



Association of Jewish Refugees
SERVING HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS
AND REFUGEES NATIONWIDE
www.ajr.org.uk

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Refugee Voices: The AJR Audio-Visual Testimony Archive

The Association of Jewish Refugees (AJR) is delighted to announce the launch of Refugee Voices, a groundbreaking audio-visual Holocaust testimony archive.

Refugee Voices is a collection of 150 filmed interviews with Holocaust survivors and refugees who escaped and survived Nazi-occupied Europe and who rebuilt their lives in Great Britain.

Unlike other testimony collections, Refugee Voices enables Holocaust researchers and scholars to watch up to 450 hours of film and read fully edited and transcribed accounts. For the first time, researchers will also be assisted by time-codes that, together with a summary sheet and key words section, direct users to the specific sections of the films including, for example, Kindertransport, Kristallnacht, domestic servants and concentration camp survivors.

As well as searching for interviews with survivors and refugees from specific places, the comprehensive catalogue contains 44 searchable categories of information ranging from personal details to parents' names and dates of birth, the manner of emigration, prisons, ghettos and camps and profession.

Each interview is accompanied by still shots of photos of family members and friends, places of importance for the interviewee and of other items or documents of special significance in the interviewee's life. These filmed photographs, artefacts, and documents provide a rich source of images for educational and documentary purposes.

In addition to exploring the contribution to Britain made by the refugees, the interviews cover the wide range of experiences of Nazi victims including, amongst others, an interview with a survivor smuggled to safety from Denmark to Sweden, an interview with a woman who was 'exchanged' from Bergen Belsen to Switzerland and an interview with

the last person alive today who was present at the signing of the Israeli Declaration of Independence.

The archive also features interviews with survivors who have rarely spoken about their experiences and with survivors and refugees from towns and cities throughout pre-war Europe.

Further details and a preview of the project can be found on the new Refugee Voices website www.refugeevoices.co.uk

AJR Chairman, Andrew Kaufman, said, “Refugee Voices is a unique and rich archive that has been designed with the precise requirements of researchers and scholars in mind. As well as creating a legacy of the experiences of our members, this innovative and remarkable collection will advance and enhance Holocaust research.”

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More information about Refugee Voices can be seen at www.refugeevoices.co.uk

The Association of Jewish Refugees (AJR) provides an extensive range of social and welfare services to victims of Nazi persecution living in Great Britain. More details of our work can be found at www.ajr.org.uk

The AJR was established in 1941 as a self-help organisation by those refugees who fled Nazi-occupied Germany, Austria and Czechoslovakia.

Alongside the AJR’s commitment to ensuring that the latter part of the lives of Holocaust survivors and refugees are as comfortable as possible, the AJR Charitable Trust supports specific projects related to Holocaust education and commemoration.