

# Holocaust Memorial Day 2018

THE POWER OF WORDS  
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## The Power of Words

A programme of events in Leeds to commemorate the Holocaust, Nazi persecution and the subsequent genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur.



HOLOCAUST  
MEMORIAL  
DAY 27/1



Leeds  
CITY COUNCIL

# HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY 2018

# JOIN THE LORD MAYOR FOR AN AFTERNOON OF COMMEMORATION

On Holocaust Memorial Day we commemorate the millions who were murdered in the Holocaust, by Nazi persecution and in subsequent genocides, in order to challenge hatred and persecution in the UK today. The theme for this year's event is *The Power of Words*.

## CIVIC REMEMBRANCE EVENT SUNDAY 28 JANUARY, 2PM

*LEEDS TOWN HALL, THE HEADROW, LS1 3AD*

### THE HOLOCAUST

From the time they assumed power in Germany in 1933, the Nazis used propaganda, persecution and legislation to deny human and civil rights to Jews. Between 1941 and 1945, the Nazis attempted to systematically murder all of Europe's Jews, and by the end of the Holocaust (The Shoah in Hebrew), six million Jewish men, women and children had been killed in ghettos, mass-shootings, concentration camps and extermination camps.

### NAZI PERSECUTION

Nazi racial theories fuelled their persecution of Roma, Sinti, Slavic and black people. Disabled people, lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans people and political opponents were also targeted. Hundreds of thousands of lives were destroyed or changed beyond recognition because of Nazi Persecution.

### CAMBODIA

When the radical communist Khmer Rouge seized power in 1975 they ruthlessly imposed an extremist programme to reconstruct Cambodia. The inhabitants of towns and cities were forced to leave and work as labourers in collective farms. Ethnic minority groups were targeted, religion was outlawed and thousands of the Muslim and Christian population were killed. All political and civil rights were abolished; factories, schools, hospitals and universities were shut down; and professional people including lawyers, doctors, scientists and their families were murdered.

### RWANDA

On 6 April 1994 the plane carrying Rwanda's President was shot down, and extremist Hutu leaders accused the Tutsis of killing the President. Hutu civilians were told by radio and word of mouth that it was their duty to wipe out the Tutsis, and men, women and children were killed in their thousands in schools and churches. Approximately one million Tutsis and Hutus were murdered in the genocide in just 100 days.

### BOSNIA

Following the disintegration of Yugoslavia, Bosnia declared independence in 1992; this was resisted by the Bosnian Serb population who saw their future as part of 'Greater Serbia'. During the ongoing civil war, Bosnian Serb troops descended on the town of Srebrenica in 1995 and began shelling it, despite it being declared a safe zone by the United Nations. Women and children were forcibly removed in trucks and buses, and around 8,000 Muslim men and boys were killed.

### DARFUR

In 2003, a civil war began in Darfur, a region in the west of Sudan, between the sedentary population of farmers and the nomadic population, who have been supported by the Sudanese Government. The Sudanese Government has supported Arab militia who have destroyed hundreds of villages and murdered thousands of people. This civil war has led to the deaths of between 200,000 and 400,000 civilians, with up to 2.5 million people still displaced.

The Lord Mayor will open this year's civic remembrance event, which will include a keynote speech by the Cambodian Ambassador, Her Excellency Dr. Rathchavy SOEUNG, and music performed by members of the Clothworkers Consort of Leeds. There will be a reading of the seven statements of commitments with candle lighting, by representatives of different groups persecuted including Holocaust survivors, people with additional needs, the LGB T\* community, and Remembering Srebrenica. The event will close with a traditional Hebrew memorial prayer sung by the President of Bradford Synagogue, Rudi Leavor, BEM.

### SHOES ON THE DANUBE NORTHERN SCHOOL OF CONTEMPORARY DANCE YOUTH DANCE COMPANY

Choreographed by: Tom Bowes and Dancers  
Film by: Wayne Sables

The piece is based on the sculpture Shoes on the Danube Bank. Situated on the banks of the Danube, the sculpture is a moving tribute to the innocent people who lost their lives on the banks of the Danube during WW2. The piece, featuring live dance performance and film, will tell the story of the human sacrifice endured by residents during the Nazi occupation.

The NSCD Youth Dance Company is the youth performance company of Northern School of Contemporary Dance. This open-level group are aged 12-17 years old. Led by Tom Bowes, the group meet weekly to participate in creative workshops and choreograph dance works.

### CAMBODIAN AMBASSADOR HER EXCELLENCY DR. RATHCHAVY SOEUNG

Her Excellency Dr. Rathchavy SOEUNG is Ambassador of the Kingdom of Cambodia to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and Ambassador-designated to the Kingdom of Denmark, Republic of Finland, the Kingdom of Norway, Kingdom of Sweden, the Republic of Ireland, the Republic of Ethiopia, and the Permanent Representative to the African Union.

Dr. Rathchavy SOEUNG is a career diplomat. She joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Cambodia in 1998 and has held many roles including; Secretary of State and Senior Official of Cambodia to ASEAN (ASEAN SOM Leader), Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, from 2010 to April 2017.

Dr. Rathchavy SOEUNG will be exploring how this year's theme 'The Power of Words' is being used in Cambodia to address the legacy of the Cambodian genocide.



# HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY 2018



**FILM SCREENING: DENIAL**  
*MONDAY 29 JANUARY, 7.30PM*

**SEVEN ARTS,  
31A HARROGATE RD  
LEEDS LS7 3PD**

Dir. Mick Jackson, 2016  
110 mins, 12a

Leeds City Council would like to thank the Holocaust Memorial Day steering group, the Holocaust Survivor's Friendship Association and all the people who participated in the events for their contribution.

Arts Development  
[www.leeds.gov.uk/arts](http://www.leeds.gov.uk/arts)  
0113 378 6989

When university professor Deborah E. Lipstadt includes World War II historian David Irving in a book about Holocaust deniers, Irving accuses her of libel and sparks a legal battle for historical truth.

With the burden of proof placed on the accused, Lipstadt and her legal team fight to prove the essential truth that the Holocaust occurred. Based on the book "History on Trial: My Day in Court with a Holocaust Denier".

**The film screening will be on a pay what you can basis.**

Tickets can be booked at Seven Arts Café, or by contacting the Arts Development by phone or email

T: 0113 378 6989  
E: [arts@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:arts@leeds.gov.uk)