



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education

JAN 26 2023

DepEd MEMORANDUM
No. **004**, s. 2023

**NATIONAL OBSERVANCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL
HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY**

To: Undersecretaries
Assistant Secretaries
Minister, Basic, Higher, and Technical Education, BARMM
Bureau and Service Directors
Regional Directors
Schools Division Superintendents
All Others Concerned

1. The International Day in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust is a memorial day observed internationally when the United Nations (UN) General Assembly adopted Resolution 60/7 designating every January 27 as the International Holocaust Remembrance Day.
2. This resolution was adopted on November 1, 2005, after a special UN session was held earlier to mark the 60th anniversary of the liberation of the Nazi concentration camps and the end of the Holocaust. The day is not just intended to commemorate the six million Jews who helplessly perished in the hands of Nazi Tyranny, but also to help educate future generations and inform the world of the horrors of the Holocaust, and genocide in general.
3. The Holocaust (1933-1945) was the systematic, state-sponsored persecution and murder of Six Million European Jews by the Nazi German regime and its allies and collaborators. The Nazi persecution of Jews became increasingly radical between 1933 and 1945. The Nazi Party promoted a particularly virulent form of racial antisemitism. It was central to the party's race-based worldview. The Nazis believed that the world was divided into distinct races and that some of these races were superior to others. They considered Germans to be members of the supposedly superior **Aryan** race. It ended in May 1945, when the Allied Powers defeated Nazi Germany in World War II.
4. The Philippines upholds a strong humanitarian tradition of providing succor for forcibly displaced individuals in need of protection. Long before the Philippines had formal immigration policies and became a State party to the 1951 Refugee Convention, Filipinos have embodied the spirit of compassion, solidarity, and humanity. This nation was among the first to spontaneously offer asylum to successive waves of refugees fleeing persecution. In 1934, under the admittance of President Manuel L. Quezon, Jewish refugees escaping Nazi persecution were able to ~~find~~ sanctuary in the Philippines before Filipinos and Jews alike experienced the brunt of the Second World War. He called on all Filipinos to welcome the refugees and instructed the government to assist them.

5. Considering the abovementioned, the activity aims to serve as a platform to give the public, specifically the learners, the opportunity to develop an awareness of the value of diversity in a pluralistic society; provide an avenue for DepEd to showcase the heroism and contributions of Filipinos, survivors and rescuers of the Holocaust; encourage teachers, learners and the public to promote social justice, respect for human rights and create awareness and expanded view of humanity and history; support learners in understanding the roots and ramifications of prejudice, racism, and stereotyping in the Philippines or in any society, foster critical thinking and identify danger signals to know when to take constructive action; and provide an avenue for ICO and DepEd to establish partnerships with international stakeholders and develop cooperation and collaboration.

6. In this regard, DepEd, in coordination with the Office of the Vice President (OVP) and the Embassy of Israel in the Philippines conducts the International Holocaust Remembrance Day. The event, with UN-designated theme for 2023 as **Home and Belonging**, to be conducted on January 26, 2023, will consist of a program and a candle lighting ceremony as follows:

Activities/Particulars

Preliminaries

Singing/Playing of the Philippine National Anthem

Singing/Playing of the National Anthem of Israel

(A minute of silence)

Ecumenical Prayer (Interfaith Prayer)

Opening Remarks and Statement of Purpose

UN Secretary General Message

Short Video about the Holocaust

Message from the Israeli Ambassador

Messages of Support

From the Department of Education

From the Department of Foreign Affairs

Musical Piece (c/o Israel Embassy)

Message of President Quezon's Open-Door Policy

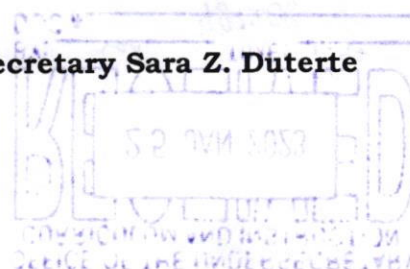
Songs of Hope and Love and Candle Lighting Ceremony

Introduction of the Keynote Speaker

Keynote Speaker – Vice President and Secretary Sara Z. Duterte

Musical Piece (c/o Israel Embassy)

- End -



7. The International Cooperation Office (ICO) shall serve as the over-all coordinator and shall work in close coordination with the OVP and the embassy of Israel to the Philippines.

8. Expenses for the materials and food relative to meetings in this undertaking and other expenses from DepEd Central Office shall be charged to Building Partnership and Linkages Program (BPLP) Funds, subject to the usual accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

9. The commemoration of the IHRD activity will be hybrid: the in-person ceremony will be held at the DepEd Central Office, while teachers and student participants from the different schools divisions all over the country, in compliance with the DepEd Policy on the no disruption-of-classes under DepEd Order No. 9, s. 2005, are encouraged to simultaneously participate through the conduct of a film screening on holocaust and candle lighting activities within their respective school premises.

10. For more information, all concerned may contact the **International Cooperation Office**, Ground Floor Teodora Alonzo Building, Department of Education Central Office, DepEd Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City through email at ico@deped.gov.ph and telephone number (02) 8637-6462.

11. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.

By Authority of the Secretary:


GINA O. GONONG

Undersecretary for Curriculum and Teaching

Reference:

DepEd Order No. 9, s. 2005

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:

BUREAUS AND OFFICES
CELEBRATIONS AND FESTIVALS
LEARNERS
SCHOOLS
STUDENTS
TEACHERS



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DEPED-OSEC-481208