

HOLODOMOR 1932-1933

GENOCIDAL FAMINE IN UKRAINE

APRIL 16

HOLODOMOR REMEMBRANCE DAY IN SCHOOLS

During April Genocide Remembrance,
Condemnation, Prevention & Education Month



The Holodomor is one of nine global genocides recognized by the Government of Canada and by nine 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.

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.

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

HREC'S TOP PICKS OF RESOURCES

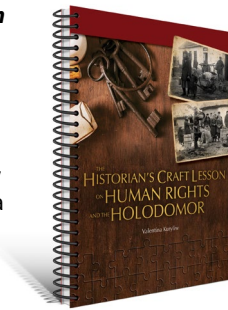
<https://education.holodomor.ca/top-picks/>

HOLODOMOR PRINT MATERIAL

The Historian's Craft Lesson on Human Rights and the Holodomor

by V. Kuryliw, Edmonton: CIUS Press, 2024

A sample lesson which engages students in actively analysing and synthesizing a variety of resources utilizing interactive methodologies.

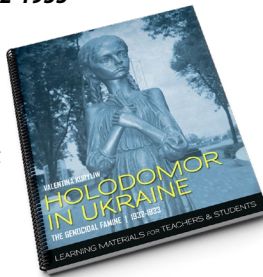


Holodomor In Ukraine, The Genocidal Famine: 1932-1933

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
<https://education.holodomor.ca/holodomor-in-ukraine-book/>



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

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

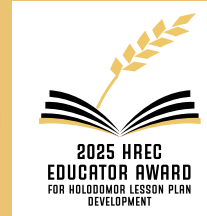
73 archival documents about the Holodomor.

Print copies: hreced@ualberta.ca

E-version: 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, 2025.

For further details and to download application form visit:
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/



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GENOCIDAL FAMINE IN UKRAINE



NOVEMBER 21, 2025
HOLODOMOR MEMORIAL DAY
IN SCHOOLS
Fourth Friday in November

*In my view, the best thing you could do to
commemorate the victims of the famine
is to build a society where this could never
happen again.*

— Anne Applebaum

PRODUCED BY:

Holodomor Research & Education Consortium
at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, University of Alberta
National Holodomor Education Committee, Ukrainian Canadian Congress



HOLODOMOR MEMORIAL DAY

IN SCHOOLS 4TH FRIDAY OF NOVEMBER
WORLDWIDE 4TH 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

Today is Holodomor Memorial Day, when we remember and pay tribute to the millions of Ukrainians who became victims of Soviet leader Joseph Stalin's policy of collectivization. It led to the forced famine of 1932-1933 known as the Holodomor, meaning "death inflicted by starvation."

The victims were mostly Ukrainian farmers, labelled "kulaks" and "enemies of the state," who protested the collectivization of their private farms into government controlled collective farms. Those who opposed Stalin's policies and supported Ukrainian language, religion, or cultural traditions were targeted by the Soviet regime. Stalin cut off food supplies to Ukraine, confiscated Ukraine's grain harvest, and took away its livestock, land and property, leaving people without any food. Farmers were also prevented from travelling elsewhere in search of food. This led to the mass starvation of millions, one third of these deaths were children under the age of 10.

The Holodomor took place 92 years ago. But its memory still resonates today as Ukrainians defend themselves against a Russian invasion and occupation which attempts to destroy Ukraine as a nation. Wheatfields, hospitals, schools, cultural sites and more are bombed with missiles. Media outlets are used to spread disinformation globally to deny Ukrainians their distinct identity. Such human rights violations recall those during the Holodomor, which is now recognized as genocide.

The term genocide was coined by lawyer Raphael Lemkin who survived the Holocaust. Lemkin spoke of the Ukrainian Holodomor as the "classic example" of "Soviet genocide – of destruction, not of individuals only but of a culture and a nation." Learning and recognizing the truth about our difficult histories empowers us with knowledge about the past to help us respond to the war in Ukraine today with greater understanding. With this knowledge and understanding we can build future global communities with compassion and hope.

Let us remember the people of Ukraine who were starved to death in the Holodomor, and the survivors whose grandchildren are fighting for their identity and right to exist as a nation again today.

Kelly Hiebert is a Manitoba history and social studies educator and Curriculum Consultant for Manitoba Education and Early Childhood Development. He received the Governor General's history award for excellence in 2021 and a HREC Educator Award Honourable Mention in 2020.

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@ucrdoc.org

The Soviet Story

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

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/

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

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@ucrdoc.org, 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.amazon.ca/BITTER-HARVEST-Max-Irons/dp/B06Y6KZKPG

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. <https://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

Ukrainian Canadian Research & Documentation Centre (UCRDC)

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

www.sharethestory.ca • www.holodomorsurvivors.ca
And 21 Canadian children of survivors: ucrdoc.org/cohs

Edmonton Catholic School District

Lesson plans and suggested activities for all grades.
www.ecsd.net/page/1585/holodomor-memorial-day

Connecticut Holodomor Committee

www.holodomorct.org

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

Unit 2, Chapter 5 – "FAST" lesson plans

<https://www.voicesintoaction.ca/lessons/unit2/chapter5/>

"How A Grain of Wheat Linked Two Worlds"

Unit of study

https://www.stf.sk.ca/resource_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)

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

Website: education.holodomor.ca

Phone: **416 923 4732**

Email: 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

Phone: **416 966 1819**

Email: office@ucrdoc.org

Both are located at:

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