



AN EXODUS IN OUR TIME

A reflection on the Rohingya crisis for the Passover table

While we recount the story of the ancient Israelites' exodus from Egypt, the Rohingya people of Burma (Myanmar) are moving through the wilderness in search of freedom today. Due to a brutal campaign of ethnic cleansing by the Burmese military, they have been burned, raped and extinguished en masse. More than 688,000 survivors have fled into Bangladesh on a weeks-long journey, carrying nothing but their children and a few belongings.

Their story echoes our own:

We were enslaved

They were interned in camps

Our babies were drowned

Theirs burned in pyres

We died by lash

They by gun and torch and knife

We crossed the sea to freedom

They walk for many days and ford a river in search of refuge

We were sustained by manna from heaven

They need humanitarian aid to survive

Our shared history demands that we act. We must respond with an open hand and an outstretched arm.

As survivors of persecution, annihilation and exodus ourselves, it's our turn to call out for others, imploring, demanding: Freedom.

To learn more about the Rohingya crisis and to join AJWS's campaign to respond, visit www.ajws.org/Rohingya.