



The United Nations General Assembly designated the International Holocaust Remembrance Day or International Day of Commemoration in memory of the victims of the Holocaust in 2005. The 27th of January marks the anniversary of the liberation of the Nazi German concentration and extermination camp Auschwitz-Birkenau in Poland in 1945.

To mark the International Holocaust Remembrance Day, emphasise its significance as universal heritage and oppose its distortion, the NEVER AGAIN Association has organised a special online session on the 27th January 2021.

The participants will discuss the legacy of the Holocaust, challenges for its commemoration, the meaning and the need for its commemoration in the region of Southeast Asia.

SPEAKERS AND MODERATORS

Jeremy Jones



Jeremy Jones is Director of International and of Community Affairs for the Australia/Jewish & Jewish Affairs Council and Senior Contributing Editor for the Australia Israel Review. An Honorary Life Member and Former Vice President of the Executive Council of Australian Jewry, he is a Human Rights advocate who has lectured and participated in high level conferences on human rights in more than 30 countries, represented the Australian government and the World Jewish Congress at a number of intergovernmental forums and chairs formal Interfaith Dialogues in Australia while participating in international interfaith activity as a member of the International Jewish Committee for Interreligious Consultations. Amongst his honours, he has been conferred membership of the Order of Australia, was the 2007 winner of the Australian Human Rights Medal and the 2016 winner of the State of New South Wales highest Award for Community Harmony. Born in Melbourne, he is a graduate of Sydney University of History and Government.

Venerable Lablu Barua

Venerable Lablu Barua is a spiritual teacher and mindfulness meditation expert. He is a PhD candidate in Peace Studies at Buddhist Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University, Ayutthaya, Thailand. He is an Ambassador of Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP). He is working with various organisations to promote inner and outer peace. He is engaged in interfaith dialogue, such as Hindu-Buddhist and Buddhist-Muslim dialogue. In January 2019, on behalf of NEVER AGAIN he promoted the World Jewish Congress' WeRemember Campaign on the occasion of the Holocaust Remembrance Day in Thailand and Bangladesh. In November 2018, he had a study visit to European museums, cultural and research institutions, including the Peace Museum in Vienna, the Evangelische Akademie zu Berlin, and the 'NEVER AGAIN' Association. He is a consultant and teacher's assistant on the subject of history, culture and religion at the Södra Latin gymnasium Stockholm, Sweden.



Dr Rafal Pankowski



Dr Rafal Pankowski is a Professor at the Institute of Sociology of Collegium Civitas in Warsaw. He has published widely on racism, nationalism, populism, xenophobia and other issues including the books 'Neo-Fascism in Western Europe: A study in ideology' (Polish Academy of Sciences, 1998), 'Racism and Popular Culture' (Trio, 2006), and 'The Populist Radical Right in Poland: The Patriots' (Routledge, 2010). He has served as deputy editor of 'Nigdy Wiecej' (Never Again) magazine since 1996 and he is a co-founder of the 'NEVER AGAIN' Association. He is also a member of the International Association of Genocide Scholars. Pankowski received his MA in Political Science from the University of Warsaw (he also studied at the University of Oxford as an undergraduate) and his PhD and Habilitation in Sociology of Culture from the University of Warsaw, Institute of Applied Social Sciences. In 2018-2019 he was a visiting professor at the Centre for European Studies of Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand and Buddhist Studies College, Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University, Ayutthaya, Thailand. In 2017, he was awarded the Polish Ombudsman honorary badge. He also received the Polcul award for 'pedagogical, journalistic and cultural activities for racial, ethnic and religious tolerance, as well as for building civil society and democracy in Poland'.

Sayana Ser

Sayana Ser works on Genocide Memorial and Cham Community Culture Preservation and Development Projects and assists the editing, rehearsal, production and organisation of local and provincial tours of plays such as 'Searching for the Truth', 'Breaking the Silence', 'Unspoken Words', and 'Lost Loves'. She translated 'The Diary of Anne Frank' into Khmer language. In the past, she worked at the Documentation Center of Cambodia (DC-Cam). She was leading the outreach project of DC-Cam. Prior to joining this project as Research Associate, Sayana had been with Extraordinary Chamber in The Courts of Cambodia (ECCC) or the Khmer Rouge Tribunal (KRT) for a year as a consultant of witnesses and experts. She supported the appearance of witnesses before the judicial bodies of the ECCC. Before ECCC, she was with ELKEN International, as senior executive and manager, Training & Development from 2013 to 2016. In 2007, she interned at the department of Conscience at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and at Voice of America Radio in Washington D.C., USA



Nickey Diamond



Nickey Diamond, aka Ye Myint Win, is a Human Rights Specialist with Fortify Rights in Myanmar. He joined Fortify and an academic activist. Nickey founded Youth for Social Change Myanmar (YSCM) in 2007 and served as the organization's Executive Director until October 2013. Under his leadership, YSCM became a professional service provider for youth in need of assistance and support. In 2013, he received a scholarship from the Government of Norway to help build institutions in Myanmar. In 2014, he received a President George W. Bush Fellowship and completed the Liberty and Leadership Forum (2014-2015), where he studied leadership, democratization, and political philosophy. Nickey has attended dozens of international conferences, workshops, and seminars in Asia, Europe, Africa, and the U.S. He holds a B.A. in Economics and an M.A. in human rights from the Institute of Human Rights and Peace Studies at Mahidol University in Bangkok, Thailand. Nickey is also a young scholar on hate-speech, non-traditional security, minority discourse, socially based security, and genocide in Myanmar. Nickey presented his papers and presentations at various kinds of international academic conferences around the world. Currently, he is interested in looking into the nexus issue between the systematic anti-Rohingya propaganda and the mass atrocity against Rohingya Muslims in Myanmar.

Natalia Sineava

Natalia Sineava is a sociologist and Holocaust scholar. Her forthcoming Ph.D. dissertation deals with Holocaust distortion and identity in Eastern Europe. She is a member of the International Association of Genocide Scholars (IAGS). Her experience includes work at the POLIN Museum of the History of the Polish Jews in Warsaw as well as cooperation with the Toul Sleng Genocide Museum in Phnom Penh, Cambodia and other museums and sites of memory in Europe and Asia. She has also worked with organisations opposing racism and xenophobia such as the 'NEVER AGAIN' Association and the Kantor Centre for Study of European Jewry of Tel-Aviv University. In 2018, she acted as a Rotary Peace Fellow at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, Thailand, and an Elie Wiesel Holocaust Remembrance Infrastructure Fellow at the Bucharest National Institute for the Study of the Holocaust in Bucharest, Romania. She has written widely for academic and non-academic journals including 'The Holocaust. Studies and Materials' of the Polish Center for Holocaust Research.



Sanjoy Barua Chowdhury



Sanjoy Barua Chowdhury holds a Ph.D in Buddhist Studies from Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University, Thailand (2019) and an M.A., with distinction, in Religious Studies from the International Buddhist College of Thailand (2015). He taught Buddhist Philosophy and History at Mahapajapati Buddhist College for five years (2015 - 2020). Dr. Sanjoy has been teaching a course, titled 'A Survey of Abhidharma Schools' for M.A. students enrolled in the Buddhist Studies programs at the International Buddhist College (IBC) in Thailand. This program is affiliated with Than Hsiang Hsiang Center of Malaysia. Co-authoring the book, 'Walking in the Footsteps of the Buddha', he also authored numerous academic research papers based on various aspects of Buddhist philosophical, psychological and spiritual thought.