

Educational Resources on the Holodomor in Genocide Studies

A HISTORICAL NOTE ON THE HOLODOMOR

The Holodomor - death by starvation imposed on millions of Ukrainians during 1932-33 - was the centerpiece of the Soviet Union's ruthless campaign against nationally conscious Ukrainians opposed to Stalinism. Besides decimating Ukraine's political, intellectual, cultural, and religious leadership, Joseph Stalin's communist regime deliberately starved Ukraine's majority population, its farmers.

After deporting Ukraine's most successful farming families, Stalin forced those remaining to surrender their property and join government-run farms. Given impossible grain quotas, the farmers resisted, and communist enforcers eventually stripped households of any food. Countless villages were blocked off from receiving any goods, internal passports were issued, and the borders of Ukraine were sealed, thereby dooming the rural population to a slow and tortuous death by starvation. Meanwhile, grain and other food products were exported to the outside world.

At the height of the famine in June 1933, 28,000 Ukrainians were dying each day.

The Soviet Union denied that a murderous famine had taken place and compelled its subject Ukrainians to live this lie. To speak of the famine was a crime. Most of the world learned of the Holodomor only after the USSR's collapse in 1991.

Raphael Lemkin, who coined the term genocide and was the initiator of the United Nations Convention on Genocide, stated that the Soviet attack on Ukraine "is a case of genocide, of the destruction, not of individuals only, but of a culture and a nation." [This note is adapted with modifications from a 2015 Holodomor Memorial Dedication Committee text].

I. HOLODOMOR SPECIFIC RESOURCES FOR EDUCATION

A. Start here:

[*The Holodomor Research and Education Consortium*](#) (HREC). Canadian based site with authoritative basic and research oriented information; authentic photo directory, survivor testimony. Very well developed classroom resources component available in [HREC-ED](#), the Education division of HREC.

[*Holodomor 1932-33: Holodomor Resource Library*](#). Basic historical information and guide to 200+ resources, including teaching materials for the secondary and college level, films, fiction,

photographs, maps, survivor testimony, primary sources and more - most with links to online access.

Kuryliw, Valentina. *Holodomor in Ukraine: The Genocidal Famine, 1932-1933: Learning Materials for Teachers and Students*. Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies Press, 2018. Comprehensive & up-to-date.

"[Holodomor: Resource Guide](#)," prepared for the Univ. of Minnesota Holocaust and Genocide Studies program. [2020?]

[Holodomor - Genocide in Ukraine: Learning Materials for Teachers and Students](#), by Vera Andrushkiw, Olena Danylyuk, and Doris Duzyj, 2019.

[Genocide Never Again \[Ukrainian Genocide\] Teacher and Student Workbook](#), by Vera Bej, Ihor Mirchuk, and C. R. Shwed, 2007.

Melnyk, Motria. [Curriculum Guide for Teaching Genocides with a focus on the Holodomor, the Famine Genocide in Ukraine](#). 2011. Uses Stanton's 8 stages as a framework.

Wolny, Philip. *Holodomor: The Ukrainian Famine-Genocide*. First ed., Rosen YA, 2018. [Grades 7+]

[Holodomor Ukraine Genocide 1932-33](#). Website of the US Committee for Ukrainian Holodomor-Genocide Awareness.

B. A few key Holodomor focused resources:

[The Holodomor Reader: A Sourcebook on the Famine of 1932-1933 in Ukraine](#), edited by Bohdan Klid and Alexander J Motyl. CIUS Press, 2012. Most chapters available online.

Applebaum, Anne. *Red Famine: Stalin's War on Ukraine*. New York: Doubleday, 2017.

Conquest, Robert. *The Harvest of Sorrow: Soviet Collectivization and the Terror-famine*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1986.

Lemkin, Raphael. "[Soviet Genocide in the Ukraine](#)." 1953.

Naimark, Norman. "[How the Holodomor Can Be Integrated into our Understanding of Genocide](#)." *East/West: Journal of Ukrainian Studies* (ewjus.com) 2, no. 1 (2015). Naimark, Norman M. *Stalin's Genocides*. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, 2010.

United States. [Investigation of the Ukrainian Famine, 1932-1933 Report to Congress](#). Washington: U.S. G.P.O., 1988. 7 This final report includes the "Executive Summary," which presents the "[Findings](#)" of the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine, among them the often

quoted #16, which states: “Joseph Stalin and those around him **committed genocide against Ukrainians in 1932-1933.**” *Several other valuable reports comprise this volume.*

Werth, Nicolas. "[The Great Ukrainian Famine of 1932-33](#)," *Online Encyclopedia of Mass Violence*. Sciencespo.fr. April 18, 2008.

[Survivor Accounts](#) : broad selection in print and video available in the Holodomor Resource Library.

C. Classroom Gems

[Holodomor: Famine-Genocide in Ukraine 1932-1933](#), by Maria Kiciuk and Oksana Kulynych. [2020]. 33 slides.

Altman, Linda Jacobs. *Genocide: The Systematic Killing of a People*. Rev. and expanded ed. “Issues in Focus Today.” Berkeley Heights, NJ: Enslow, 2009. [Grades 6+]. “[Forced Famine in Ukraine](#).” Recommended!

Kiger, Patrick J. “[How Joseph Stalin Starved Millions in the Ukrainian Famine](#),” Apr 16, 2019.

Genocide Revealed: Educational Release, directed by Yuriy Luhovy, 2013. [Buy](#) 26 & 52 min. on one DVD.

[Stalin's Secret Genocide](#), by Andrea Chalupa for the Holodomor National Awareness Tour. 2017. 15 min. video.

More videos: [Search videos](#) at the Holodomor Resource Library

II. SELECTED RESOURCES ON GENOCIDE WHICH INCLUDE A CHAPTER ON THE HOLODOMOR

[Voices into Action](#). Online program offering curriculum-based teaching resources and tools for teachers and students on issues related to prejudice, human rights, and social justice. Unit 2 offers lessons on genocide. By FAST: Fighting Anti-Semitism Together. 2014 -.

Totten, Samuel, editor. *Teaching about Genocide: Insights and Advice from Secondary Teachers and Professors*. Volume 2 /, Rowman & Littlefield, 2019.

Carmichael, Cathie. *The Routledge History of Genocide*. Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group, 2015.

Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum. [Ten Stages of Genocide Graphic Novels](#).

Genocide. Contemporary Issues Companion. Detroit: Greenhaven Press, 2007. [Grade 7+]

Hewitt, William. *Defining the Horrific: Readings on Genocide and Holocaust in the 20th Century*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Education, 2004.

Jones, Adam. *Genocide: A Comprehensive Introduction*. 3rd ed., Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group, 2017.

Modern Genocide: Understanding Causes and Consequences. ABC-CLIO [subscription database].

Naimark, Norman M. *Genocide : A World History*. Oxford University Press, 2017.

Snyder, Timothy. *Bloodlands: Europe between Hitler and Stalin*. New York: Basic Books, 2010.

Stone, Dan. *The Historiography of Genocide*. Basingstoke England: Palgrave Macmillan, 2010.

Totten, Samuel, and William S Parsons. *Century of Genocide*. 4th ed., Hoboken: Taylor and Francis, 2012.

Valentino, Benjamin A. *Final Solutions: Mass Killing and Genocide in the Twentieth Century*. Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press, 2004.