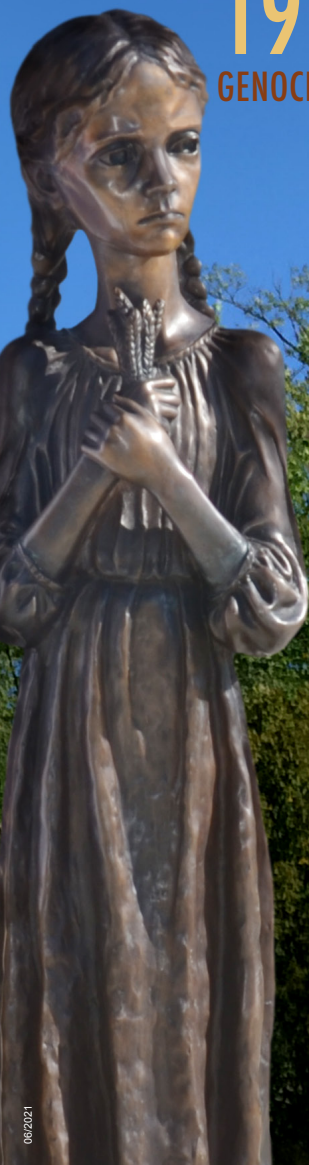


# HOLODOMOR 1932-1933

GENOCIDAL FAMINE IN UKRAINE



HOLODOMOR  
MEMORIAL DAY  
IN SCHOOLS  
NOVEMBER 26, 2021

*“A genocide begins with  
the killing of one man,  
not because of what  
he has done, but  
because of who he is.”*

KOFI ANNAN  
Secretary General  
of the UN, 2001

PRODUCED BY:

**Holodomor Research & Education Consortium**

at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, University of Alberta

National Holodomor Education Committee, Ukrainian Canadian Congress



NHEC



## HOLODOMOR MEMORIAL DAY

**NOVEMBER 26, 2021**IN SCHOOLS (4<sup>TH</sup> FRIDAY OF NOVEMBER)WORLDWIDE, HOLODOMOR MEMORIAL DAY IS  
NOVEMBER 27 (4<sup>TH</sup> SATURDAY OF NOVEMBER)

## BASIC FACTS

- Stalin issued a series of policies targeting the population of Ukraine which led to genocide by starvation in Ukraine.
- The Holodomor occurred in a time of peace, not as a result of war or natural disaster.
- Food was used as a weapon.
- Wheat and other grains were confiscated from farmers by the Communist government. Some of it was sold for export to fund Stalin's Five-Year Plan.
- 1/3 of all villages in Ukraine were blacklisted, blockaded and the people were left to starve to death.
- Millions of innocent people died.
- 28,000 people died per day at the height of the Holodomor in June of 1933.
- 31% of those who died were children under the age of 10.
- Additionally, the cultural, religious and political leadership of Ukraine was largely destroyed during the 1930s.
- The Holodomor was denied, covered up and ignored by the world for over five decades.
- The Government of Canada officially recognized the Holodomor as genocide in May 2008.



## MEMORIAL DAY ANNOUNCEMENT

*By Melania Schturyn, student & granddaughter of a Holodomor survivor*

Today is a day of remembrance for the millions of victims of the Ukrainian genocide, the Holodomor, in which the population of Ukraine was starved to death in 1932-1933. Ukraine was, at the time, an agricultural nation with some of the richest soil in the world in which 85% of its citizens were farmers. It was known as "the breadbasket of Europe" for its bountiful production of grain. This man-made famine resulted from policies implemented by Joseph Stalin, the leader of the Communist Party of the USSR and his regime. Through Stalin's Five Year Plan of industrialization and collectivization, unrealistic grain quotas were imposed on Ukraine's farming communities which led to much of the grain in Ukraine being confiscated to sell abroad, leaving the population to starve. In addition, communist activists travelled to every house searching every nook and cranny for hidden food. Using metal rods, they would prod the earth looking for hidden storage places. If they found any of the forbidden food, it was confiscated, the owner of the house was punished by execution or sent to the gulag, the rest of the family was often evicted from their home without their belongings. This resulted in mass starvation.

By June of 1933 the greatest number of deaths by starvation occurred. 28,000 people died each day, 31% of them were children under the age of 10.

*My grandfather, Stephen Horlatsch, who was himself a child at the time, spoke to me about the horrors he experienced every day: people dropping like flies all around him as he walked to school, communist activists beating women and children for not cooperating in handing over their last bits of food, and executions everywhere he looked. His own mother, my great-grandmother, was brutally beaten before his eyes – a memory which haunted him all his days. In the spring, he was sent out to gather edible plants or bark on trees for food so that his mother could throw together some concoction to eat to keep their family alive. This was true for many families. For the people lucky enough to survive the Holodomor, a lasting trauma remained with them the rest of their lives.*

That is why every fourth Friday and Saturday in November we take the time to remember the millions of souls that were brutally taken from us by forced starvation.

## HOLODOMOR FILMS

### ***Holodomor: Voices of Survivors***

A 30 minute DVD with firsthand accounts of 25 Canadian survivors who tell their stories as children during the Holodomor.  
Contact: [office@ucrdc.org](mailto:office@ucrdc.org)

### ***The Soviet Story***

The first 11 minutes are an excellent introduction to the Holodomor.

[https://youtu.be/zZTA8xc4\\_8w](https://youtu.be/zZTA8xc4_8w)

### ***Hunger For Truth: The Rhea Clyman Story***

The Canadian journalist and eyewitness of the Holodomor in Ukraine was amongst the first to write about it.

[www.holodomortour.ca/product/hunger-for-truth-the-rhea-clyman-story-dvd/](http://www.holodomortour.ca/product/hunger-for-truth-the-rhea-clyman-story-dvd/)

### ***Genocide Revealed***

This award-winning documentary features personal and historical archival information on the Holodomor. Educational versions are available on DVD in 26 & 52 minute segments.

Contact: [yurij@yluhovy.com](mailto:yurij@yluhovy.com)

### ***Harvest of Despair***

This award-winning documentary provides background information with media coverage from the 1930s.

Ukrainian Canadian Research and Documentation Centre  
416-966-1819, [office@ucrdc.org](mailto:office@ucrdc.org), [www.ucrdc.org/Films.html](http://www.ucrdc.org/Films.html)

### ***Stalin's Secret Genocide***

<https://youtu.be/JYG7fKe4JHA>

### ***Bitter Harvest***

A feature film presenting life in Ukraine before and during the Holodomor through the life of two young adults.

[www.bitterharvestfilm.com](http://www.bitterharvestfilm.com)

<http://georgemendeluk.com/projects/>

### ***Mr. Jones***

Welsh Journalist Gareth Jones risks his life to expose the truth about the devastating famine in the Soviet Union in the early 1930s. [www.samuelgoldwynfilms.com/mr-jones/](http://www.samuelgoldwynfilms.com/mr-jones/)



## HOLODOMOR WEBSITES

### ***Holodomor Research & Education Consortium (HREC)***

Teaching materials, lesson plans and other resources and educational materials. **HREC Education is an Accepted Educational Partner of the Toronto District School Board (TDSB)**  
[education.holodomor.ca](http://education.holodomor.ca)

### ***Ukrainian Canadian Research & Documentation Centre (UCRDC)***

*Share the Story:* Short excerpts of 80 Canadian survivors of the Holodomor.

[www.sharethestory.ca](http://www.sharethestory.ca) • [www.holodomorsurvivors.ca](http://www.holodomorsurvivors.ca)

### ***Edmonton Catholic School District***

Lesson plans and suggested activities for all grades.  
[www.ecsd.net/AboutUs/Overview/Holodomor](http://www.ecsd.net/AboutUs/Overview/Holodomor)

### ***Manitoba Education and Training***

Lesson plans and suggested activities for all grades.  
[www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/cur/multic/holodomor.html](http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/cur/multic/holodomor.html)

### ***Connecticut Holodomor Committee***

[www.holodomorct.org](http://www.holodomorct.org)

### ***"Exposing the Ukrainian Holodomor—How starvation was used as a political weapon"***

Unit 2, Chapter 5 – "FAST" lesson plans

[www.voicesintoaction.ca/Learn/Unit2/Chapter5/](http://www.voicesintoaction.ca/Learn/Unit2/Chapter5/)

### ***"How A Grain of Wheat Linked Two Worlds"***

Unit of study

[www.stf.sk.ca/unit-plan/how-grain-wheat-linked-two-worlds](http://www.stf.sk.ca/unit-plan/how-grain-wheat-linked-two-worlds)

## SPEAKERS & WORKSHOPS

To visit, view exhibits and hear survivor testimonies book speakers and workshops, contact:

### ***Holodomor Research & Education Consortium (HREC) at CIUS, University of Alberta***

Conducts teacher training sessions, workshops, class visits and presentations, with educational materials.

Website: [education.holodomor.ca](http://education.holodomor.ca)

Phone: **416 923 4732**

Email: [hreced@ualberta.ca](mailto:hreced@ualberta.ca)

### ***Ukrainian Canadian Research & Documentation Centre (UCRDC)***

Conducts class visits and presentations featuring testimonies of survivors and their children, shows documentary films and exhibits photos and posters.

Website: [www.ucrdc.org](http://www.ucrdc.org)

Phone: **416 966 1819**

Email: [office@ucrdc.org](mailto:office@ucrdc.org)

Both are located at:

**620 Spadina Avenue, 2nd Floor  
Toronto, ON M5S 2H4**

## HOLODOMOR PRINT MATERIAL

### ***The Photograph***

by Kat Karpenko, NJ: BookBaby, 2020

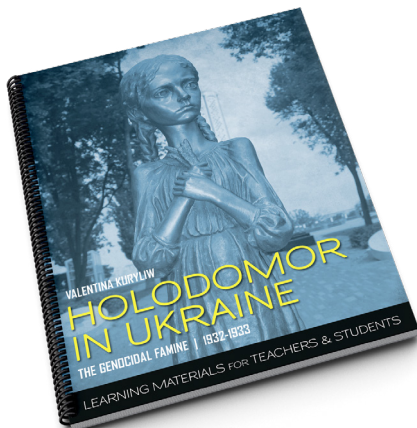
### ***Philipovna: Daughter of Sorrow***

by Valentina Gal, Toronto: Guernica Editions Inc. (Miroland), 2019

### ***Holodomor In Ukraine,***

#### ***The Genocidal Famine: 1932-1933***

by V. Kuryliw, Edmonton: CIUS Press, 2018  
Teaching materials, lesson plans and assignments with straightforward, sensible and basic information about the Famine. The book is accessible, instantly useable and packed with ideas and photocopyable resources.  
Contact: [hreced@ualberta.ca](mailto:hreced@ualberta.ca)



### ***Red Famine: Stalin's War On Ukraine***

by A. Applebaum, NY: Doubleday Books, 2017

### ***The Holodomor Reader***

by B. Klid & A. Motyl, Edmonton: CIUS Press, 2012  
[www.ciuspress.com/product/the-holodomor-reader](http://www.ciuspress.com/product/the-holodomor-reader)

### ***Stalin's Genocides***

by N. Naimark, Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2010

### ***Bloodlands: Europe Between Hitler and Stalin***

by T. Snyder, New York: Basic Books, 2010  
One major chapter specifically on the Holodomor.

### ***Holodomor of 1932-1933 in Ukraine: Documents and Materials***

by R. Pyrih, Kyiv: Kyiv-Mohyla Academy Publishing House, 2008  
73 archival documents about the Holodomor.  
Print copies: [hreced@ualberta.ca](mailto:hreced@ualberta.ca)  
E-version: [education.holodomor.ca/educational-resources-list/pyrih-documents/](http://education.holodomor.ca/educational-resources-list/pyrih-documents/)

## HREC EDUCATOR AWARD FOR HOLODOMOR LESSON PLAN DEVELOPMENT

The annual **HREC Educator Award for Holodomor Lesson Plan Development** is intended to foster the development of innovative, creative and interactive lessons for grades K-12 that develop critical thinking skills while addressing the topic of the Holodomor, and to recognize the outstanding educators who create them. The winning lesson plans will be posted on the HREC Education website.



**This year's applications must be submitted by May 1, 2022.**  
For further details and to download application form visit:  
[education.holodomor.ca](http://education.holodomor.ca)

## TORONTO HOLODOMOR MEMORIAL

### ***Holodomor Memorial Parkette, Exhibition Place***

The *Bitter Memories of Childhood* monument by Ukrainian sculptor Petro Drozdovsky was unveiled in October 2018 for the 85th Commemoration of the Holodomor in Ukraine. The statue depicts the most vulnerable of the Holodomor's victims and provides an opportunity for student reflection.

Located just inside the Princes' Gate entrance of the Canadian National Exhibition (CNE) grounds, the memorial site includes a pathway through a small park leading to 3 millstones, each of which provides QR code information about the Holodomor, and the statue. Students can reflect on the history, survivor testimonials and legacy of the Holodomor.

For more information on this and other monuments, visit:  
[education.holodomor.ca/introduction/monuments/](http://education.holodomor.ca/introduction/monuments/)





# APRIL 16

## HOLODOMOR REMEMBRANCE DAY IN SCHOOLS

The Ukrainian Canadian Congress designated April 16 as **Holodomor Remembrance Day in Schools**, together with HREC and UCC's National Holodomor Education Committee (NHEC).

The Holodomor is one of nine global genocides recognized by the Government of Canada and by six of Canada's provincial legislatures. It was in the Spring of 1933, during the Holodomor's deadliest year, that the number of deaths escalated significantly.

Every year in April, Ukrainians worldwide traditionally visit cemeteries and remember the dead with special memorial ceremonies held the week after Easter, when victims of the Holodomor are specifically remembered.

### APRIL IS GENOCIDE REMEMBRANCE, CONDEMNATION, PREVENTION & EDUCATION MONTH

On April 24, 2015, the House of Commons unanimously passed a historic motion (M-587) to recognize the month of April as Genocide Remembrance, Condemnation and Prevention Month.

Canada has been affected by many genocides and recognizes: the Armenian Genocide, Ukrainian Holodomor, Jewish Holocaust, the Genocide Against the Tutsi in Rwanda and the Genocide in Bosnia. The Canadian Parliament has also recognized the ongoing genocide being committed against the Yezidi in Syria and Iraq today, the Rohingya in Myanmar, the Romani during WWII, and currently the Uyghurs in China.

Educators are encouraged to take time in April to remember those who suffered and lost their lives in the Holodomor and other genocides, and to commit to using education to protect and defend human rights and dignity everywhere.



Kharkiv, Ukraine, 1932-33  
Photo: A. Wienerberger, Innitzer Collection