated at well over 2 million.

1992 Bosnia

In 1980, the population of Bosnia consisted of Serbs, Bosniaks (Sunni Muslim) and Croats. In the turmoil following the disintegration of Yugoslavia, Bosnia declared independence (1992). This was resisted by the Bosnian Serb population who saw their future as part of "Greater Serbia". Bosnia became the victim of the Serbs' determined wish for political domination, which it was prepared to achieve by isolating ethnic groups and,



if necessary, exterminating them. In July 1995 Serb troops and paramilitaries led by Ratko Mladic descended on Srebrenica and began shelling it. Despite being declared a safe zone by the United Nations, Serb forces prevailed. Women and children were forced onto trucks and buses, men and boys remained. The deportation of Srebrenica's population took 4 days.

Up to 7,500 men, and boys over 13 years old, were murdered. Up to 3,000, many in the act of trying to escape, were shot or decapitated in the fields. Mladic had sent out his written order to 'block, crush and destroy the straggling parts of the Muslim group' – it was carried out. 1,500 were locked in a warehouse and sprayed with machine gun fire and grenades. Others died in their thousands on farms, football fields and school playgrounds. The whole action was carried out with military efficiency.

1994 Rwanda

In 100 days in 1994 approximately 1,000,000 Tutsis and some moderate Hutus, were murdered in the Rwandan genocide. On April 6 1994 the plane carrying Rwanda's president was shot down. The Tutsis were accused of killing the president and Hutu civilians were told, by radio and word of mouth, that it



Rwandan School, damaged during the genocide © HMDT



was their duty to wipe out the Tutsis. On the radio, presenters used derogatory language to describe Tutsis, calling them 'cockroaches'. First, though, moderate Hutus who weren't anti-Tutsi should be killed. This included the country's Prime Minister Agathe Uwilingiyimana and Tutsi wives or husbands. Although on a large scale, this genocide was carried out entirely by hand, often using machetes and clubs. The men who'd been trained to massacre were members of civilian death squads, the Interahamwe. The State provided supporting organisation – politicians, officials, intellectuals and professional soldiers incited the killers to do their work. Local officials assisted in rounding up victims and making suitable places available for slaughter.

Tutsi men, women, children and babies were killed in thousands in schools and churches. The victims, in their last moments alive, were also faced by another appalling fact, their cold-blooded killers were people they knew – neighbours, work-mates, former friends, sometimes even relatives through marriage.

Darfur (2003 – Present date)

Darfur is a region to the west of Sudan, bordering Chad in North-East Africa. Over 6 million people live in Darfur and over half of those are Black Africans. The rest are Arab. In more recent times, the Black Africans have been referred to as “abid” (meaning “slave”) by some Arabs, who see the Africans as inferior.

Since 2003, a civil war has raged in the region between the sedentary population of farmers, who mainly see themselves as Africans, and the nomadic population who regard themselves as Arab and who have been supported by the Sudanese Government.

This civil war has led to the deaths of between 200,000 and 400,000 civilians. Up to 2.5 million people in Darfur are now displaced – they have been forced to flee their homes and now live in makeshift refugee camps either in Darfur or Chad run by international aid agencies. Many of these civilians have had to endure these conditions for over three years. A further two million people rely on international assistance, bringing the total number of civilians affected by the conflict to over four million people.



Why should I take part in HMD?

Nazi ideology was founded on racism, anti-semitism and discrimination, creating a fascist state that rejected human and civil rights. The evils of prejudice, discrimination and intolerance continue to exist in Britain. We categorise, stereotype, discriminate, exclude, bully, persecute, attack – because of race, religion, disability, sexuality. We damage, and are damaged, as a result of our refusal to accept our common humanity. We murder. Nations commit genocide. HMD acts as a reminder to all of us of our responsibility to protect the civil and human rights of all people in our society and across the world.





Genocide does not just happen. It starts when we no longer celebrate and respect the differences between us. The Holocaust and subsequent genocides are the result of extreme exclusion – where a state sponsored campaign of persecution and hatred is unchecked by ordinary people. Britain is not Nazi Germany in the 1930s. It is not Pol Pot's Cambodia. But on HMD we can pause to look at how we treat those around us. We can all make the choice to challenge exclusion where we see it happening – we can choose to stop using language which dehumanises others and we can stop our friends and family from dehumanising and excluding others. We can choose to use the lessons of the past to build safer, stronger communities in the UK today.


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What can I do for HMD?

Hundreds of events take place across the UK on or around 27th January every year to mark HMD. You can attend one of these events or create your own. Details of events and how to plan them are on our website: www.hmd.org.uk

You can visit the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust website www.hmd.org.uk to learn more about the Holocaust and subsequent genocides, to read survivor stories, watch our films and download free resources to assist in your commemoration.

Whether you commemorate HMD individually or collectively on 27th January, you will be joining millions of others around the world in committing to learn from the past in order to create a safer, better future for us all.

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Thank you for your interest in HMD 2010. We are pleased that you have made a commitment to commemorating Holocaust Memorial Day. We believe that if we learn the lessons of the dangers of persecution and exclusion that have taken place during the Holocaust and subsequent genocides, **we can create a safer, better future.**

On Holocaust Memorial Day 2010 – **27th January** – we are asking everyone across the UK to pause for a few moments. To **remember the victims** of Nazi persecution and those

who were murdered under exclusionary policies in Cambodia, Bosnia, Rwanda and Darfur. To **honour the survivors** of those genocides. Most importantly, we are asking you all to become part of **The Legacy of Hope.** We're encouraging everyone to grasp the opportunity to listen to the voices of all who suffered in the Holocaust and Nazi persecution, and to make the hopes of survivors part of our shared, safer future - a future that is free from the dangers of exclusion and persecution.

HMD 2010 is the **65th anniversary** of the **liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau,**

and it offers each of us a chance to hear the stories of Holocaust survivors directly from them, **before it is too late.** The numbers of survivors who have built their lives, communities and families here in the UK are inevitably diminishing, and, as they become frail, their thoughts are turning to future remembrance and the preservation of their memory.

This is where you come in.

We're asking you to take their messages to your colleagues, to your friends, to your communities and to your families. We're asking you to ask people to become part of

The Legacy of Hope.



Don't worry. We're here to support you as you do this. HMDT provide free resources – anything from posters to presentations and of course our popular short film.

Our website **www.hmd.org.uk** contains hundreds of resources you can use – survivor stories, podcasts, reading group activities, suggested readings and poems to use at your events.

We also provide **free downloadable resources** for Primary, Secondary and Post-16 teachers on our HMD 2010 education website **education.hmd.org.uk**

Our website is updated regularly; we recommend that you **sign up for our newsletter** to receive information about new resources as they become available. We are here to provide advice to you as you organise your event, and we urge you to **let us know** what you are planning for HMD 2010. You can speak to any member of the HMDT Team to ask for guidance and assistance in planning your events. This booklet is designed to answer any questions you may have about organising your HMD activities,

Please contact us if you need further information.

HMD 2010 is a really important day in the calendar and the 65th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau is a landmark event for the international community.

We're delighted that you will be involved.

Who?

HMD is a day for everyone.

It's an opportunity for all the diverse strands of your community to come together. It's also an opportunity for specific groups or organisations to remember the past and commit to creating a better future. HMD can be commemorated individually or collectively.

One thing is vital – your event must reflect the needs and interests of your community.



Floha Camp after Liberation ©Wiener Library

HMD is not only for community groups. If you work in education, **HMD is an opportunity to teach students** from primary to post 16 the lessons of the past, and challenge them to make what they learn part of their future.

A multitude of organisations have held events in the past – from LGBT Groups in Scotland, to Faith Groups in Northern Ireland to youth organisations in Wales to Councils in London and Galleries in Lincolnshire.

No event is too small or too big. Some events are for invited guests in a Council Chamber, others are large public events in shopping centres. Others are small class based assemblies and lessons or whole school activities in schools and colleges. You can use HMD 2010 as a key date in your equalities calendar and to join thousands of people in the UK to become part of **The Legacy of Hope.**

HMDT works with a huge **network of organisers**. We provide free advice and resources to Libraries, Councils, Prisons, Primary Schools, LGBT Groups, Secondary Schools, Ladies' Circle Branches, Race Equality Councils, Traveller Education Services, Cinemas, Student Unions, Refugee Groups, FE Colleges, Museums, Disability Groups, Places of Worship, Faith and Inter-Faith Groups, Community Centres, Police Forces, Choirs, Job Centres, Brownie, Cub, Guide and Scout Branches, Football Clubs and Home Educators. We welcome all commemorations and you can **contact the HMDT team** for advice and ideas for your event.



Classroom activities for HMD09 © Bacup and Rawtenstall Grammar School

Tips for your event

When planning your activities, decide who your event is for and keep this in mind throughout.

What suits an audience of civic guests may not be appropriate for primary students.

Use the HMD 2010 theme

The Legacy of Hope – this will give a focus for the event and ensures that you are part of the unified message throughout the UK.

Use HMD resources

– all of which are free of charge and available from our website www.hmd.org.uk – resources range from suggested readings to survivor stories, films, display materials and education resources.

Remember that HMD is an opportunity to reflect on genocides in Cambodia, Bosnia, Rwanda and the ongoing atrocities in Darfur as well as the Holocaust.

Be diverse

– HMD looks at the experiences of different groups targeted by the Nazis and your event should recognise this.

Groups targeted included Jews, Roma and Sinti (Gypsies), Gay men and Lesbians, Disabled children and adults, Black people, Jehovah's Witnesses and Trade Unionists.

Keep it relevant

– HMD is not just for teaching about the past – it's about learning from the past and working in the present. Look at contemporary issues of exclusion and discrimination and explore how to challenge these in your community.

Book early

– If you would like a Holocaust or other genocide survivor to speak at your event, you should secure them as soon as possible. Contact the HMDT office for advice on who can help organise this for you.

What is an HMD event?

As we've said, there is no formula that makes a successful HMD event, as you need to react to the needs and interests of your community. We can, however, learn from previous HMD activities. Here are some examples of **engaging and inspiring events**:

A series of awareness-raising events - in the period leading up to HMD hold awareness raising events such as a series of film showings which explore different experiences of the Holocaust, persecution and genocide.

Whole school events – Teachers take their entire school off-timetable for one day, to participate in lessons and activities which explore HMD. HMD is not just for the History classroom – some of the most effective methods of learning have been through Food Technology, Citizenship, Art, Drama, Religious Studies or Science lessons.



Ben Helfgott a
Holocaust survivor
© Ben Helfgott

Community commemorations – civic events which bring together different community and student groups which remember the victims of the Holocaust and subsequent genocides and pledge to create strong, cohesive communities.

Celebration of survival – events could include a day long festival which invites refugees (past and present), asylum seekers and members of the wider community to come together to learn more about each other.

Survivor testimony – hear first-hand the stories of those targeted by the Nazis and find out their hopes for the future.

Panel discussions – invite people affected by hatred and exclusion to discuss their experiences and challenge the audience to create a safer, better future.

Music performances – using music banned by the Nazis such as works by Jewish composers including Mahler and Mendelssohn; music written in response to the Holocaust or music by composers murdered or affected by the Holocaust or subsequent genocides.

Literature evenings – book groups can use suggested activities on the HMD website to discuss books related to the themes of Holocaust Memorial Day or read poetry by survivors of the Holocaust or subsequent genocides.

Other commemorations held have included:

Wreath-laying - Religious services - Drama performances - Art exhibitions - Poster displays - Candle lightings - Anti-discrimination walks - Quiet reflection - Themed football matches - Storytelling sessions - Podcast creation - Peer training sessions - Art and writing competitions.

There is no right or wrong way to commemorate HMD.

Talk to the HMDT Team for feedback and advice on your plans for commemorating the Day.



Beata Uwazaninka a survivor of the Rwandan genocide
© Aegis Trust

Practical Advice

Here are some pointers to keep in mind when planning your event.

You should book survivor speakers as early as possible to avoid disappointment. If there is not a survivor available for your event – why not **consider using one of our podcasts** or asking a student or community member to read one of the survivor testimonies from www.hmd.org.uk ?

Use the **free resources from HMDT** – these include films, education materials, display materials and more.

Allow **a time for reflection** during your event. You could use this time for a piece of music, or to light a candle.

HMD takes place on 27th January – bear in mind **the weather** when planning your event, and ensure you have adequate shelter for your audience and participants. If attendees need to wrap up warmly – tell them.

Brief your participants. Ensure they know the aims and key messages of your event.

Never use images or footage that are intended to shock or could offend your audience. Please visit the HMD website for more information www.hmd.org.uk

HMD aims to **inspire contemporary action**. How will you be ensuring your attendees become part of The Legacy of Hope? Will they be committing to lighting the virtual candle on the HMD site? (this will be on the HMD site in January 2010) Will they pledge to tell their family and friends about what they have heard or seen at your event?

Give your audience something by which they can remember the event – HMDT produce **free handout material** that you can give to attendees. Order this by contacting the HMDT team.

Publicise your event. Use the template press pack on www.hmd.org.uk to send to your local, regional, workplace or parish paper. Ensure journalists know when your event is taking place to encourage more people to attend.

Tell HMDT what you are planning through our events listings on www.hmd.org.uk – we can tell journalists, media partners and interested individuals about your events. Even if yours is a closed event, **let us know** how you will be marking HMD 2010.



HMD 2010 is a very important year. It marks the 65th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau. On 27th January 2010 we will work together to commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day.

On this day we will create a legacy of hope – this **begins with you.**

We are here to help, support and advise you on creating successful events to mark HMD 2010. Any of our team can assist you with your enquiries.

Thank you for your time, your interest and your commitment to HMD.

HMDT Team

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