



ARNOLD LIEBSTER
FOUNDATION

www.alst.org

CANADIAN MUSEUM FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

The Canadian Museum for Human Rights is an architectural masterpiece, and located in Winnipeg, it represents the first national museum to be built outside of the National Capital Region. The museum's mandate is "to explore the subject of human rights, with special but not exclusive reference to Canada, in order to enhance the public's understanding of human rights, to promote respect for others, and to encourage reflection and dialogue." This is achieved through innovative exhibits and advanced multi-media applications.

GALLERY: EXAMINING THE HOLOCAUST

The Nazi government used laws and violence to deprive people of their rights as citizens and humans, and the majority went along. This gallery examines the Holocaust to learn to recognize genocide and offers visitors the opportunity to analyze Nazi techniques of genocide and to reflect on the need to remain vigilant. This dramatic multidimensional gallery features graphic displays, poignant artifacts, a film, and powerful stories of everyday people caught up in these massive human rights violations.

EXHIBIT: EXAMINING THE HOLOCAUST EXHIBITS

This exhibit is comprised of three thematic components that collectively present a comprehensive picture of the elements of Nazi organized genocide. The themes explored are: Abuse of State Power, Persecution, and War and Genocide. Each theme is conveyed through a diverse display assemblage of text, images, artifacts and three personal video stories.

EXHIBIT COMPONENT: PERSECUTION—PERSONAL STORIES

In an organized campaign, the Nazis played on existing prejudices to portray groups in Germany and occupied territories as threats to the German nation. Suspicion, cruelty and violence spread through society as more and more groups were persecuted. This exhibit presents the video stories of three diverse individuals impacted by this targeted oppression. One story features 11-year-old Simone Arnold Liebster and her family, who were persecuted for being Jehovah's Witnesses in Nazi-occupied France. Also on display is an artifacts exhibit on loan courtesy of Simone Liebster and the Arnold-Liebster Foundation.

COOKIE TEXT

While Adolphe Arnold was incarcerated in Dachau Concentration Camp, his wife Emma smuggled in excerpts from a banned Jehovah's Witness magazine written in tiny letters on fine paper and glued between two cookies with honey. After Emma was sent to a concentration camp, her sister Eugenie continued to smuggle the cookie texts to provide Adolphe with spiritual 'vitamins.'

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES IN EUROPE (1933-1945)

Jehovah's Witnesses, a Christian community of 35,000 in Germany and occupied lands, refused to conform to the Nazi ideology of hate. They suffered severely for their belief in nonviolence and their utter rejection of racism. Thrown into Nazi camps, they became eyewitnesses of Nazi genocide and were the only group offered a way out of the camps.

Banned – June 1933 Arrested – 12,500

Killed – 2,000

Executed – 370

Children taken away – 500

THE ARNOLD-LIEBSTER FOUNDATION

The Arnold-Liebster Foundation was established by Holocaust-era survivors Max Liebster and Simone Arnold Liebster in January 2002 to educate future generations in the lessons of history. The foundation supports historical research, teacher training, educational seminars, scholarly publications, museum exhibitions, and similar projects. Through these activities, the foundation especially aims to help young people to repudiate racism, xenophobic nationalism, and violence, and to learn to listen to the voice of conscience. See www.alst.org for more information and resources, including Adolphe Arnold's biography.

Additional Resources at Canadian Museum for Human Rights Library

- Facing the Lion: Memoirs of a Young Girl in Nazi Europe by Simone Arnold Liebster in English (Abridged Edition)
- Jehovah's Witnesses Stand Firm Against Nazi Assault 57-minute DVD in English, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese (Brazilian), Russian, Spanish
- Purple Triangles: The True Story of a German Family 25-minute DVD in English, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese (Brazilian), Russian, Spanish