

## We stood together

We stood together after being rounded up in city and town squares NOT knowing where we were being sent to.....

This was our fate...WE had no choice

We stood together in forest not far from our homes

We were petrified,standing in front of open pits

We were stripped of our clothes and our dignity and then the shooting started

This was our fate...WE had no choice

We stood together packed tightly in cattle cars

We were hungry and thirsty

For days on end not knowing where they were taking us to

This was our fate...WE had no choice

We stood together in long lines

Men,women ,children,babes in arms

Some were taken to the left and some to the right

This was our fate....WE had no choice

We stood together shoulder to shoulder in large shower rooms

But it wasn't water that existed above our heads

This was our fate....WE had no choice

But today within our open and free and democratic societies WE DO have a choice....and we can carve out a destiny of hope and promise

Let us therefore choose to stand together in solidarity with the victims of the holocaust

Let us choose to stand together

To identify with the horrific experiences of the genocide in Cambodia,Rwanda,Bosnia and Darfur

Let us choose to stand together to confront anti-semitism,racism,hate speech and demonisation

Let us choose to stand together in friendship with those who don't look like us,who don't worship like us or who don't live like us and

Let us reach out with love and respect to every single human being that has been created in the image of G-d and today,more than anything (as we now listen to the Mourner's Kaddish/memorial prayer)

Let us stand together with those survivors and give them our solemn promise that we will carry on their work in the generations to come and we will NEVER tire in our efforts to build a society filled with UNITY , HARMONY and PEACE.