



What is Holocaust Memorial Day?

The theme for 2021 is

BE THE LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

Holocaust Memorial Day 2021

**‘Don’t be content in your life just to do no wrong,
be prepared every day to try and do some good.’**

-Sir Nicholas Winton, who rescued 669 children from Nazi-occupied Europe



HOLOCAUST
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Holocaust Memorial Day is marked each year on the **27th of January**, the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau.

The theme for 2021 is BE THE LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

Holocaust Memorial Day is the day for everyone to remember the millions of people murdered in the Holocaust, under Nazi Persecution, and in the genocides which followed in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia, and Darfur.



27 January 1945
– Auschwitz-Birkenau was liberated.

What is the Holocaust?



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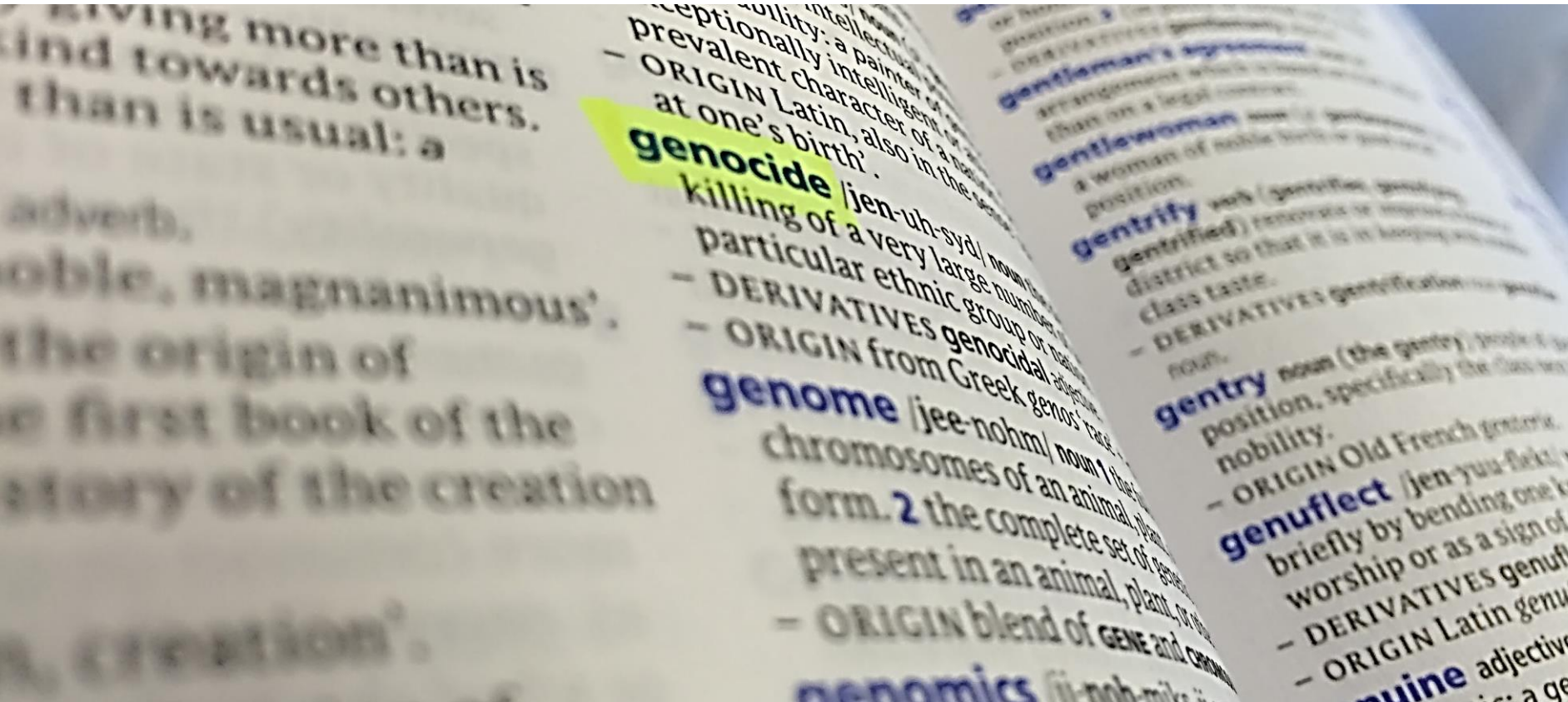
The Holocaust



The Holocaust was the attempt by the Nazis and their collaborators to murder all the Jews in Europe. Six million Jewish men, women and children were killed in ghettos, mass-shootings, concentration camps and extermination camps.

Many others were persecuted as well during this time.

What is genocide?



genocide /jen-uh-syd/ noun
killing of a very large number of people belonging to a particular ethnic group or race.

- DERIVATIVES genocidal adjective
- ORIGIN from Greek genos 'race'

genome /jee-nohm/ noun
chromosomes of an animal, plant, or microorganism.

- ORIGIN blend of GENE and CHROMOSOME

Genocide is when a group of people is targeted for destruction just because of who they are, such as their race or their religion.

Holocaust Memorial Day Trust

<https://www.hmd.org.uk/resource/what-is-holocaust-memorial-day/>

What does the world do on Holocaust Memorial Day?

Genocides around the world



Cambodia, 1975 - 1979



Rwanda, 1994



Bosnia, 1995



Darfur, 2003 - present

Susan Pollack



*'How do you get over such an experience?
Is it possible to walk away and learn to live with
all of this?
How do you find the strength?
Life is precious – you can go in one of two ways
– up or down.
I chose to walk away and rebuild my life.
There was no revenge, and no justice.'*

Susan grew up in Hungary, and experienced antisemitism from a young age. In 1944 Susan was sent to Auschwitz-Birkenau, where she was separated from her family. After the war, she found out that more than 50 of her relatives had been killed and that only her brother had survived.

**Why would the theme for this year be
BE THE LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS?**

**Think about what is happening in the world
today...**

BE THE LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

Be the light in the darkness is an affirmation and a call to action for everyone marking HMD. This theme asks us to consider different kinds of 'darkness', for example, identity-based persecution, misinformation, denial of justice; and different ways of 'being the light', for example, resistance, acts of solidarity, rescue and illuminating mistruths.

Wednesday January 27th, join the nation by lighting a candle and place it safely in your window.

To remember those who were murdered for who they were

To stand against prejudice and hatred today

Why we are lighting the darkness on Holocaust Memorial Day?



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MRtXkEsW73s>

**How has CHA commemorated the
Holocaust?**

Holocaust Survivor Rudi Oppenheimer Visits CHA

On **November 3rd 2017**, students from Year 10 (our current Year 12s) heard a testimony from Holocaust survivor, Rudi Oppenheimer.

Students were able to ask Rudi questions regarding his experience and engage in a variety of workshops run by an Holocaust Educational Trust Instructor such as British Responses to the Holocaust and Pre-war Jewish Life.



Holocaust Survivors Bob and Ann Kirk Visit CHA November 9th 2018

Bob and Ann Kirk were *Kindertransport* children speaking to Year 10 students on the 80th Anniversary of Kristallnacht, the Night of Broken Glass





Holocaust Survivor Michael Brown Visits CHA November 8th 2019

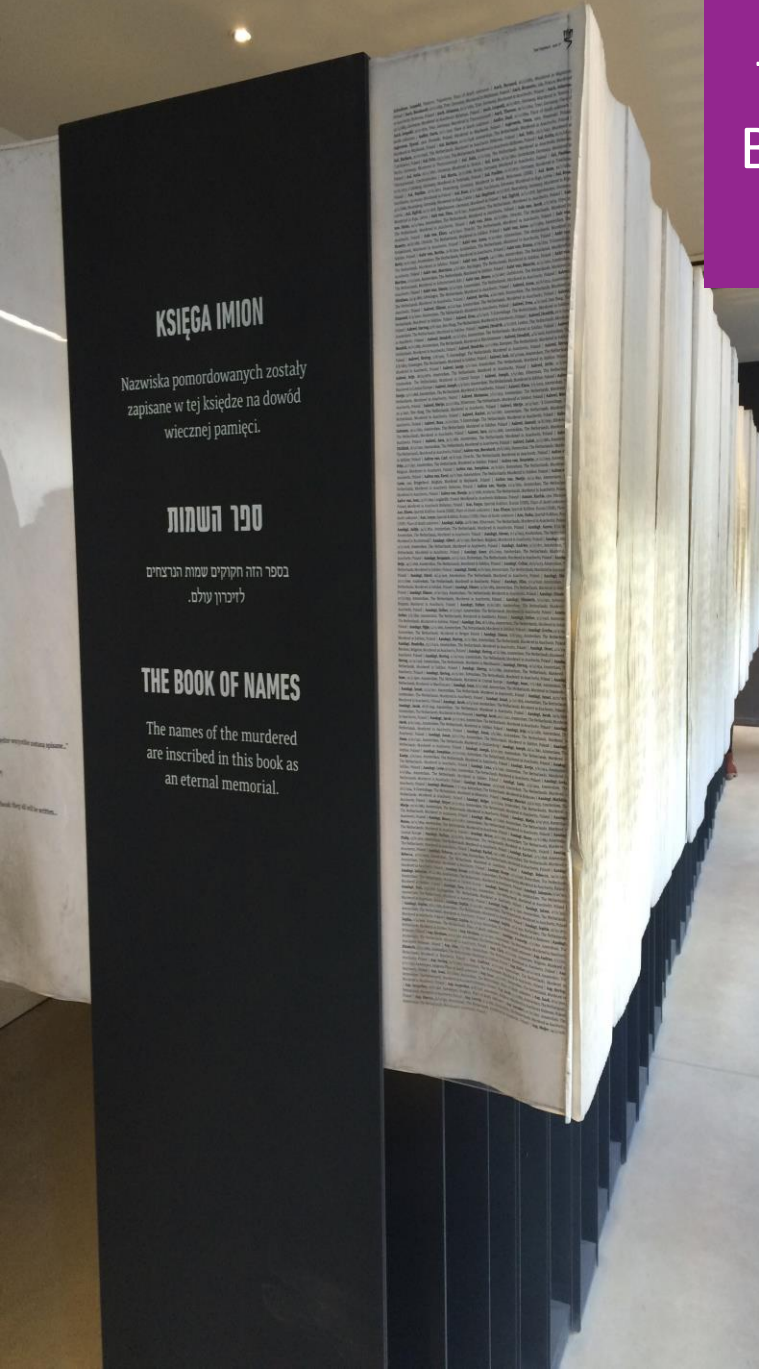
Michael was a *Kindertransport* survivor who recounted the effects of WW2 on his life.

During Opportunity Day in November, our current Year 11 students heard Michael Brown's testimony.

After hearing his testimony, students asked Michael personal questions relating to his religious and spiritual beliefs.



On March 7th 2017, two 6th formers from CHA were able to visit Auschwitz Birkenau and commemorate those that have suffered



What can we do to be the light in the darkness? What can we do to remember?

Poster Display

Candle lighting

Assembly

Performance

Book Club

Film screening

Learn someone's story

Read a poem

Survivor speaker

Choir concert

Lesson

Art workshop

A minute's silence

Prayers

Jesus' cross is God's answer to evil

“The Son of God came to destroy the works of the devil.”

1 John 3:8

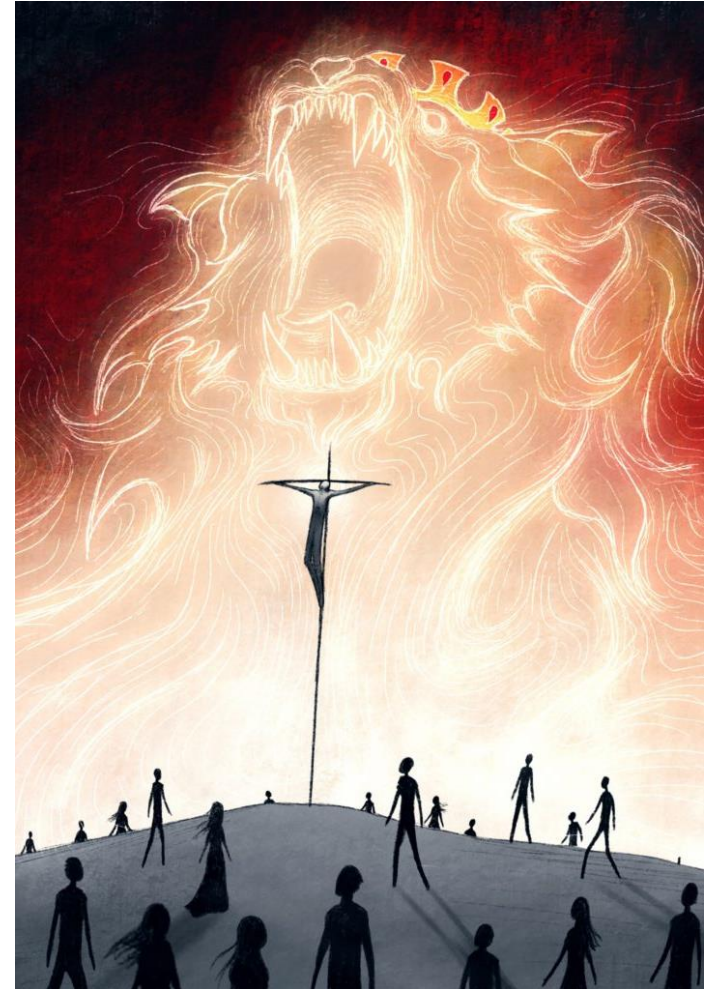
“The wisdom we speak of is the mystery of God—his plan that was previously hidden, even though he made it for our ultimate glory before the world began. But the rulers of this world have not understood it; if they had, they would not have crucified our glorious Lord.”

1 Corinthians 1:7-8

“Christ Jesus... has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.” *2 Timothy 1:10*

Q: Looking through human history, have we ever been able to finally prevent these terrible things happening – through education / social policy / political power?

Q: If Jesus can get us through death, how does that change our hope for the future?



Holocaust Memorial Day 2021



On this Holocaust Memorial Day, while we think about all those who were murdered simply because of who they were, let us all also consider how we can support people in our society today, and use the power of our words for good.

Prayer and Reflection

Help us to uphold the **values** that are so central to whom we are: **human beings in the image of God.**

Help us to recognize that the **dignity** of all members of the human family is the foundation of **freedom, justice** and **peace** in the world.

May we find the strength **to protect and plead the cause** of the **stranger** among us, to **ensure just treatment for all who dwell in our land.**

Guide us toward one law. One justice. **One human standard of behaviour toward all.**

Forgive us for the inhumane manner in which we too often treat others. We should know that some of us may be guilty, **but all of us are responsible.**

Remind us of our duty to create a **just society** right here, right now.

Amen

6th Form Corner: Dilemmas, Choices and Responses

Read the following examples of **dilemmas and choices** people faced using the link below:

https://www.het.org.uk/images/downloads/Exploring%20the%20Holocaust/RE4_Dilemmas_choices_responses/Dilemmas,%20Choices%20&%20Responses%20cards.pdf

Discuss whether or not the individual is a **bystander, perpetrator or resister**.

If possible, comment on the actions in relation to the *context* in which the individual found themselves.

Do we face any particular difficulties when we try to categorise people from the Holocaust, compared to people from other historical episodes?

Why is it sometimes difficult to separate ‘bystanders’ from ‘perpetrators’?

Were some people more responsible than others?

What factors might explain why people acted as they did?