



ARMENIANS

Dates: 1915-1923
Deaths: 1.5 million Armenians

"Of my family, only my sister and I were still alive. The Turkish soldiers forced us, along with 900 other starving children, into the deepest part of the desert to perish in the scorching sun. Most did." - Mannig Dobajian Kouyoumjian, a survivor of the Armenian genocide

On August 18, 1915, The New York Times reported: "The roads and the Euphrates are strewn with corpses of exiles, and those who survive are doomed to certain death. It is a plan to exterminate the whole Armenian people." Between 1915 and 1923, the Ottoman government, led by the Turks, systematically targeted and killed Armenians in the Ottoman Empire. Ultimately, 1.5 million Armenians—half

There may be times when we are powerless to prevent injustice, but there must never be a time when we fail to protest. —Elie Wiesel

of the Armenian population—were murdered. Widely accepted as a genocide, Turkey continues to deny it.

HOLOCAUST

Dates: 1933-1945
Deaths: 6 million Jews, and millions of others: Roma/Sinti, homosexuals, Jehovah's Witnesses, handicapped, and Poles

"It's a wonder I haven't abandoned all my ideals, they seem so absurd and impractical. Yet I cling to them because I still believe, in spite of everything, that people are truly good at heart." - Anne Frank, July 15, 1944

In 1933, the Nazi party was elected in Germany and Adolf Hitler was appointed chancellor. Hitler and the Nazi party quickly put into practice their belief that Germans were "racially superior." Jewish people were not only defined as "inferior," but became the primary target for Nazi hatred. The Holocaust was the state-sponsored, systematic persecution and destruction of

European Jewish people by the Nazis and their collaborators. While Jews were the primary

target of Nazi persecution, the Nazis also persecuted groups that appeared to stand in the way of creating a strong Germany.

CAMBODIA

Dates: 1975-1979
Deaths: 1.7 million ethnic minorities, intellectuals, perceived political enemies, and religious people

"I see ... a pile of skulls and bones. These are my relatives, friends and neighbors, I keep thinking ... It is a long time before I am calm again. And then I am able, with my bare hands, to rearrange the skulls and bones so that they are not scattered about." - Dith Pran, writing about his return to Cambodia for the New York Times in 1989

In April 1975, the Khmer Rouge, a Communist group led by Pol Pot, seized control of Cambodia, renaming the country Democratic Kampuchea. The Khmer Rouge wanted to rid Cambodia of Western influence and to create a rural society where everyone worked for the common good. Under Pol Pot's leadership, the Khmer Rouge quickly put into place radical policies to create a communist model. Anyone who appeared to challenge the new regime was killed. The Khmer Rouge persecuted the educated — such as doctors, lawyers, and current or former military and police. Christian, Buddhist and Muslim citizens also were specifically targeted since religion was banned.

BOSNIA

Dates: 1992-1995
Deaths: 200,000 Bosnian Muslims

"It looks to me as though these politics mean Serbs, Croats and Muslims. But they are all people. They are all the same. They all look like people, there's no difference. They all have arms, legs and heads, they walk and talk, but now there's 'something' that wants to make them different." - Zlata Filipovic, Zlata's Diary: A Child's Life in Wartime Sarajevo

In 1989 Slobodan Milosevic controlled Yugoslavia. Milosevic was a Serbian who used long-standing tensions between groups to gain power. In 1992, Bosnia, a predominantly Muslim nation, declared itself an independent state. Milosevic responded by invading Bosnia's capital city of Sarajevo. Throughout the country, Serb soldiers rounded up and killed non-Serbs and destroyed Muslim and Croat religious sites. In July 1995 Milosevic's army massacred 8,000 men and boys in Srebrenica. The event was declared a genocide by the International Court of Justice in 2007.

RWANDA

Dates: April 1994-July 1994
Deaths: 800,000 Tutsi and Hutu sympathizers

"Then they started killing, hacking with their machetes. They kept doing it, and I was hiding under dead people. They didn't kill me. Because of the blood covering me, they thought they had killed me. [...] I hid in a small room. That's where I stayed and slept for 43 days." - Valentina Iribagiza, Survivor of the massacre at a church in Nyarubuye

Throughout 100 days in 1994, an estimated 800,000 Tutsis, and Hutus who sympathized with Tutsis, were killed in Rwanda during the fastest genocide in modern history. On April 6, an airplane carrying the presidents of Rwanda and Burundi, both Hutus, was shot down as it began to land in the Rwandan capital of Kigali. The assassination served to quickly mobilize Hutu extremists; within hours, Hutu militias called on every Hutu citizen to eliminate the entire Tutsi population.

DARFUR/SUDAN

Dates: 2003-Present
Deaths: 400,000 Ethnic African Tribes, non-Arabs

"Today we know what is right, and today we know what is wrong. The slaughter of innocents is wrong. Two million people driven from their homes is wrong. Women gang raped while gathering firewood is wrong. And silence, acquiescence and paralysis in the face of genocide is wrong." - July 2006, Senator Barack Obama

Since Sudan's independence from the British in 1956, the country has been consumed by violence between the Arab/Muslim government in Khartoum and the largely Christian regions in the South. In the Darfur region, Janjaweed militias, backed by the government of Sudan, systematically targeted the people of Darfur, burning their villages, raping women, killing the men, and kidnapping children. In September 2004, Secretary of State Colin Powell declared "genocide has been committed in Darfur." Although the United Nations and other governments recognized the violence and atrocities, they did not declare them genocide. In July 2011, South Sudan became an independent country.

Photos Top (Left to Right): 1. Armenians being deported. Armenian National Institute. 2. Prisoners. From the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum, formerly Pol Pot's secret prison, codenamed "S-21." Agron Dragaj Photography. 3. Cracked skull of a child, 5-7 years old. Machetes were the most common weapon used in the Rwandan genocide. The photo was taken in a church in SE Rwanda where 5,000 Tutsis were murdered. The church is now a museum. Marcin Jamkowski.

Photos Bottom (Left to Right): 1. Classmates of Holocaust survivor Frieda Soury, in Czechoslovakia, 1943. Frieda was one of only a handful of students from her class to survive the Holocaust. Holocaust Center for Humanity. 2. A Bosnian woman at a makeshift camp for people displaced from Srebrenica, July 1995. Ron Haviv/VII. 3. Villages in Darfur burned by Janjaweed militias, 2004. Brian Steidl.

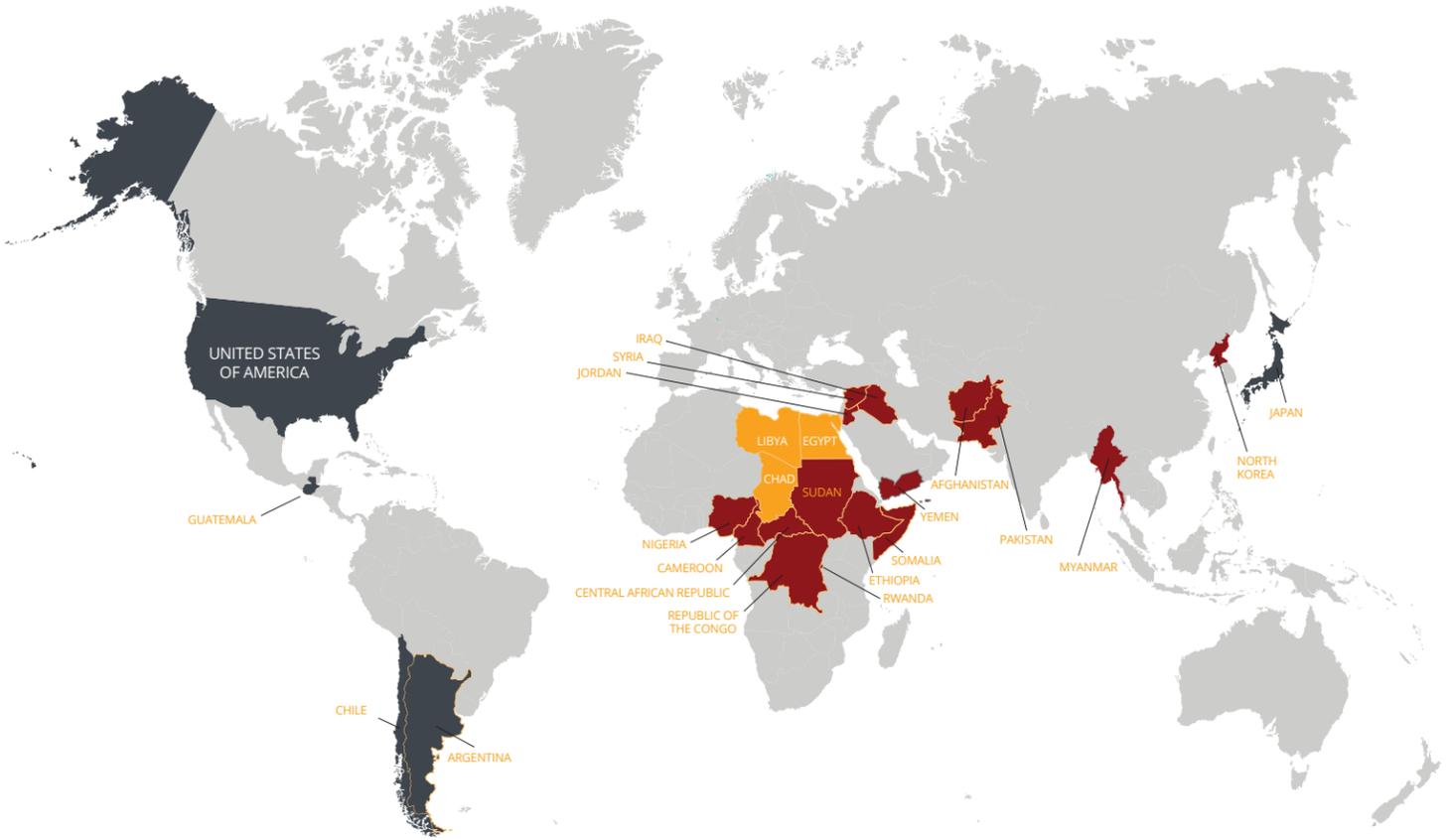
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GLOBAL GENOCIDE TODAY



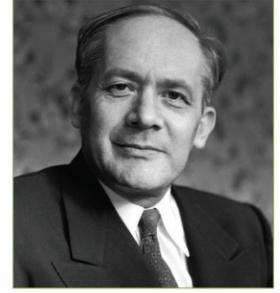
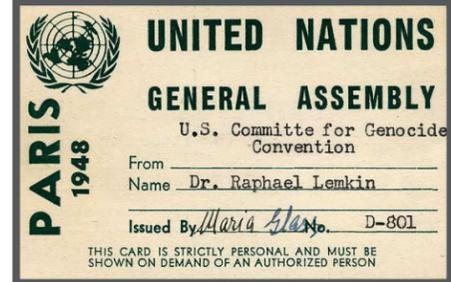
GENOCIDE

The Genocide Convention defines genocide as acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group.

Deeply affected by the persecution and mass murder of the Armenians, **RAPHAEL LEMKIN** gave the atrocity a name.

GENOCIDE

"This new word, coined by the author to denote an old practice in its modern development, is made from the ancient Greek word **GENOS** (race, tribe) and the Latin **CIDE** (killing)..." -Lemkin in his 1944 book, *Axis Rule in Occupied Europe*.



Born: June 24, 1900 in Poland
Died: August 28, 1959 in the United States

In 1944, Raphael Lemkin, a Polish-Jewish lawyer in the United States, introduced the word **genocide** to the English language.

When the German army invaded Poland in 1939, Lemkin escaped and came to the United States. He later learned that 49 members of his own family were murdered in the Holocaust. Lemkin strongly believed in legal protection for groups and fought tirelessly throughout his life for this cause.

ARTICLE II

The Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Genocide (1948), often referred to as the Genocide Convention, defines genocide as: any of the following acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, such as,

- (a) Killing members of the group
- (b) Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group
- (c) Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part
- (d) Imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group
- (e) Forcibly transferring children of the group to another group

POLITICAL GROUPS

POLITICAL GROUPS are not included in the definition of genocide.

What is the **impact** of this omission?

What other groups are **not protected** by this definition?

What words/phrases might be **problematic** in this definition?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Classification	Symbolization	Discrimination	Dehumanization	Organization	Polarization	Preparation	Persecution	Extermination	Denial

GENOCIDE IS HAPPENING TODAY. YOUR ACTIONS MATTER.

What You Can Do

- 1** Hold your elected representatives accountable; tell them you care about what's going on in the world.
- 2** Choose one area in danger, learn more, and tell others what you learn.
- 3** Small actions count: treat others with respect; challenge stereotypes; stand up to injustice!
- 4** Get involved! Visit HolocaustCenterSeattle.org for a list of organizations working to stop genocide.

The Ten Stages of Genocide

By Dr. Gregory H. Stanton, *Genocide Watch*

Genocide is a process that develops in ten stages that are predictable but not inexorable. At each stage, preventive measures can stop it. The process is not linear. Stages may occur simultaneously. Logically, later stages must be preceded by earlier stages. But all stages continue to operate throughout the process.

Details at genocidewatch.net.



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