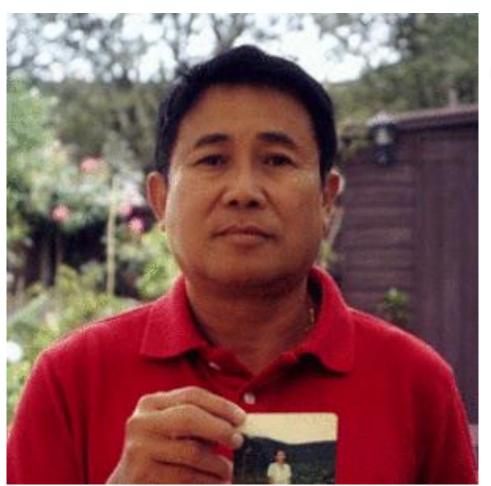


Renee Bornstein





Renee Bornstein survived the Holocaust by hiding in barns, farms and convents. Marianne Cohn, a resistance worker, was murdered by the Gestapo for trying to help Renee and other children escape.



Sokphal Din





Forced out of his home by the Khmer Rouge on 17 April 1975, Sokphal Din endured hard labour in the Killing Fields and eventually survived the Genocide in Cambodia by escaping to Thai refugee camps where he lived for seven years.

Marie Chantal







During the Genocide in Rwanda, Chantal witnessed the worst of human nature as people turned against each other. She also saw the best of humanity in the neighbours who hid her and helped her survive, despite the risk to themselves and their families.



Sabit Jakupović



Sabit came to the UK from Bosnia in 1992 as part of a group of 68 people who were selected by the International Red Cross, as they needed immediate hospital care. He had been imprisoned for 120 days in two different Bosnian concentration camps, one of which was the notorious Omarska camp.

Torn from home

'Home' usually means a place of safety, comfort and security, but what happens when individuals, families and communities are driven out of, or wrenched from their homes, because of persecution or the threat of genocide? Alongside this issue are the difficulties the survivors face as they try to create new homes.

Everybody needs a 'home' and this word often relates to the experiences before, during and after persecution. For some people, leaving their home was a way of escaping death. Some of the persecuted found less than ideal places to become their 'home', whilst others had to make

the place they were confined in a 'home'. Often when the persecution is finally over, some survivors wish to return to what they once called 'home', only to find something unrecognisable in its place.

What makes a home?

The word 'home' is familiar to us all. It relates to a place, space, people & possessions that we find there. Memories of home can include familiar sights, smells and voices of family and friends. We all think of these things but everyone is thinking of something different to the next person.

Those families who fled Germany during the first years of Nazi rule left behind all that was familiar to them and had to try to make a new home in a different country (Europe, USA, Canada, China) with another culture,

language and society. Those that remained were later forced from their home into gettos in cities across Europe. Families had to live in overcrowded, cramped and dirty living conditions. In order to try and keep some semblance of home, they continued to celebrate Jewish festivals and observe the sabbath.

Some survivors were only able to stay alive by hiding under floorboards, in attics or in forests. People often moved from place to place trying to avoid capture and death. Some were rescued by families but the latter did so at a huge risk.

Afterwards, surviors found themselves displaced, sometimes a long way from their original home. Others were able to return easily to their communities but were faced with continuing prejudice. There were many challenges to rebuilding their lives after

persecution. Some homes had been looted in their absence, or sold, or even destroyed. Family members had often been killed, so for many, they had to face many traumas when trying to re-make their homes.

Sadly, this isn't just a thing of the past. The ongoing Genocide in Darfur highlights that acts of persecution, violence and genocide which continue to force millions of people from their homes today.



This year Holocaust Memorial Day will be commemorated on Sunday 27 January.

We remember the six million Jews murdered in the Holocaust, as well as those who were persecuted under the **Nazi regime** for their religious or political beliefs, their ethnic background or sexual orientation. We also remember the genocides which occurred later in the twentieth century in **Cambodia**, **Rwanda**, **Bosnia**, and **Darfur**.