

Jewish American Heritage Month



Never Ever Again

There are historic atrocities in this world that should never happen, be repeated, be dismissed, forgotten, or minimized ever again. The Holocaust, a systematic, government-sanctioned, -financed, -corroborated, and -supported persecution of 6 million Jewish people, is one of those atrocities.

From 1933-1945 in Germany and under the direction of Adolf Hitler, the daily torture, persecution, and murder of persons who practiced the religious faith called Judaism was normalized and executed by Nazis and their conspirators.

Can you hear the voices of Jewish ancestors and Holocaust survivors saying, “gas chambers no more, persecution no more, fear no more, mass shootings no more, deadly living conditions no more, no more, no more, no more”? To ensure that never again any people of any faith, racial, ancestral, economic, immigrant status, or belief be subject to the horrors of what happened to Jewish people, we must all recognize, remember, and reckon with the past, which has present-day impacts.

Yom HaShoah (Hebrew) translated into English means Holocaust Remembrance Day. The first Holocaust Remembrance Day took place on Dec. 28, 1950. In subsequent years, celebrations around the world have taken place on April 8, April 12, April 19, or May 3, all dates marking important times in Jewish tradition. Today, in the United States we observe several important Holocaust Remembrance events, most based on the Hebrew calendar of sacred times and holy events:

International Holocaust Remembrance Day: January 27, established by the United Nations to pause and hold space for testimonies, conversations, and speakers to lift and remember.

Yom HaShoah: 27th day of Nisan in the Hebrew calendar, and the anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising.

Jewish American Heritage Month: Celebrated every May and recognizes the contributions and achievements of Jewish Americans in the United States.

Last weekend, many in the Sacramento Jewish community commemorated Yom HaShoah. As a healing campus, Sacramento State is committed to being antiracist, inclusive, and anti-oppression in any form. We must use all of our platforms, powers, and positions of influence to stand with and for our Jewish community to say in unison, “never again.”

In partnership,

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Vice President for Inclusive Excellence and University Diversity Officer

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