

Public Law 95-371  
95th Congress

Joint Resolution

Sept. 18, 1978  
[H.J. Res. 1014]

Designating April 28 and 29 of 1979 as "Days of Remembrance of Victims of the Holocaust".

Whereas six million Jews and millions of other people were murdered in concentration camps as part of a program of extermination carried out by the Nazi party during World War II;

Whereas the people of the United States should recognize that all acts of bigotry are rooted in the cruelty of spirit and the callousness that led the Nazis to commit atrocities against millions of people, and should dedicate themselves to the principle of human equality;

Whereas the people of the United States should recognize that tyranny creates the political atmosphere in which bigotry flourishes, and should be vigilant to detect, and ready to resist, the tyrannical exercise of power;

Whereas on April 28 and 29 of 1945 the Armed Forces of the United States liberated the surviving victims of Nazi internment in the concentration camp in Dachau, Germany, and revealed to the world evidence of a tragic human holocaust that must never be forgotten; and

Whereas the Nazi concentration camp in Dachau, Germany, is not only a shocking symbol of Nazi brutality and destruction, but also a symbol of the danger inherent in tyranny, the pernicious quality of bigotry, and the human capacity to be cruel: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That April 28 and 29 of 1979 are designated as "Days of Remembrance of Victims of the Holocaust", and the President is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe such days with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

Approved September 18, 1978.

Days of  
Remembrance of  
Victims of the  
Holocaust.  
Designation  
authorization.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 124 (1978):  
Aug. 17, considered and passed House.  
Aug. 25, considered and passed Senate.

WEEKLY COMPILATION OF PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS, Vol. 14, No. 38:  
Sept. 18, Presidential statement.

**We remember the Holocaust**

*We recall with bitter grief the catastrophe which overwhelmed our people in Europe, adding an unprecedented chapter to our history of suffering.*

*I* **We mourn for 11 million Jews-Christians brutally destroyed by "civilized men" behaving like savages. The cruelties of Pharaoh, Haman, Nebuchadnezzar, and Titus cannot be compared with the diabolical schemes of the modern tyrants in their design to exterminate an entire people.**

*II* **The blood of the innocent who perished in the gas chambers of Auschwitz, Bergen-Belsen, Buchenwald, Dachau, Treblinka, and Theresienstadt, cries out to God and man.**

*I* **We will never forget the burning of synagogues and houses of study, the destruction of holy books and scrolls of Torah, the sadistic torment and murder of scholars, sages, and teachers.**

*III* **They tortured the flesh of our brothers and sisters; but they could not crush their spirit, their faith, their love.**

*I* **We recall our brothers and sisters in the Warsaw Ghetto, Jews who valiantly defied the monstrous adversaries.**

*II* **And we recall the heroism of those who, in the face of unprecedented and overwhelming force, maintained their culture and asserted their values in the very midst of enslavement and destruction.**

*I* **Let us pray: O Lord, remember Your martyred children. Remember all who have given their lives for the sanctification of Your name.**

*III* **Even as we mourn, we recall those compassionate men and women of other faiths and nationalities who, at the peril of their lives, our people. Truly, "The righteous of all nations have a share in the world to come."**

*I* **Let us pray and work for the day when there shall be no violence or desolation on earth, when "nation shall not lift up sword against nation, nor shall they learn war any more."**

Morris Silverman