



Holocaust Memorial Day

27th January

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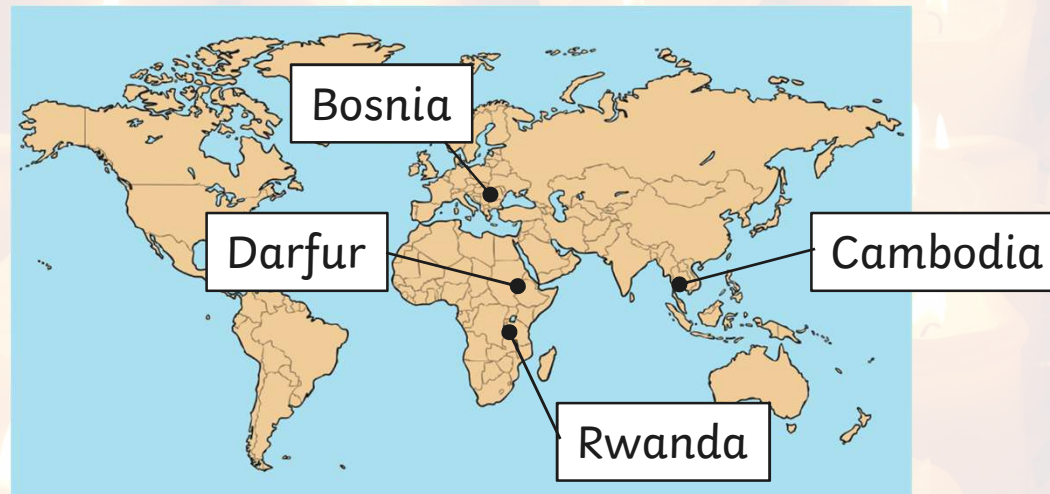
27th January

Aim: To understand why Holocaust Day is remembered.



What Is the Holocaust Memorial Day?

- Each year on or around 27th January, we learn about events that have happened in the past, when people were treated badly. This is so that we can learn from them and make sure they don't happen again.
- Holocaust Memorial Day is the day that the British Government has chosen to remember the Holocaust, Nazi persecution and terrible crimes committed during conflicts in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur.



What Was the Holocaust?

- The Nazis, the people in charge of Germany from 1933-1945, did not like Jewish people.
- They encouraged ordinary citizens to make life difficult for Jewish people.
- People were allowed to abuse them, physically and emotionally. Many Jewish people and families decided to move to Amsterdam in the Netherlands to set up a new **home**.
- The Nazis said that all Jews had to wear a yellow star of David on their outer clothing so people could see exactly who was Jewish.
- The Holocaust was a movement that started with discriminating against Jewish people. It ended with millions of people being killed because of who they were.



What Did the Nazis Do?

Nazis said that Jewish people could not:

- sit on the benches in parks;
- go to the swimming pool;
- own a bike or a radio;
- go to restaurants or German shops;
- own a passport or vote in the elections;
- attend school or university;
- go to the cinema, theatre, concerts, exhibitions, beaches and holiday resorts;
- ...and many other everyday rights which other German people had.



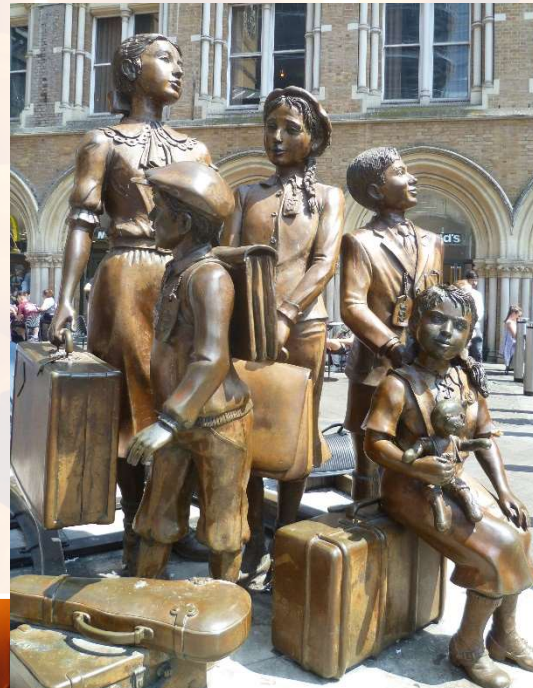
How would you feel if you weren't allowed to have a bike, a television or a tablet, just because of your religion?

Jewish Children

- Many Jewish parents decided to send their children to England as they thought it would be safer for them.
- A special organisation, called Kindertransport, helped children to leave Germany and travel to England to make a new **home** with a new family.
- The children would not have been given long to pack their suitcases.

Imagine you were told you were going on a journey but you didn't know where you were going or how long you were going for.

What would you pack?



Kindertransport

- Many Jewish children had to say goodbye to their parents, as the special organisation was for children only.
- They boarded trains with their suitcases and eventually arrived in England.
- They travelled across Europe and the journey lasted for two days.
- Many children's parents were killed in the Holocaust and they were often taken to start a new life in England without their friends or family. Many never returned to their old **homes**.

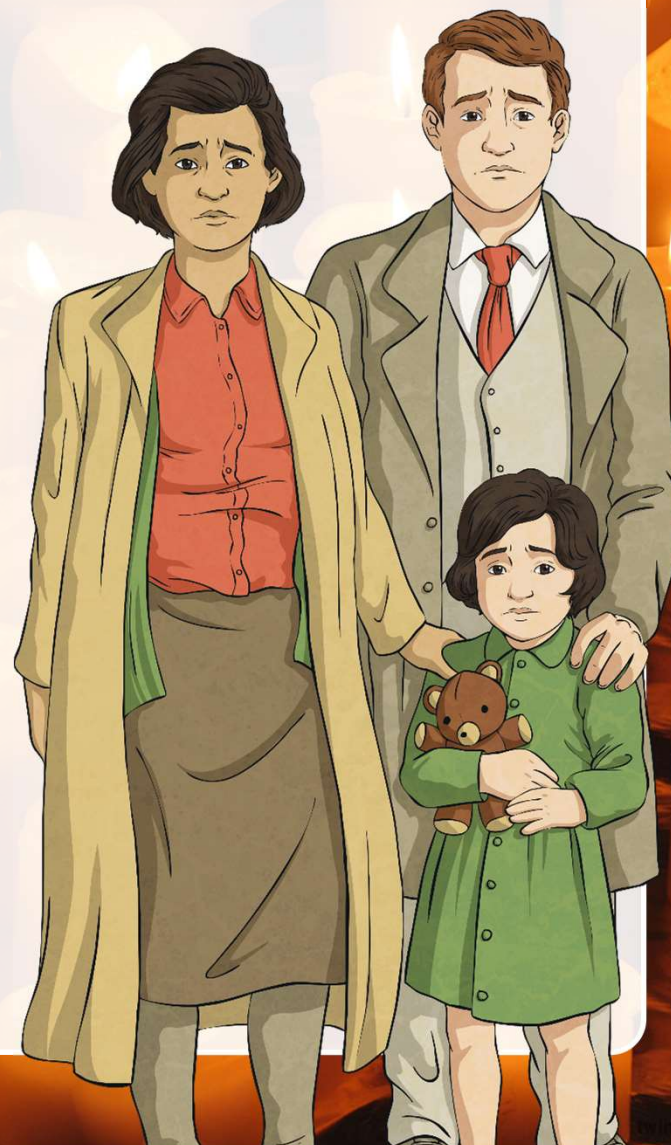


Remember Them

It is believed that more than 11 million people died in the Holocaust, six million of which were Jews; that is more than the entire population of Scotland! There were also other groups of people whom the Nazis did not like.

There have been many other instances of genocide around the world. Bosnia, Rwanda, Sudan and many other countries have lost thousands of lives to hate and prejudice.

Holocaust Memorial Day asks for remembrance of all the lives lost to these atrocities and to also reflect on how to prevent it from happening again.



2021 Theme

Each year, Holocaust Memorial Day has a different theme. This year's theme is **Be the Light in the Darkness.**

What do you think this means?



'Be the Light in the Darkness'

What do you think is meant by 'the darkness'?

In this instance, the darkness refers not only to the prejudice and hate that some people chose, and choose, to feel towards others...



but also to the emotional pain felt by those affected.



'Be the Light in the Darkness'

How do you think people can be 'the light'?



By resisting the choice to hate, even when under pressure to hate others.



By helping those that need it.



By lighting the way with kindness and giving hope to those suffering from persecution.



By speaking out and 'shining a light' on instances where people are persecuted.

A Moment of Reflection

Discrimination still happens today.

Although Holocaust Memorial Day asks us to remember and learn from the past, we need to keep the lessons alive and be the light every day.

Let us now remember those who have not survived genocide and those whose lives were forever changed as a result.





Be the Light

One solitary light can be dimmed and easily extinguished but if everyone takes responsibility to be the light, it will shine brighter and stronger and reach farther than before.

