

# The Ark of Return

A Permanent Memorial to Honour the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade was erected on the United Nations Visitors Plaza at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. Titled *The Ark of Return*, it was designed by Rodney Leon, a U.S. architect of Haitian descent.

This Permanent Memorial invites people to contemplate the legacy of the slave trade and to fight against racism and prejudice today.

Visitors can walk through the Memorial to experience three elements: *Acknowledge the Tragedy, Consider the Legacy, Lest We Forget.*

Access to the Memorial is free. It is open to the public from March to October

Monday - Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Saturday - Sunday: 10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Weekly Briefings: Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.



**For more information please visit:**

Twitter [@rememberslavery](https://twitter.com/rememberslavery)

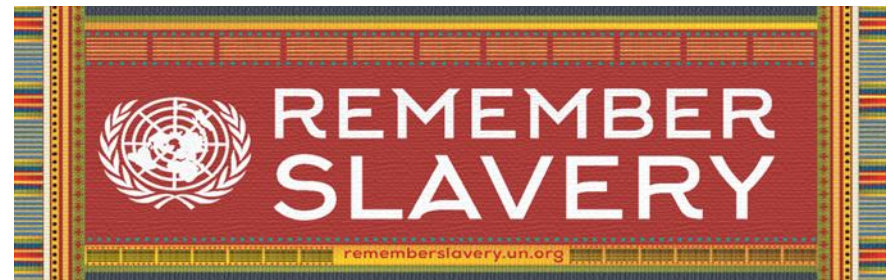
Facebook [www.facebook.com/rememberslavery](https://www.facebook.com/rememberslavery)

Website

[www.un.org/en/events/slaveryremembranceday/](http://www.un.org/en/events/slaveryremembranceday/)

Contact: Education-Outreach@un.org

United Nations Department of Public Information



## ***Remember Slavery: Triumphs and Struggles for Freedom and Equality 2018***

### **Programme of Events**



## The Remember Slavery Programme

The United Nations Remember Slavery Programme is managed by the Education Outreach Section of the Department of Public Information's Outreach Division. It was established through General Assembly resolution 62/122 in 2007 to honor the memory of the victims of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade and to raise awareness of the dangers of racism and prejudice today.

Every year in March, the United Nations holds a number of activities to mark the International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade. **This year's theme is "Triumphs and Struggles for Freedom and Equality", which celebrates the gains of people of African descent from slavery to the present. It also acknowledges the challenges that have been overcome in the movement towards freedom and equality.**

The Programme also organizes educational activities throughout the year, including roundtable discussions, film screenings, an exhibition, tours of the Permanent Memorial, *The Ark of Return*, and a global student video conference.

The United Nations Information Centres also hold a number of commemorative activities around the world to further understanding of the causes, consequences, lessons and legacy of the transatlantic slave trade.



The International Decade for People of African Descent (2015-2024) affords an opportunity to showcase the contributions of people of African descent and recognize that they represent a distinct group whose human rights must be protected and promoted. In keeping with these values, the Remember Slavery Programme supports the activities of the International Decade for People of African Descent. To learn more, visit: [www.un.org/en/events/africandescentdecade](http://www.un.org/en/events/africandescentdecade)

## Commemorative Activities in New York

**Thursday, 8 February 2018**

**6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. - Film Screening: *Familiar Faces/Unexpected***

**Places: *A Global African Diaspora***, Conference Room 4, United Nations  
Produced by Cultural Anthropologist and Executive Director of AfroDiaspora, Inc. Sheila S. Walker PhD, this film highlights the countless Afro-communities found in unexpected parts of the world. The screening was held in partnership with the International Decade for People of African Descent.

**5 - 28 March 2018 - Exhibit: *Remember Slavery: Say It Loud***

Visitors Lobby, United Nations

The exhibit, held in collaboration with the National Organization of Minority Architects, features architects of African descent who have gained recognition in this elite profession. Their unique perspective has enabled them to have a voice and an impact on the way public spaces are presented.

**Monday, 26 March 2018**

**International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade (Observed)**

**3:00 p.m. - General Assembly Commemorative Meeting**

General Assembly Hall, United Nations

Keynote Speaker: The Honourable Graciela Dixon, former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Panama

**6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Culinary & Cultural Experience**

Visitors Lobby, United Nations

**Thursday, 29 March 2018**

**3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. - NGO Briefing**

Conference Room 2, United Nations

The briefing will highlight the personal stories and gains of people of African descent in the movement towards freedom and equality.

**Friday, 27 April 2018**

**9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. - Global Student Videoconference**

Conference Room 3, United Nations

The briefing will link students in New York, the Caribbean and Africa via video under the theme "Remember Slavery: Triumphs and Struggles for Freedom and Equality".